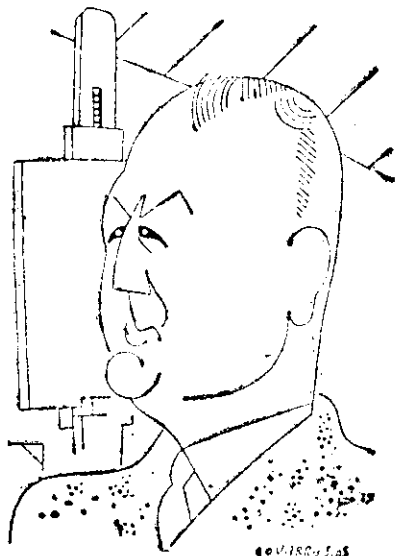


CULTURAL BOLSHEVIST No. 1

Profile of George Grosz—The Artist Who Enraged Hitler

(From the "New Yorker," by courtesy of the American Legation, Wellington)

GEORGE GROSZ is one of the world's great artists. He is a taut, troubled German of middle age, author of a series of bitter line-drawings which have been compared to the work of Durer, Bosch, Goya, Hogarth, and Daumier. They depict the rise of Fascism in Germany, and



GEORGE GROSZ
His Nazis have dents in their heads

have evoked a whole literature of panegyric appraising them as the most nearly perfect record of a period ever created.

He came to the United States from Germany in 1932, just before Hitler issued a proclamation banning his works and designating him "Cultural Bolshevik No. 1."

He spends most of his time alone in his somewhat dark and shadowy studio, a converted bedroom on the second floor of his house. He generally works from nine in the morning until six at night, and often he does not touch the sandwiches and thermos bottle of coffee that Mrs. Grosz places beside his easel. It doesn't surprise anyone who knows him that his pictures are hung in the leading museums of Amsterdam, Vienna, Prague and Paris, as well as in the Metropolitan Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Whitney Museum, but it is surprising that so many have not yet heard of him.

Grosz's manner is "stiffly correct," and he usually serves his visitors tea; before he pours for each guest, he makes a curt little bow. He is reluctant to speak to anyone either of his past or of his rather strange convictions. When he does talk about himself, he has the gingerly, tentative manner of a man fingering a bruise. He explains that sometimes, sitting at his window toward evening, a highball in one hand and a pipe in the other, he

can scarcely believe, as he watches the sun slant through his elms, that he is the man a number of Prussian officers threatened to kill during the days of the rise of Fascism in Germany. "Why, when I went to a public gathering, one bodyguard wasn't enough, and I had to have a group of them!" he says in a tone of disbelief. "In the centre I used to walk."

In Germany he was a radical, and for the last 13 years before he came to this country, he fought Hitler's predecessors and Hitler himself. During that period he was arrested three times for his graphic attacks on Fascists, and those he felt were aiding them. He doesn't like to talk about his long and losing fight. Even the walls of Grosz's studio attest to his metamorphosis. He has tacked up specimens of calendar art dealing with such subjects as "Grand-ma's Birthday," and *Saturday Evening Post* covers by Norman Rockwell.

Nazis on Record

Even Grosz's studio reveals his warring soul. In the past five years, Grosz has turned out some 50 such drawings and water colours of Nazi brutality. They have made a powerful impression on everyone who has seen them, but he will not exhibit them publicly. "I do them just for myself," he says. "It is a record." For the most part, the drawings attack Hitlerism with a ferocity that has been described as appalling, and with a detail that has made them, in the opinion of one French critic, "the most definitive catalogue of man's depravity in all history." Grosz was seldom abstract in his political drawings. He explicitly attacked Hindenburg, Ludendorff, Hitler, Krupp and Thyssen, and as the Fascists increased their campaign of terror, he drew dozens of drawings showing them slaughtering the workers. Day in and day out, for more than 10 years, he drew portraits of hard-faced, creased-necked Prussian officers, and he always depicted them with a dent in the centre of their craniums.

He was arrested three times and fined as a menace to the German army, church and State, but he kept up his fight despite the obvious risks, until in 1932, it became apparent that Hitler and his Nazis were going to win. Grosz left Germany and went to the United States. In the following year, Hitler came to power. One of the first things Hitler did was to confiscate all the plates and available copies of the 13 portfolios of Grosz's drawings.

JOHNSON'S RADIO COLLEGE

(Now under management of McKenzie's Engineering Academy)

Qualify for your Radio Serviceman's Exam, or Commercial Radio Operator's Exam, by Johnson's up-to-date Correspondence Course. Success guaranteed. Pay as you learn. Write or call for full particulars.

23 Aitken Street :: Wellington

OH DEAR!
MORE STOCKINGS
ON THE RUN!

LUX
could
have saved
them

A Lux dip after every wearing whisks away ruinous perspiration acids, saves stockings AND precious coupons!



MADE BY LARSEN BROTHERS (N.Z.) LIMITED, JACKSON STREET, PETONE. "LUX" IS A TRADE MARK



Guard Her Health

You can keep your children free from constipation with Nyal Figsen, the gentle laxative. Children like Nyal Figsen, it is easy and pleasant to take—can be chewed like a lolly. Nyal Figsen acts mildly yet thoroughly—without pain or discomfort. Sold by chemists everywhere. 24 tablets —1/7.

Nyal Figsen

THE GENTLE LAXATIVE
MADE BY NYAL COMPANY (N.Z.) LTD.
153 ALBERT ST., AUCKLAND. 9