

THE TIMES

BRITISH GLIDING
POLICY

"HASTENING SLOWLY"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—As a member of the recently returned English gliding team in Germany, and chairman of the London Gliding Club, your recent leading article on gliding proved of special interest. I should like, however, to put forward one or two different points of view for the consideration of your readers.

Although my recent visit to the Wasserkuppe was the first occasion when I have been present in the capacity of pilot, I have attended national competitions there for the past ten years, and one always returns with a strong urge to enlarge and improve the available gliding facilities in England.

I feel, however, that it would be unwise at

PALESTINE AND THE
LANDARAB AND JEWISH
CULTIVATORS

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—May I be allowed to voice the necessities of the land itself in Palestine? This is the primary consideration; exactly how it is to be used and by whom is secondary. The land is being rapidly cut to pieces and washed away by the rain all over the country, and especially in the Negeb. The rainfall must be conserved where it falls, independently of dams or wells.

The best way to get this done is to let every Arab cultivator have an example of Jewish management side by side with him. Segregation means stagnation to the Arab—Transjordan shows it. The fellahs are quite ready to cooperate; evidence to the contrary from the effendi world is fruitless, as is now proved.

Whatever we plan, let it aim at the removal of obstacles and be in harmony with the natural economy. The details are found in practice. Officialdom is not salvation, for officials love to officiate, but what is needed is to let the actual labourers find how they can help each other. They do so happily already when not incited by agitators.

I see no better settlement than a guarantee to the Arabs that they shall hold the majority of the land of each quality—hills, plain, and Negeb—so that their fear of expulsion is removed; and at the same time we should carry out rigorous repression of all illegal violence.

Unhappily incorrect data, which vitiate decisions, are supplied in debate. For instance, the Jew has not had a gift of Huleh; he has had to buy out for £200,000 an old unused concession, and he then is to give a large share of the cost of reclamation to the Arab, so that the result will not pay. The expulsion of the Turk also was not due to the Arabs of Palestine—other Arabs who joined got Transjordan—but Palestine was won by aid of the voluntary enlistment of 60,000 Jews anxious for British success. We must cut the logomachy about the past and be realists if a real State is to be organized.

I have worked with Arabs for 57 years, and feel that their misguided plight is the most deadly thing for them now. Get the countrymen of the fields together—Arab and Jew—look for reason on both sides, and, with judicious management, you may thus find a united country.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

FLINDERS PETRIE.

Jerusalem.

THE BASQUE CHILDREN

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—Pray allow me to illustrate from personal experience the wisdom of the remarks made by your Special Correspondent on the right way to manage the

Tunis, 22.12.36.

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A NEW GERMAN
DISCIPLINE

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

THE TREND TO "IDEAL"
SOCIALISM

From Our Berlin Correspondent

The latest phase of the transformation of the German capitalist system assumed more distinct shape with the appointment of General Göring to supervise the four-year raw materials self-sufficiency plan. Whatever compromises the resolute Minister-President may permit between the hard-pressed representatives of the old system and the eager advocates of a national-socialistic form of Communism, the plan is almost bound to leave a deep impression upon the German economic and social structure. Cautious yet unmistakable emphasis on its socialistic aspects was a national necessity and at the same time a National-Socialist opportunity.

Quiet and contentment are not so widespread and rooted in Germany as speeches, mass gathering, and propaganda may suggest. Grumbling was to be expected in winter-time during the present stage of the struggle for self-sufficiency. But it has never yet led to serious opposition and there seems no reason for it to become any more dangerous than hitherto. It began, however, earlier this year, as its causes began earlier; and a disquiet has arisen among those responsible for public security which to the outside observer, in view of past experience, would appear exaggerated. It is probably, indeed, a combination of wariness and a naive disappointment that there should be discontent at all in the fourth year of the Third Reich.

HERR HITLER'S BENEFITS

Superficially there is, and should be, little cause for serious dissatisfaction. Herr Hitler and his régime have brought benefits unquestioned by the German mind; some of them unchallengeable anywhere. There are organization, order, discipline; the soothing sense of security in mass contact; identification with the national community and the State; less ordinary crime; canalized emotional outlets; "strength through joy" diversions in leisure hours—though some beneficiaries might prefer more food. There are social and settlement schemes, developed since 1933 rapidly, systematically, lavishly, with a financial system based upon an ever-prolonged gamble on future prosperity. There is the reduction of unemployment and, associated and in some respects misleadingly confused with it, the substitution of salutary occupation for subsidized idleness. There is the excellent Labour Service, expanded by the Nazis on compulsory lines, solving problems of youthful unemployment. There is Herr Hitler's special creation, the motor roads, an achievement in which Germany has beaten the world.

Most of these benefits have been made possible only by an economic system which is frequently described as neither precisely State capitalism