

Nazis primarily youth wanting country rebuilt

By MICHELE FURLONG
Reporter

Nazism was not a class movement but a generational revolt, history professor Dr. Paul Madden said Thursday.

The lecture was sponsored by Phi Alpha Theta, a history honor society, and the Department of History.

Madden, an associate professor of history at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, wrote his dissertation on the social class origins of the Nazi Party.

Madden said he, like most people, has a "fascination-repulsion attraction toward Nazism."

Madden said he was always taught the Nazi Party was made up of lower middle-class people who joined the Party for economic reasons.

But Nazism represented the youth of Germany intent on rebuilding Germany after World War I, he said.

"Sure Hitler had great charisma, but it was the rank and file members — the success of those faceless men who supported the Nazi Party — that brought Hitler to power," Madden said.

Madden sought to discover who were the hard-core Nazis.

He researched the Nazi Party Membership Cards from 1919-1933 and through a representative sample, sought to find the social class origins of the members.

"I discovered the middle class had an absolute majority every year, yet there was a sizeable contingent of

the working class," he said. "The elites — businessmen and people from the higher bureaucracy — supported Hitler in all elections and were over-represented."

Madden suggested the Nazi appeal was much wider and reached a greater variety of people than everyone is led to believe.

"Nazism appealed to a certain mentality within the German public-at-large," he said.

"To quote Hitler, the Nazi propaganda was directed toward the heroic instinct of people," he said.

The Nazis gained much of their support from the middle class, Madden said.

"Hitler had an mesmeric effect on the Germans," he said. "The looks on their faces reflect they are viewing the Messiah, and hearing the word from on high."

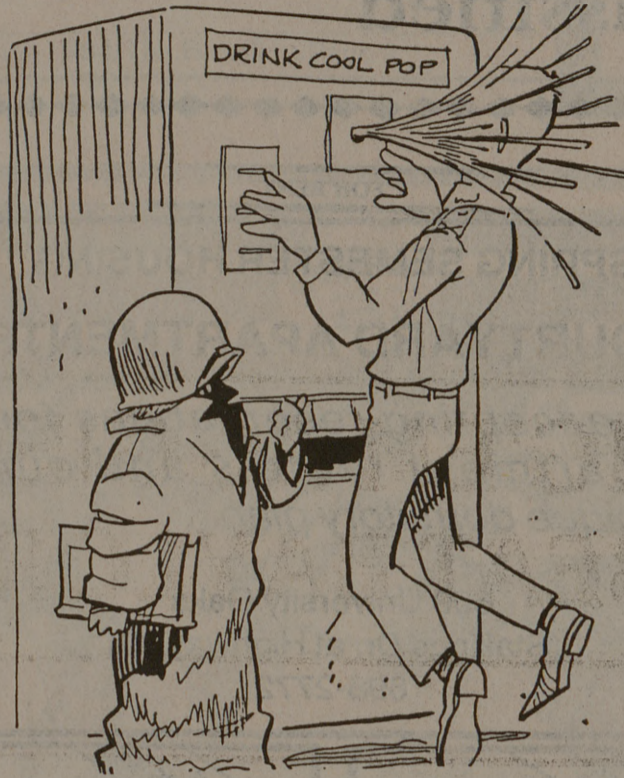
Madden said Hitler had the appearance of an ordinary man, yet his ability to speak and inspire his audience was his power.

"Hitler had the answer to all of the questions of the German people," Madden said.

He appealed to the anti-Semitism of the people and made the Jews the scapegoat for all of the war problems, Madden said. He played on the peoples' frustrated nationalism and promised to overthrow the Treaty of Versailles, regain lost territory and instill pride in Germany and its people.

Slouch

By Jim Earle



"Man, that sure does save on cups!"

Sypcon

Local builders go bankrupt

By TRENT LEOPOLD
Staff Writer

Sypcon Construction Corp., a local business and builders of several area apartment complexes including Huntington and Forest Creek, filed for bankruptcy Oct. 1.

Since then, former residents of Sypcon-managed property have reported difficulties getting their deposit money refunded.

Fausto Bogran, a graduate agricultural engineering student at Texas A&M, said he has not received his \$200 deposit since moving out of the complex 2 months ago, and knows of at least 8 others who have had the same problem.

"Last summer I gave the manager of Huntington Apartments a written notice I was moving out in thirty days and was expecting to receive my deposit money," Bogran said. "I was surprised when they told me I would have to wait 6 months for my money because they were trying to sell the complex."

Bogran has since filed a lawsuit against Sypcon, but feels he will not be able to get his money back since the corporation filed for bankruptcy.

Bogran said he received a letter from Bryan attorney Larry Catlin after he filed the lawsuit.

"Catlin reassured me I would get my money back by the end of this month, but I don't believe him," Bogran said. "I don't believe Catlin since the company has now filed for bankruptcy."

"It cost me \$27 to file in small claims court and I feel I have been taken advantage of by the management, who told me to wait until they could eventually file for bankruptcy."

Filing for bankruptcy under Chapter 11 is designed to protect the company filing from creditors while the company attempts to reorganize.

Local Sypcon officials would not comment on their actions Thursday, but said attorneys in Houston could "speak for them."

Arthur Stewart, a Houston-based attorney representing Sypcon Corp., said he was "pretty sure" efforts are now being directed toward selling the corporation although he added the attorney "officially handling the case" was out of town.

Sypcon also manages Brookwood and Forest Creek apartments.

Son guilty of making, owning deadly bomb

United Press International

DALLAS — The stepson of a former Ku Klux Klansman who died when a bomb planted in a newspaper box exploded in his face was convicted Thursday on bomb making charges.

Marshall "Dodie" Williams, 21, was found guilty of illegally making and possessing the pipe bomb that killed Ward Keeton.

Keeton was slain last January when he walked to a booby trapped newspaper box near his north Dallas apartment, opened it to pick up his morning paper and the bomb exploded.

An FBI agent testified Wednesday that Keeton was a leader of the Ku Klux Klan in North Texas during the 1970s and served as an FBI informant. Defense attorneys tried to argue that the Klan might be behind the slaying.

But prosecutor Shirley Baccus-Lobel said Williams' mother, Clara Keeton, the wife of the victim, hinted when questioned that she wanted her husband dead and used Williams to kill him.

Williams, who could be sentenced to life in prison and fined \$60,000 on the federal charges, also is charged with murder.

Week recognizes wood contribution

By MICHELE FURLONG
Reporter

Oct. 21-27 has been designated National Forest Products Week in recognition of the American forests' contribution of wood and wood products to the United States and the world.

"Our nation's abundant forests are an extraordinary renewable natural resource that has served us in so many vital respects," said Dr. Mike Walterscheid, forestry specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M.

"In addition to producing wood and paper products," he said, "forests produce enormous environmental benefits such as watershed and wildlife protection and recreational opportunities for Americans of all ages who love the outdoors."

"The forestry industry makes a valuable contribution to the nation's economic well-being and to providing homes for our people."

The Forest Product Lab in Lufkin is a division of the Texas Forest Service. The facility conducts research and development programs and seminars, and has the most complete library on wood products and their use in the state, Dewayne Weldon, facility head, said.

The lab has developed more efficient ways of manufacturing, drying

and preserving wood and wood products, Weldon said.

With the help of computer scanning and decision-making, companies are now able to get the greatest possible yield from logs in their mills, he said.

The lab has helped lower operation costs for product manufacturers by developing a cheaper method of drying wood products and using wood residues as an energy source, he said.

The lab develops and tests new wood coatings, preservatives and fire retardant treatments of existing wood structures and materials.

Through proper construction and treatment, homeowners can extend the life, usefulness and safety of wood buildings desks, floors and roofs, he said.

If both public and privately owned forestland is properly managed, American forests can be the most productive in the world, Walterscheid said.

Industry owns only 14 percent of the 482 million acres of commercial farmland but provides more than 30 percent of the national harvest, he said.

Private landowners own 58 percent and supply 48 percent, while the government owns 28 percent and supplies 22 percent.

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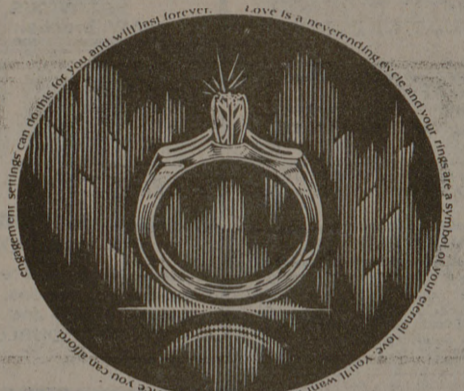
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