

Sunday Evening, December 8, 1935

GERHART SEGER

Subject:

*"Hitler—A Menace to Human
Civilization"*

Mr. Gerhart Seger is in a position to know intimately the affairs of Social Democracy in Germany, the League of Nations, and the methods used by the present régime in his native country to destroy men or organizations which that régime considers alien to its ideals.

Mr. Seger was a Social Democratic Member of the Reichstag from 1930 until his arrest under the so-called "Protective Custody" by the Nazis. He spent three months in jail and six months in the first Nazi concentration camp, Oranienburg, near Berlin, from which he eventually escaped to Czechoslovakia.

On January 19, 1934, his wife and seventeen-months-old baby were arrested and taken to Rosslau, a men's concentration camp at Anhalt, where Mrs. Seger was the only woman prisoner; they were held as hostages for four months. They were finally released on May 19, 1934, after the intervention of the lady members of the British Parliament, who asked the German Ambassador at London for their release. This action was arranged by Lady Astor and the Duchess of Atholl, after a speech by Mr. Seger in the House of Commons. Mrs. Tate, also member of the British Parliament, went to Germany and brought Mrs. Seger and the child with her by airplane to London to join Mr. Seger.

Mr. Seger was a member of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Reichstag in the Republican régime.