

CHAPTER II

THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE

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An Outline of German History

After the great 'Popular Migrations', the teñtonic branch of the Indo-European family of languages broke up into the ensuring 'German tribes.' Thus the Germans, as the British and the Scandinavian peoples, belong to the Germanic linguistic family. The old German tribes - the (Lower) Saxons and Frisians in the north, the Franks in the West, the Thuringians in Central Germany, the Alemanni in Swabia and the Bavarians in the south - are still responsible for the colourful variety of the German society. Charles the Great (Charlemagne), the receiver of the imperial crown at the hands of Pope Leo III in 800, was responsible for their political unity. Until 1250, the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation continued to flourish. After that the territorial princes grew stronger in power. Yet 'this period of political weakness produced high intellectual and artistic achievements.'¹ The 18th century

¹Press and Information Officer of the Federal Government. 'The Federal Republic of Germany at the Glance', Wiesbadener Graphische Betriebe GmbH, Wiesbaden, 1970, p.5.

witnessed the growth of Brandenburg - Prussia to a mighty power under Frederick the Great (1740 to 1786). In 1806, the Empire which had assumed more and more character of a federation of states, collapsed when it was attacked by Napoleon. In 1815, the 'Deutscher Bund' (The German Confederation) was formed as a loose association of 32 princes and free imperial cities. But it was nothing more than an impotent constitutional alliance.

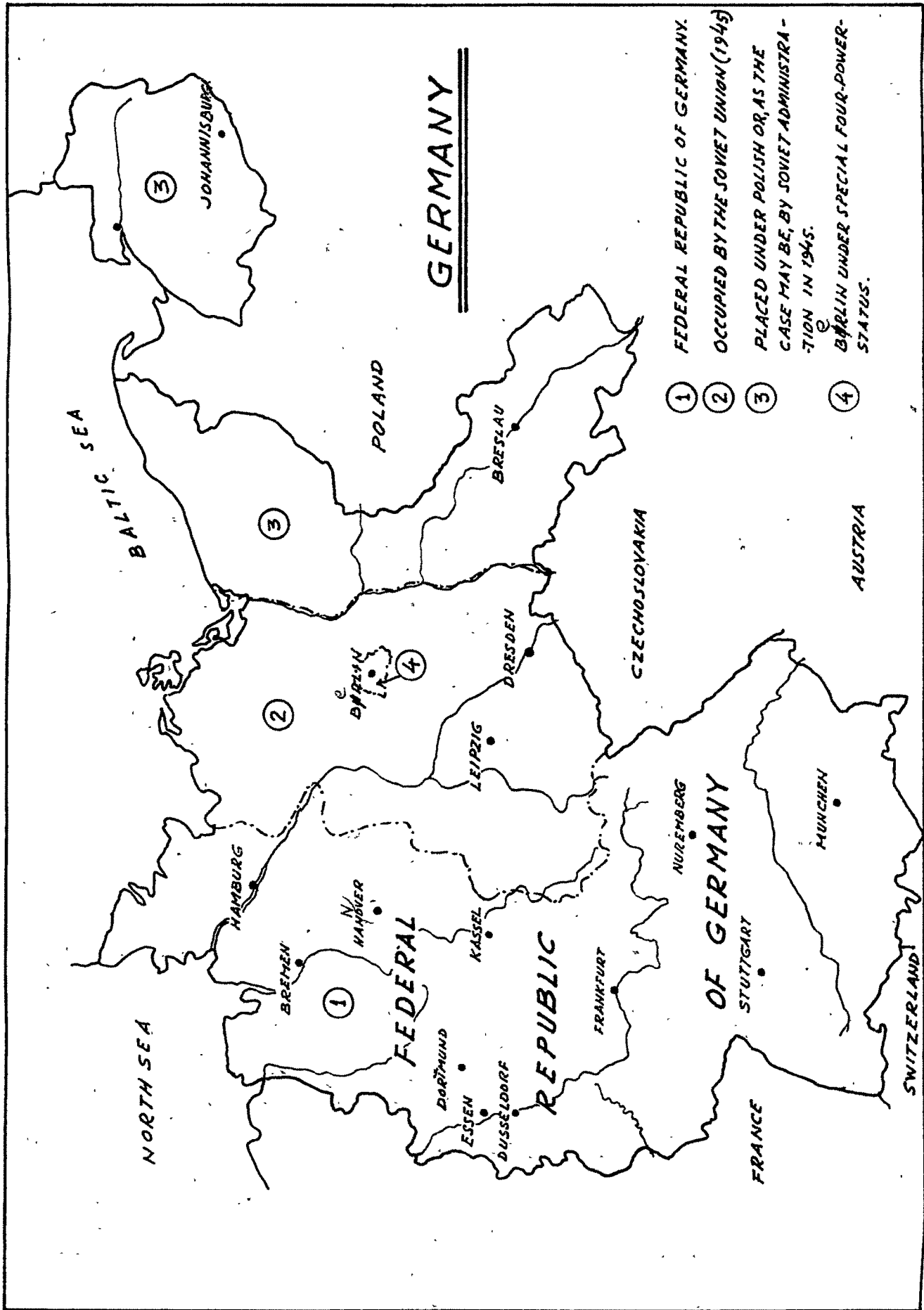
New social problems grew up because of the sweeping economic changes of the 19th century. The middle class and the working class began to press for their share in State affairs. In 1847, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels drew up the Communist manifesto.

In 1867, after Prussia's war against Austria and the South German States and Austria's withdrawal from the German Confederation, the North German Confederation (Norddeutscher Bund) came into being as an initial step towards the German Reich of 1871. Germany achieved her unity as a nation - State and the King of Prussia was its Emperor. The New German Empire under Bismarck^K (1815 to 1898) saw great progress and industrial development and the standard of living of the Germans rose considerably. Germany also shared extensively in the remarkable innovations in the fields of science and technology in the years that followed.

The First World War (1914 - 1918) ended with Germany's defeat. But the German unity was preserved. The German Reich became a republic. But the State became internally weak due to reparations, inflation, internal dissensions, disturbances and frequent changes of Governments. The 'Weimar Republic's' liberal constitution was responsible for the existence of all political parties including the extreme left and the extreme right. After the world economic crisis (1929) the economic conditions deteriorated^{1a}. Clever nationalistic propaganda, combined with the exploitation of all constitutional possibilities brought Adolf Hitler and his National Socialist German Workers' Party into power in 1933. Hitler was responsible for the Second World War (1939-1945) which resulted in the total military defeat of Germany.

The Potsdam Agreement between the Allied powers partitioned the territory of the Reich into four Zones of occupation. The eastern provinces of Germany were placed under the Soviet administration. In 1949, the provinces and the States of West Germany formed the 'German Federal Republic,' In 1957, the Saar (which was attached economically to France under a system of partial political autonomy) became a 'Land' of the Federal Republic.¹ The Federal Republic is composed of eleven 'Länder' (including West Berlin).

¹ 'Meet Germany' (Seventh Revised edition), Atlantik-Brücke, Hamburg - Wellingsbuttel, Sanderskoppel 15, May, 1960, p.8.





PHYSICAL SETTING OF GERMANY (LAND, CLIMATE, MINERAL,
WEALTH, AREA AND POPULATION)

Land

Germany is the central power of Europe in terms of geographical position. Adjacent to it in the West are : the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg and France; in the South: Switzerland and Austria; in the east: Czechoslovakia and Poland; and in the north: Denmark. It lies between the 47th and the 55th degrees of north latitude and between the 6th and 23rd degrees of east longitude. Geographically, Germany is divided into five great regions each with distinctive physical features. They are: the North German lowlands, the Central upland shelf, the West and South German terrace - and highland country, the South German Alpine foothills, and the Bavarian Alps. The German Federal Republic in the West of Germany, with its eleven Länder (States) - including West Berlin, embraces parts of all five of these main features. The democratic Republic (i.e. the East Germany) has frontiers in the west which march with those of the Federal Republic.¹

The most important river and the one that carries the most traffic is the Rhine. Duisburg, which is Europe's largest inland port lies on it. Fifty six per cent of the land of West Germany is still being farmed, and 29 per cent is wooded country, while 8 per cent of the land accounts for buildings,

¹Arntz Helmat. 'Facts about Germany,' Verlag Volk and Heimat, München, 1956. p.15.

roads and railways.

Climate

The climate of Germany is determined by its position in the temperate Zone with frequent changes of weather.¹ Prevailing winds are westerly and rain falls at all periods of the year. Rain varies from 20 to 28 inches in the North German lowlands; from 27 to 40 inches in the central upland shelf (Mittelgebirge) and 78 inches or more in the German Alps. The average temperature in January - the coldest month of the year - varies at sea level from 34°F to 27°F, and in the mountains it is under 21°F. In July, the temperature varies from 61°F to 66°F in the North German and East German lowlands. The average temperature in July is 68°F, while the average temperature for the year is 48°F. The winters are cold with heavy snowfall.

Mineral Wealth

Germany has a moderate amount of mineral wealth. There are mineral oil deposits in the North German lowlands with a yearly production of 7.9 million tons (1965). Stocks in the Emsland, north of Hanover and on the coast of Schleswig-Holstein are estimated at 73 million tons. The total amount of lignite found in the Federal Republic in 1965 is 101.9

¹Arntz Helmut: 'Germany in a Nutshell', Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany, 1961, p.21.

million tons. There are deposits of hard coal in Aachen and Ruhr areas, the Saar, the Zwickau valley, the Waldenburg district and Upper Silesia.' The deposits of the Ruhr are estimated at 65,000 million tons enough to last for another 500 years at the present rate of consumption. About 2,000 million tons of Potash produced in the Federal Republic are of great importance to the agriculture of this country. The iron ore deposits found on the Lahn, the Saig and the Dill, in the Jura and Harz contain about 3,000 million tons. Of course, the quality of this iron ore is only moderate. There is also the annual production of 330,000 tons of lead and zinc. The large amount of energy derived from water, particularly in South Germany, is used in producing electricity for light and power. In the year 1965, it amounted to 13.5,000 million KW. hours per annum.¹

Area and Population

The Federal Republic of Germany is 248,572 square kilometres (95,963 square miles) in area.

In 1937, the area of the Reich territory was 470,662 square kilometres and today the area of the German Democratic Republic (DDR) is 108,174 square kilometres. The total population of the Federal Republic is nearly 61 million

¹Arntz Heimat, 'Tatsachen Uber Deutschland' Verlag Volk und Heimat, Munchen, 1967, pp. 41-42.

people. The population of the Federal Republic of Germany lives in 23,629 independent 'communes', of which 83 percent have fewer than 2,000 inhabitants. Almost one-fifth of the population lives in these 'villages' and about 20 million in 59 large towns and cities. It is one of the most heavily industrialized areas in the world, with an urbanised population of almost 80 percent.

The excess of births over deaths is 2.6 per thousand. In 1938 it was 8.4 per thousand. The mortality rate is low - 122 per thousand. The proportion of persons of pensionable age is : for men, about 10.4 per cent, for women, about 21.6 per cent.¹ The expectation of life has nearly doubled in the last ninety years from 37 to 70 years. About 1 per cent of the population are foreigners.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The National Product

Economically, the Federal Republic of Germany is among the leading groups of industrial nations. She has occupied second place in the world trade. Here all attempts are made to develop productive forces which help to promote overall economic growth. Even economic growth, stable currency, full employment, and equilibrium in foreign trade are the main

¹Press and Information Office of the Federal Government: 'The Federal Republic of Germany at a Glance'. 1970, p.10.

goals that the Germans strive to achieve successfully.

THE NATIONAL INCOME is the total revenues from all branches of economy, including the credit balances of accounts between home and abroad. The statisticians define it as the 'net national product at factor cost.' In 1959, the national income of Federal Republic amounted to 188,600 million DM. This was 153 per cent higher than it was in 1950.¹ In 1968, this national income increased to 404,910 million DM. The following table indicates the steady growth of national income of the Federal Republic of Germany from 1963 to 1968.²

TABLE 1

National Income of Federal Republic of Germany

Year	National Income in(Million DM)
1963	289,040
1964	316,500
1965	345,430
1966	364,750
1967*	363,680
1968*	404,910

* The National income increased to 457,950 in the year 1967. (Preliminary Figures)

THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT is the net national product at factor cost plus the individual tax payments (minus

¹ Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany, 'Germany in Nutshell', 1961, p.36.

² Federal Statistical Office: 'Handbook of Statistics for the Federal Republic of Germany.' W.Kohlhammer Gmb Stuttgart, 1970, p.181.

subsidies). In 1960, the gross national product of Federal Republic was 276,000 million DM. From 1950 to 1958, the gross national product of West Germany increased by 134 per cent. In 1968, it was 530,800 million DM while in 1969 it increased to 602,200 million DM. The following table shows the increase in gross national product of Federal Republic from the year 1963 to 1968.

Gross National Product of Federal Republic
of Germany

TABLE 2

Year	Gross National Product in Million DM
1963	377,600
1964	413,800
1965	452,700
1966	480,800
1967	485,100
1968	530,800

The Gross National Product further rose to 602,200 million DM in 1969.

Industries

The Federal Republic of Germany is a typical industrial country. In 1959, 7.48 million people were employed in industrial enterprises having 10 or more employees, which meant that 31 percent of all employed persons in the Federal Republic

were engaged in industry. In 1959, there were 91,900 industrial concerns. Of them 1 per cent was of large-size businesses employing 1,000 people or more; 6 per cent were of medium-sized with 200 to 999 employees; 48 per cent were of small-sized concerns with 10 to 199 employees and the remaining 44 per cent were very small units with less than 10 employees. In 1969, in 99,500 industrial enterprises, 8.2 million people were employed which was more than a third of all persons in employment.

The main areas of industrial concentrations are : the Ruhr; the Rhine-Main area and the South-West Germany. Now the North German coastal region is also fast industrialised. According to turnover, the food industry comes first, while the chemical industry and the mechanical engineering come next. The graph reproduced on the next page shows turnover in the major groups of industry in 1968. According to the number of persons employed, mechanical engineering, the electrical industry, heavy industry, chemical industry, vehical building industry, aircraft construction, textile and food industry are very important. The following table shows the number of establishments (with 10 or more persons), persons engaged and Turnovers of Industry in Federal Republic of Germany for the year 1965, and 1966 and 1966-67.

TABLE 3

The Number of Establishments (with 10 or more persons), Persons engaged and Turnovers of Industry in Federal Republic of Germany for the year 1965, 1966 and 1966-67.

Groups of Industries	Enterprises		Persons engaged		Turnover including goods sold as purchased	
	1965 : 1966 Number		1965 : 1966 1000		1966 : 1967 Million DM	
Mechanical Engineering	4,442	44,493	1,104	1,116	47,238	46,846
Electrical Engineering	2,077	2,095	1,005	999	37,158	35,404
Chemical Industry	1,792	1,787	558	582	41,227	42,081
Textile Industry	3,362	3,293	545	535	21,681	20,148
Food, Beverages and Tobacco Industries	5,005	4,948	545	549	59,049	62,075
Wood Working Industry	2,853	2,807	214	213	9,041	8,699
Printing and Related Industries	3,064	3,073	227	218	7,184	7,799
Metal goods Industries	3,445	3,416	405	392	15,842	15,495
Iron, Steel and Malleable Iron Foundries	438	416	129	118	4,219	3,471
Steel Shaping	1,325	1,336	142	138	5,466	4,973
Glass and Glass Products Industries	428	414	82	84	3,326	3,123
Total	47,432	47,025	8,494	8,430	4,23,432	4,16,637

Since 1962, the industrial production of the Federal Republic has risen by about 50 per cent. In 1969, the turnover totalled 470,500 million DM. Keen competition both national and international, is the important aspect of development of German industries though co-operation is never lost sight of. The State also plays a very important role in maintaining competition and providing overall direction in the development of economy of the nation.

Food and Agriculture

The Federal Republic of Germany is an Industrial Country and not an Agricultural One, and yet the improvement of the agriculture and production of foodstuffs have been given enough importance. In 1960, agriculture, with a production value of more than 22.1 billion DM, was the largest economic group in Western Germany. Nearly one third of all personal income in West Germany is spent on food and consequently the connection of agriculture with political economy and foreign trade is very close.¹ Since 1960, productivity in agriculture has risen by over 60 per cent. This was possible because of the extensive application of technical innovations. Growing mechanization has greatly reduced the dependence on natural resources.

From 1949 to 1959, more than 30 per cent of the persons employed in agriculture left to take up a position in industry.

¹-- 'Meet Germany', Atlantik Brücke Hamburg-Wellingsbuttel, Sanderskoppel, 15, 1960, p.69.

In 1959, only 11.4 per cent of the total population was employed in agriculture, while this percentage was still reduced to 9.8 in the year 1969. In 1960, 2.6 million people were working in agriculture and thus number was further declined to 2.58 million in 1968. According to the development of incomes and prices, it is estimated that by 1980, instead of present 2.58 million persons employed in agriculture, only 1 to 1.4 million will still be able to find an adequate income in farming.¹ Since 1949, almost 600,000 farms - about 31 per cent - have ceased to operate and most of them have merged with larger farms. This trend of decline in the number of farms is likely to continue in the future also because the large and middle-sized farming units are considerably more profitable and productive than the small ones. The Federal Republic of Germany is producing about 70 per cent of the corn, 90 per cent of the meat, and 45 per cent of the nutritive fats for its requirements from its own resources. About 25 to 30 per cent of food requirements have to be imported. Here the farmers are almost always the land owners.

The principle agricultural products are wheat, rye, barley, oats, potatoes, sugar beets, field beans etc. The main crops are : Grain, pulses, root crops, garden products, commercial crops and fodder crops. In 1968, 56 per cent of land was

¹Press and Information Office of the Federal Government: 'The Federal Republic of Germany at a Glance', Wiesbadener Graphische Betriebe GmbH, Wiesbaden, 1970, p.39.

utilised for agriculture (30% Arable land, 23% permanent grassland and 3% fruits etc.), 29 per cent for woods, 5 per cent is waste land and 10 per cent for other uses. Thus despite the increase in population and the growth of industrialization, 85 per cent of the total area of the Federal territory is still used for agriculture or forestry and this proportion is very slowly decreasing.

Production and Distribution of Power

Power for public use in Federal Republic of Germany is generated by undertakings that are in part public and in part financed by private capital. It is also generated by industrial concerns on their own premises. All forms of energy - water, electricity and gas - are subject to state supervision. The most important source of energy is coal. After Great Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany is the largest consumer of power in Europe. In 1960, power production amounted to 116,000 million kilowatt hours, of which industry consumed 70 per cent, and private household 12 per cent. The average annual increase in the consumption of electricity is about 8 per cent, of gas from 4 to 5 per cent, and of water 3 per cent. Every year, more than 500 million DM is invested in public water supplies alone. The following table shows the source of power production in Federal Republic in the year 1955 and 1959.

TABLE 4

Source of Power Production (in Million KW.Hrs.)

	1955	1959
From Hard Coal	44,000	92,000
From Hydro-electric sources and lignite	32,000	11,000
Total	76,000	103,000

The following table indicates the source of power and their utilisation in Federal Republic of Germany from 1966 to 1968

TABLE 5

Sources of Power and their Utilisation

Sources and Utilization	: 1966	: 1967	: 1968
<u>Hard Coal</u> : (1,000 T in terms of hard coal)			
Hard Coal Production	125,970	112,043	112,012
Consumption of Industry	35,712	33,983	35,161
<u>Brown Coal (Lignite)</u> (1,000 T in terms of hard coal)			
Brown-coal Production	25,503	25,159	26,394
Consumption of Industry	3,530	2,809	2,707
<u>Fuel Oil</u> : 1,000 T			
Production	43,130	45,031	50,679
Consumption of Industry	21,152	21,676	23,603
<u>Electricity</u> (Million KWH)			
Output of Electricity	177,875	184,631	203,282
Consumption: Industries	109,698	109,947	119,857
Commerce and Small business	13,567	14,566	16,188
Household	26,720	29,457	33,090
Transport and Communication	5,724	5,904	6,408
Others	11,361	12,415	13,572

(Continued)

Sources and Utilization	: 1966	: 1967	: 1968
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<u>Gas</u> : (Million M)			
Production of Gas	30,691	31,197	34,806
Consumption : Industries	14,500	15,924	20,899
Household	4,237	4,788	5,493
Others	2,417	2,120	2,418
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THE SOCIAL FABRIC

After the Industrial Revolution, the German social structure changed rapidly. About eighty years ago, agriculture was one of the basic sources of employment and handicraft and mining had their important role to play. In 1950, agriculture provided livelihood for only 23% of the population but in 1965, this percentage was reduced to only 11.1. Today, the Federal Republic of Germany has become a highly industrial country with the number of workers, officials and employers steadily increased. In 1871, the proportion of the population living in the rural areas was 63 per cent but in 1967, the town dwellers accounted for 79 per cent. This urbanization of the population has improved the standard of living.

Cultural Life

Germany had a rich cultural life in the past. She has produced gems like Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms and Wagner in the field of music. Goethe, Schiller, Büchner, Hauptmann and others have a prominent place in the field of

literature. She has produced outstanding composers, poets, painters and sculptors of the classical, romantic and modern ages. From the cultural point of view the Germans speak the tongues of Christianity, Marxism and Liberal humanism. The old university towns of Heidelberg, Tübingen, Erlangen and Göttingen still reflect the old cultural life of Germany in their lecture halls, intellectual discussions, theatres and bookshops. In spite of tremendous destruction during the two World Wars, in the post-war times Germany has preserved her cultural heritage. Today we find a theatre or opera house in every notable town of Germany where a number of theatrical festivals are celebrated. One can enjoy the musical life and concert life of outstanding eminence here. Almost every city has art galleries and outstanding museums. Even modern architecture has many noteworthy examples to display in the newly built cities.

Religion and the Churches

Freedom of Faith and Creed is guaranteed by the Basic Law. The State assures the freedom of religion. The autonomous position of the two great churches - the Catholic and the Evangelical (Protestant) is provided for in the Constitution and by various ecclesiastical contracts. About ninety six per cent of the population belongs to one of the two Christian religions. In 1961, 50.5 per cent of the total population

were the members of the Protestant Church while 44.1 per cent belonged to Roman Catholic Church. In 1967, there were 29,078,000 Protestants and 28,093,000 Roman Catholics.

Over and above the religious functions, these Churches are directly and indirectly connected with number of humanitarian and welfare activities. Two-third of all kindergartens and eighty per cent of all places in Young Peoples' Homes are maintained by denominational welfare agencies. 2,46,000 persons are active professionally and about 700,000 others voluntarily, as part of the social effort of both Churches, in the railway missions, homes for the aged and homeless, hospitals, young peoples' homes, reformatories, in kindergartens or as nurses in public welfare.

Both the Evangelical and the Catholic youth stand at the head of the Youth Organisations which are associated with the 'Ring of Youth' (Jugendring), each providing about one million members. These youth organisations also bring out number of useful publications.

The Position of Women

The Basic Law lays down equality between the sexes in all spheres of life. Men and women are entitled to the same wages for the same type of work. Yet there are also number

of special regulations for the protection of women at their work. Women occupy important posts in public life. They have the vote in Germany since 1919. There are about 70 women's associations. At times, the foreign observers have accounted German women devotees of 3 Ks - Kinder, Kirche und Küche (Children, Church and Kitchen). But many of them are now out of the kitchen for work. In 1950 about 8.9 million women had a job. In 1960 this number rose to 9.1 million. In 1965 there were 9.8 million women at work. In the same year, 636,000 i.e. 20.6 per cent of self-employed persons in the Federal Republic were women.

Youth

Large groups of young people take keen interest in youthful activities. They belong to various Youth Clubs and Hobby Centres. The Youth Organisations produce a great deal of literature of their own. The German Federal Youth Ring (Deutscher Bundesjugendring) together with 15 other associations, has more than six million members. It is a voluntary co-operative group to promote social, moral and cultural values and to strengthen national and international understanding. There are about 700 Youth Hostels in Federal Republic of Germany.

The State supports and promotes voluntary youth work, but does not bring its political influence to bear ^{on them}. The youth

organisations remain almost independent. The Youth Welfare Act of 1961 laid down that it was the responsibility of the State Youth Offices to support institutions and activities as well as the work of youth organisations and other youth communities for which these latter are responsible without infringing upon their statutory independence.¹ Considerable funds are made available by State officials to voluntary bodies and associations. The trade unions, churches, trade and professional organisations and big industrial concerns provide financial and other support to achieve independent youth work in their particular spheres. The greatest scheme of support is the Federal Youth Plan set up in 1950 by the Federal Government to help young people "to develop in a natural way and to fulfil their responsibilities towards family, society, and State." More than DM 1000 million (approximately Rs. 2,000 million) are spent under the Federal Youth Plan. The following items of expenditure of the Federal Youth Plan in 1966² will give us some idea about the varied activities carried on by the Youth Organisations in Federal Republic of Germany :

¹.. 'The Young Generation in the Federal Republic of Germany,' German National Committee for International Youth Work, 53 Bonn-Venusberg, Haager Weg, 44, 1968, p.36.

²Ibid., p.37.

TABLE 6

Items of Expenditure of Federal Youth Plan (1966) and
Varied Activities Carried on by the Youth Organisations

- Education in Citizenship	DM 6,380,000
- Berlin Study trips, resident Colleges of further education ..	DM 4,240,000
- International Youth meetings ..	DM 8,600,000
- Vocational Programmes ...	DM 180,000
- Educational staff in youth hostels..	DM 2,530,000
- Student Youth work programme, voluntary social service, youth protection, aid to young foreigners in the Federal Republic... ..	DM 2,170,000
- Education in music and the arts..	DM 600,000
- Youth literature	DM 585,000
- Children and youth film work ..	DM 510,000
- Federal Youth Sports Competitions..	DM 300,000
- Training of helpers in the Youth Service. ..	DM 2,110,000
- Youth organisations of the Federal Youth Council, Ring Political Youth, Student and other organisa- tions. ..	DM 7,675,000
- Associations of voluntary social welfare.. ..	DM 2,210,000
- Other youth work and organisations..	DM 1,650,000
- German Youth Institute, researches..	DM 2,900,000
- Other building measures for residences, and youth service facilities.. ..	DM 3,400,000
- Student residences.. ..	DM 14880,000
- Aid to young ^m igrants from the East	DM 7,700,000
- Other individual programmes.. ..	DM 600,000
Total..	DM <u>70,570,000</u>

Public Health

Today, the average expectation of life has risen to almost 70 years in the Federal Republic of Germany. Epidemics and infectious diseases are no longer effective. The organised efforts of the public health organisations of the State and the communes and the hygiene-consciousness of the German people help them to keep radiant health. There are 504 health offices. They are concerned not only with the dangers of epidemics but also with the regulations of the sale of drugs, poisons and narcotics. They are also responsible for hygiene in industry and have charge of persons engaged in medical occupation. In 1955, there was one doctor for every 800 inhabitants and one pharmacist for every 7,900. But in 1965, there was one doctor for every 650 inhabitants and one pharmacist for every 5,981 inhabitants. Health legislation is almost exclusively a matter of State (Land).
