

NATION IS WARNED OF ANTI-SEMITISM

Dr. Hoffmann Is Fearful That Persecutions Abroad May Spread to This Country

SEES INTOLERANCE RISING

Calls Upon Church to Meet 'Challenge' of Prejudice Here With Aggressive Action

The rising tide of anti-Semitism in Europe today, which has deprived more than 6,000,000 Jews and non-Aryans of a birthright, may some day sweep across the United States if Christian America does not aggressively challenge the menace, the Rev. Dr. Conrad Hoffmann Jr. declared yesterday morning. Dr. Hoffmann, assistant secretary of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the U. S. A., was guest preacher at the Adams Memorial Presbyterian Church, 207 East Thirtieth Street.

"We have no right to protest against the Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany and Austria when here in our own country among the clergy and laity there is increasing prejudice against the Jews," he said. "Recently when the Administration approved of a plan to offer a haven for Jewish refugees, I heard men of my own Christian faith violently oppose the plan on the grounds that we already had enough Jews in this country.

"Germany would like to be rid of her half million Jews, but she cannot, because no other country will take them. She cannot murder them in cold blood, but she can methodically deprive them of their only means of living, and thus slowly but surely starve them to death. That is what Hitler has been doing to Jews and non-Aryans in Germany and what he is already instituting in Austria."

Saying that the general run of German people were not any more anti-Semitic than the average American, Dr. Hoffmann described them as "being spoon-fed with propaganda against the Jews." The revolution and the post-war sufferings and bitter disillusionment of the Germans were largely caused by the unfair terms of the Versailles treaty, he said. Hopelessly embittered, they grasped at a straw, much like any drowning man, and that straw was Adolf Hitler.

"Americans scoff at the possibility of anti-Semitism sweeping this country," he said. "But let us remember that fundamentally the only difference between a lynching in the United States and a pogrom in Poland is that in the former instance it is usually a Negro who is persecuted and in the latter a Jew. Christian love is the only manner in which the problem of the Jew will be solved in the world today."