Chart. 62 | Education Through Work: The Reich's Labour service

In order to reduce mass unemployment and the consequential individual and social problems the government faced, Brüning started in 1931 the voluntary labour service (FAD) which was synchronised in April 1933. Konstantin Hierl was in charge of the labour service, first as a Reich's commissioner of the FAD and from October 1935 onwards, as "Reichsarbeitsführer". The principle of voluntaries was suspended and replaced by the law of Labour service in "Reichsarbeitsdienst" (RAD) from June 1935: From now on male and female young people between 18 and 25 years had to complete a six-month labour service. At first young women had the choice to participate in the FAD (voluntary labour service). The authoritative labour service to them only started after the beginning of the war. From July 1941 onwards, women were obliged after completing the labour service to do six more months of military backup service.

The RAD fulfilled a double function: The labour service was an instrument of the employment market policy but most of all it was an instrument of education. The aim was to educate people "through work to work" whereby the activities were regarded and propagated as "service to the people": The value of the work was determined by the value or avail to the "People's Community". Labour service was "honorary duty to the German people" and – according to the propaganda – contributed to the levelling of class differences.

Hard physical work was meant to develop the "proper work ethos" and to serve in physically toughening up. The RAD-camp formed the organisational framework: numbers and uniforms, dormitories and lockers, camp rules and timetable – after work sports, school or paramilitary exercises were on the agenda – served to practice specific virtues, such as punctuality, order, discipline, subordination and obedience.

Within the framework of the National Socialist labour service, men were particularly drawn on for the construction of the transportation system, the cultivation of soil and to harvest works. Women worked as home help and harvesters, later increasingly in the armament industry. During the war the application fields changed: main fields were the construction of armament factories, entrenchment works and the support of the "Wehrmacht" in the occupied territories. From 1944/45 the RAD-departments only did military training. Many of them were converted to anti-aircraft batteries.



Federal Archive Koblenz

2. The spade became a symbol of a new community". The face of the Party, 1939.

State Archive Berlin

3 . Overview of the "cultivation work" by the Labour Duty.

Hermann Müller-Brandenburg, The Achievements of the German Labour Duty, 1940.

4. Cultivation work considered one of the main duties of the RAD. Members of the RAD during cultivation work near Worms, 1938.

Federal Archive Koblenz

5. RAD-Members would receive military training. Shooting Lessons at the fields near Schladming, 27th of December 1943.

Federal Archive Koblenz

6. Employment within occupied regions. The Reich's Work Leader with his Working Men in Krakow, 4th of June 1941.

Federal Archive Koblenz

7. Labour duty during War employment. A letter from the secretary of the Führer, Martin Bormann, to the Reich's Minister Hans Heinrich Lammers, 31st of July 1943.

Federal Archive Berlin

8. An entourage of the Labour Duty follows the Wehrmacht. Hans Looks/Hans Fischer, Labourers between Bug and Wolga, 1942.

Federal Archive Berlin

z1 "It is continuously emphasized that the result of the labour service is not just beneficial for the economy but also serves as an educational tool "for moulding the youth into becoming dedicated National Socialists and loyal followers of Adolf Hitler...". (...)

SOUTHWEST GERMANY: a dismissed worker reports: As I came to work, we would initially 'test' each other within the group. There was a complete sense of distrust towards each other. After a while though, with the increase in work pace, we would lose our inhibitions and talk more freely about how bitter we were about the situation and we would know what the individual thought. Most of the workers would initially come to work as National Socialist. However, this attitude would fundamentally change after a couple of weeks. After we were fired, one could say that the majority would not become anti-fascists, as much as bitter and rebellious non Nazis. In my opinion one can view this development as a fixed attitude for those carrying out labour duty. The level of tension between the employer and the workers, the heighten level of discipline, the "drill" that does not have anything to do with the labour service. The mindless jobs have contributed to young people seeing the real National Socialism and not the illusion that has been sold to them. On top of this, nourishment did not correlate with the level of work carried out. We would go to work hungry, sit at the lunch table hungry and go to bed hungry. (...)

BAYERN: The workers at a camp in Bayern have begun to complain about the steadily deteriorating conditions at work. During the spinach season, there would be a ration of 4 meals with spinach and potatoes during lunch and a small piece of cheese with bread and tea in the evening. Anyone who was able to have something sent to him from home was lucky. All the other would continuously suffer from malnutrition. During exercise in the boiling sun, many workers would pass out and have to be dragged to the sanitary station by the barracks. Since

the middle of May, exercises have been cut down during the day, however, are completed in the evening. Some of the troop leaders are deeply hated for the manner in which they treat people. Throughout the whole camp the view is; "These bastards have no human emotions and should be wiped out". The troop leader know, how we think about them, and avenge themselves by increasing their ridicule of helpless workers".

Hunger during Labour service, Report from the SPD May/April, 1938

Germany Reports, The Social Democratic Party of Germany (SoPaDe) 1934- 1940, 1980.

The Reich Labour service for females is also a National Socialist educational facility for female youths. The work is an important educational tool. The employment must be such that it serves the ladies working and helps the People's Community.

Labour as an Educational Tool, Speech by the Reich's Labour Leader, held during the Work Manager Workshop in Weimar, 7th of March 1944.

Federal Archive Koblenz

z2 "Education of the People's Community"

Note regarding the Employer Meeting under the presidency of the Reich's Chancellor, 4th of April 1933.

The Reich's Chancellor commented that one should not view one's Labour duty from the perspective of the economic situation. He sees in this the perfect instrument for a conscious upbringing of the People's Community. The controversial concept of 'work' must be honored again without consideration for origin and rank. This will bring the German people together again via companionship and work.

The difficulties of this duty is something that every German youth is going to have to go through; all must share the same fate. Also, this 'school' is of excellent ethical value and its educational power will be of a benefit for the economy. According to his interpretation, he would encourage taking people of a young age out of the economy and making room for people who are older. It must a question of honor for every German youth to do this, to bring this duty upon himself. Out of this melting pot a new German economy will grow.

Federal Archive Berlin

Chart. 63 | The "Reichsnährstand" - "Blood and Soil"

Before 1933 many farmers joined the NSDAP because they felt attracted by the ideology of "Blood and Soil". After 1933 the farmers were flattered by the regime and regarded as an important group of the new state. To the National Socialists farming was "the source of life of the German people". In his government policy statement from 22nd March 1933 Hitler emphasized: The German farmers have to be rescued by all means." The propagandistic and ideological appraisal of "German farming" found public expression during the annual Thanks Giving festivities on the mount Bückeberg near Hameln or the Reich's farmers' days in Goslar.

The "Reichsnährstand" founded in September 1933 was a corporately structured, self administrated body (corporation) having an outstanding impact within the context of National Socialist agricultural policy. Under its roof all people occupied in agriculture, in agri-trade and manufacturing industry – all together about 17 million people – were synchronized as forced members. Richard Walther Darré became head of the corporation and was, at the same time, Reich's minister for nourishment and agriculture. The "Reichsnährstand" introduced principles of a coercive economic market order by determining production amounts and prices.

The most urgent duties of the "Reichsnährstand" were to establish the economic autarky which was aimed at primarily for war economic reasons. In this spirit from 1934 onwards annual "production battles" were organised – the grade of self support, even in 1939, the year with the highest percentage, did not even reach 85 Percent though. Moreover, the "Reichsnährstand" was meant to counteract the migration into cities and to bring up ideas for the development of a "new" farming. Long arguments about the position and impact of the "Reichsnährstand" lead to a stealthy erosion of its self administrative functions.

Jews and foreigners were prohibited to do farming since 1933, from 1938 onwards Jews were also displaced from the agri-trade and manufacturing industry. Darré believed to have found the key to saving the "Northern Race" in the rural title of inheritance/right of succession. According to this belief in September 1933 the "Reichserbhofgesetz" was passed which was meant to impede the separation of the farms in the case of heritage. The German farmers had to prove the "pureness" of their genealogic tree dating back to the year 1800.



1. Distribution of Food- for example potatoes.

Hermann Reischle/Wilhelm Saure, Der Reichsnährstand, 1936

2 . The Reich's Leader for Farmers replies back. A special news letter from the Reich's Leader for Farmers, Richard Walther, to the State Leader for Farmers, State Chairman and the War Leader for Farmers, 11th of October 1933.

Federal Archive Berlin

3 . Glorification of Farmers, 1937

Federal Archive Koblenz

4 . The "German Peasantry" is being displayed. Exhibition of the "Reichsnährstand" at the Theresienwiese in München, May/June 1937.

Federal Archive Koblenz

5 . This is how the Reich's Inheritance Law is meant to function in theory.

Federal Archive Berlin

6. Ideological exaggeration of the "German Peasantry" during a Thanksgiving Festival at the Bückeberg by Hameln, 1st of October 1933.

German Historical Museum

7 . Appeal to increase production.

German Historical Museum

z1 Excerpt from the Social Reports of the Reich's Custodian for Labour, from the 4th quarter 1938 (A Letter for the Reich's Minister of Labour, to the Reich Minister and Reich's Chancellery Chief, from 3.3.1939) BAB, R 43 II/528, BI.126- 135

Agriculture:

The circumstances within agriculture have come to a crisis. The decrease in Labour force potential is getting worse. Farms that are usually occupied with up to 10 and 15 followers, now only have an average of 2-3 labourers and servants are missing everywhere. The workday of the farmers has exceeded the realm of bearable... The defeatism of the farmers is all present.

Federal Archive of Berlin

z2 Gustavo Corni/Horst Gies, Breads- Butter- Guns: The Nutrition Economy in Germany, under the Dictator of Hitler, Berlin 1997

"Seven Guidelines for the German Agriculture", the Reich's nutrition situation of 1937:

- 1. Without agriculture the people will Starve!
- 2. Keep the soil healthy!
- 3. Increase the harvest of Cultivars (potatoes, sugar cane, beets)
- 4. Make use of intermediate crops so that you can harvest two time in three years.
- 5. Most reserves lie within the Green fields.
- 6. Keep efficient livestock and feed them properly.
- 7. Without employment of machinery, there can be no increase in efficiency.

Page.322 – K. Meyer, Structure and Order of the German Agriculture, Berlin 1939, pg. 550)

Chart. 64 | The Reichskulturkammer

The "adjustment" of the society according to the National Socialist ideology was possible apart from the daily open and hidden terrors - through an extensive propaganda system that covered all fields of the public life and of the published opinion. Propaganda had a key position: It was meant to facilitate the synchronisation of all fields of life, the psychological preparation of the population for the regime's targets and the development of the "People's Community". Culture in the broadest sense had a special impact in this context. The establishment of the "Reich's ministry for the people's education and propaganda" in March 1933, under the direction of Joseph Goebbels, was meant to exert control. Already in July 1933 the movies were rearranged in the "law on the establishment of a provisional 'Filmkammer' (film chamber)". The final control was exerted on the movies in September 1933 with the establishment of the "Reichskulturkammer" (RKK) that consisted of single chamber responsible for different fields of culture; the Reich's chamber for visual arts, the Reich's theatre chamber, the Reich's literature chamber, the Reich's press chamber, the Reich's radio chamber, the Reich's music chamber and the Reich's film chamber. People occupied in the area of culture were obliged to join the RKK and the respective chambers. An exclusion or denial from the Reichskulturkammer equalled a ban from profession. Jews were gradually excluded from the RKK. Goebbels simultaneously was Reich's minister and President of the RKK. This way the RKK and its single chambers were restructured to executive bodies of the Reich's propaganda ministry. The power and monopoly position of the propaganda ministry in the cultural area evolved strong resistance within the DAF – Goebbels got into a conflict of competence with Robert Ley, the Reich's Interior Minister Frick and the "Battle Alliance for German Culture" of the Nazi-ideologist Alfred Rodenberg in which he came off as winner.





Organisation Chart of the Reich's Cultural Chamber, 1937.

Hans Hinkel (Hg.), Handbook of the Reich's Cultural Chamber, 1937

2. Organisation Chart of the Reich's Film Chamber, 1937

Hans Hinkel (Hg.), Handbook of the Reich's Cultural Chamber, 1937.

3. Workshop by the "Reich's Office for Promoting German Literature", inside the reading room of the Prussian State Library Berlin, 23rd November 1935.

1. Row 3rd from left: Hanns Johst (Writer and President of the Reich's Literature Chamber), Werner vom Blomberg (Reich's War Minister), Alfred Rosenberg (Reich's Director and Comminsionar for the "surveillance of the spiritual and ideological education of the NSDAP")

State Archive Berlin

4 . Convention of the "Reich's Cultural Senate" in the Berlin hotel "Kaiserhof", 4th of April 1936.

from left: Hans Hinkel (Manager of the Reich's Cultural Chamber), Walther Funk (Vice President of the Reich's Culture Chamber, responsible for Press and Broadcasting), Joseph Goebbels (Reich's Minister for Propaganda and Personal Union, President of the Reich's Cultural Chamber)

State Archive Berlin

5 . Seat of the Reich's Broadcasting Chamber in the Alsenstrasse 5, Berlin Tiergarten. The Reich's Broadcasting Chamber was dissolved in October 1939 and its members distributed amongst other chambers.

State Archive Berlin

Chart. 65 | The Education Community Hitler Youth (HJ)

The National Socialists considered the youth as the future of their "movement", seeing as the youth could be influenced in terms of ideology. The male part was meant to provide soldiers for future wars and the female part was meant to be prepared for the role as a "German mother". The Hitler-Youth was founded in 1926 during the NSDAP party rally in Weimar. Up to the end of the Weimar Republic the organisation belonged to the smaller groups within the youth associations. In June 1933 Baldur von Schirach, became "Reichsjugendführer", "Youth leader of the German Reich". After the prohibition, liquidation and taking over of other youth associations the number of HJ members rose to 2,3 million.

During the Reich's party rally in 1935, Hitler explained what he envisioned the male youth to be: "In our eyes, every boy has to be slim and fast as a greyhound, tough as leather and hard as Krupp steel." But the most important aim was to indoctrinate the idea of being a member of a "People's Community" of equals.

The law and the HJ from December 1936 established the organisation as the third institution of education, next to parents and school. An edict from March 1939 introduced the youth service duty and the HJ advanced from the party youth to the state youth. The HJ was divided into the "Deutsches Jungvolk", "German Young People" – for boys aged between 10 and 14, and the Hitler Youth – for boys aged 14 to 18. The associations "Jungmädelbund", "Young Girls" and "Bund deutscher Mädel", "League of German Girls" had analogue structures of organisation. The 17 to 21-year-old women were placed in the organisation "Glaube und Schönheit" ("Faith and Beauty").

Marching colons, uniforms, camps and military discipline formed the style of the HJ. The physical strengthening that found its annual high light in the Reich's sports competitions, was considered an important task. From 1936 onwards, the pre-military training for the boys came to the fore. The ideological education was the central part of the HJ-work: The youth was not meant to be trained in individual thinking but in unconditional belief in the "Führer". Particularly during the war years, the reluctance of the youth towards the HJ-service duty increased. The HJ-management counteracted resistance with hard disciplining measures. Many of the educational targets of the National Socialist state would be achieved this way: For example, the SS-tank division "Hitler Jugend", consisting of 16 to 18-year-old men, fought fanatically and sustained heavy losses, during the Ardennes Campaign.



1 . Propaganda regarding the "conformity" of the remaining youth groups. Poster for becoming a member of the HJ (Hitlerjugend/ Hitler Youth), 1935.

Federal Archive Koblenz.

2 . Mass Rally of the Hitler Youth in the Berlin Lustgarten, 19th of August 1933.

Federal Archive Berlin

3 . Close to violence. BDM Leaders in Dachau. BDM Leaders visiting the SS in Dachau, 8th of May 1936.

Federal Archive Koblenz

4. "Accommodation" in a labour camp. Letter from the Youth Leader of the German Reich, Arthur Axman, to the Reich's Leader SS, Heinrich Himmler, 8th of January 1942.

Federal Archive Berlin

5 . Training for the War. Shooting lessons in a fitness camp of the Hitler Youth, July 1944.

Federal Archive Koblenz

6 . Orders and Obedience already at a young age. Deployment of the youth, district of Berlin Charlottenburg, at the train station Witzleben, 1939.

Federal Archive Berlin

7 . Marching columns characterized the image of the Hitler Youth.

Federal Archive Koblenz

r1 The Hitler Youth is established as the "youth of the state".

Reich's Law Gazette, Part 1, 1936

z1 "Your Body Belongs to Your Nation"

10 Rules from the Reich's Doctor of the Hitler Youth, in the "Year of Health Duty", 1939

- 1. Your Body belongs to the Nation, thank it for your existence and take responsibility for your body.
- 2. You must constantly keep yourself clean and take care of your body. Light, fresh air and water will help you.
- 3. Take care of your teeth. You should take pride in having a healthy set of teeth.
- 4. Eat sufficient amounts of fruit, raw salads and vegetables, after having cleansed them with clean water. Vegetalbes have valuable minerals which get lost if you cook them.
- 5. Drink fruit juice! Leave the coffee for the old ladies. You have no need for it.
- 6. Avoid alcohol and nicotine. They are poisons and hinder your growth and work potential.
- 7. Practice gymnastics. They will make you healthy and resistant.
- 8. You must sleep at least 9 hours each night.
- 9. Practice First Aid during accidents. You might be able to become the life saver of one of your colleagues.
- 10. Above all your actiosn must be the Slogan: "It is Your Duty to Remain healthy" (Pg.

Hans Peter Bleuel, "The Clean Reich", 1972

z2 "They will never be free for the rest of their lives!"

A Speech by Hitler on the 4th of December, 1938. In front of Officials at Reichenberg

This youth will learn nothing else except to think in German and act German. When these youths enter our organisations and receive a breeze of fresh air, then after four years they will advance from the "Youth Folk" to the Hitler Youth where they will remain for a further four years. After this, we will definitely not give them back to the old Class and Standard Bearers. Instead, we will assimilate them into the Party, The Labour Front, the SA and the SS, the NSKK and so forth. And if after two and a half years, they haven't fully converted to National Socialism, then they will be sent to the Labour Force and will be drilled for another six to six and a half month under the sign of the "German Spade".

That which is left as far as class consciousness and professional pride is concerned, will be taken care of by the Wehrmacht where they will serve a further two to four years. Then we will re assimilate them into the SA, SS and so further, and they will never be free again for the rest of their lives. And if anyone tells me that there will still be those who resist and survive, to them I only say: National Socialism is not at the end of its days but only at the beginning.

Kurt-Ingo Flessau/Elke Nyssen/Günter Pätzold (Hg.), Education During National Socialism, 1987

z3 Military Training

Order from the Reich's Youth Leadership, concerning the preparation of the Hitler Youth for their Wehrmacht service, 15th of October 1939.

Hitler Boy!

The Reich's Youth Leader has ordered that the three senior years of the Hitler Youth, are to prepare itself for service in the Army. The main core of these preparations focuses on the use of weapons during training and shooting practices. The goal of these War Preparations means "to be able to shoot a gun and to able to maneuver through terrain". This can be attested by obtaining the "Hitler Youth War Training Certificate". Reaching this goal is the purpose of this training, which in turn is a revision of similar parts of the "Hitler Youth on Duty". The structure and content have hardly changed, however, it is consciously more focused on the demands which are required of the military training for soldiers.

Berlin, the 15th of October 1939

Chief of the Command Post II

Schlüner

Upper Region Leader

Karl Heinz Jahnke/Michael Buddrus, German Youth 1933-1945,1989

Chart. 66 | Alms for the Paupers – National Socialist People's Welfare and Winter Charity Campaign

The National Socialist People's Welfare (NSV) and the Winter Charity Campaign (WHW) cared for the indigent "People's Comrades" and for the ideological manipulation of broad groups of the population. The NSV, founded in September 1931, developed from the kitchens and homes for unemployed SA-men as well as from several other auxiliary facilities. In 1943 the NSV had about 17 Million members who had been moved to join by strong political pressure; the NSV was the second largest National Socialist organisation.

Already in April 1934 the NSV established the relief organisation "Mutter und Kind" (Mother and Child) to support indigent families. The organisation gradually asserted a claim for leadership in the field of public welfare and in 1941 received extensive authority in mother, baby and toddler care as well as youth mentoring. The main duty of the relief organisation consisted of the development and education of the "racially faultless German mothers" who were supposed to care for the upbringing of ancestrally healthy offspring. After 1939 the NSV carried out war related tasks such as the care for refugees and returning Germans from abroad; furthermore, the "extended transfer of children to the countryside" co-ordinated with the "Hitler Youth" was part of the duties.

The Winter Charity Campaign founded in 1930 aimed to assuage the misery of the unemployed and socially disadvantaged that increased particularly in winter by the help of donations of wellto-do parts of the population. In 1933 the National Socialists converted the WHW into a permanent welfare organisation which was led by the NSV, and cared for altogether, 16 to 19 million indigent people, concretely: more than 25% of the population. Although only "racially premium", temporarily indigent "people's comrades" – so called a-social or "low-grade" needy people couldn't count on support. Jews would only receive help up to September 1935. Besides humanitarian goals the activities of the WHW were primarily used and shaped under a propagandistic point of view. The "Stew Sundays" were considered as particularly socializing where all Germans were supposed to have a low-priced meal. The difference to the common Sunday roast was supposed to be donated to the WHW. At public show meals, even celebrities would be present in order to advance the idea of solidarity and to use high profile events to stage manage the idea of levelling social differences.















Orr Arbritsinvalion













1 . Appeal for donating to the "Folk and Fate Community", 1942.

Federal Archive Koblenz

2 . Children with vermin, bed wetters... are to be sent back". Order from the Main Welfare Office of the NSDAP, 11th of July 1938.

Federal Archive Berlin

3. "Social Evening" for the war's winter relief. A letter from the shop steward of Messerschmitt GmbH to the war steward of the DAF, 30th of January 1943.

Federal Archive Berlin

4 . Mothers and children are to play a central role within the National Socialists "Welfare Maintenance".

Erich Hilgenfeldt, Accomplishments of the National Socialist's Welfare Maintenance, 1937.

5. Sent to Children's Camp – "Discipline and Order" was heavily emphasized. Shoe and Cupboard Appeal inside a Youth Camp in Schlesien, 1st of November, 1940.

Federal Archive Koblenz

6 . Political celebrity collecting donations.

Federal Archive Berlin

7 . Even war invalids were ,checked'. The seriously injured had to collect for the Winter Relief in the Berlin Wilhelmstrasse, left is Rudolf Heß, 5th of January 1936.

Federal Archive Koblenz

8. Christmas Package for the needy are being packed in the WHW in Berlin, December 1935.

Federal Archive Koblenz

9. Distribution of Ginger Bread. Newsletter from the Reich's Delegate of the Winter Relief, sent to the WHW's district delegate, 27th of August 1940.

Federal Archive Berlin

s Public Stew Meal, in support of the WHW in Worms, circa 1938/39.

Federal Archive Koblenz

z1 Instead of Voluntariness, Wage Reduction

Diary Entry from Victor Klemperer, 23rd of October 1933

A "Voluntary Winter Relief Service" has been deducted from my wage; nobody asked me my permission regarding this. It is regarding a new tax from which one are not exempt, as with every other tax. The only thing one can "volunteer" is whether or not one wishes to pay more than the minimum requirement. And behind this gesture of kindness, lies a poorly disguised compulsion. But despite the dishonest epithet, is not the "main word" already a deception of the enforcement, almost a plea on our emotions? Help instead of taxes: that is what a People's Community needs. The jargon of the Third Reich sentimentalizes; this always raises suspicion.

Victor Klemperer, LTI. Lingua Tertii Imperii, 1946

z2 Increased Pressure on the "Voluntary" Donor

A Report regarding the Situation in Germany of the group 'New Beginning', from January/February 1936

The collection for the German Winter Relief was carried out under greater pressure than in the preceding year. It was almost impossible to escape the donation enquiry. In various apartment blocks in Berlin, the block wardens were expected to make written reports regarding the treatment of Donation Collectors by the residents, such as insulting comments.

Despite the enormous pressure, many workers from various factories began to resist against the donations. The Winter Relief is not liked by anyone. Too well known is the corruption of the WR, too thin the wages of most workers, too endless the chain of donations, too oppressive the forced donations.

Bernd Stöver, Reports of the Situation in Germany, 1996

z3 Decrease in Donations

A Report from the SD Section Würzburg, from the 25.11.1940

Schweinfurt reports: During the last Winter Relief Donation in October, the observation has been made, that a great deal of our comrades have given less than per usual. Collectors have indicated that before the 21.10.1940, they have never received the answer, "Well, you see, life has gotten rather expensive and one must regard each pfennig with more scrutiny than the earlier". From the side of the Party, it is indicated that the People's Comrade is going to have to prepare for a second War Winter, something that will lead to a certain level of unhappy towards the collection.

Martin Broszat/Elke Fröhlich/Falk Wiesemann (Hg.), Bavaria During the NS Era, 1977