

16 June 1933

Re: Adolf Hitler Fund (Adolf Hitler Spende).

1.) Meeting at the Trade Association of the Chemical Industry (Berufsgenossenschaft der chemischen Industrie).

In the absence of the Managing Director, Dr. MARTIUS, Herr THEUSS was spoken to. To the question on what the increase of the Adolf Hitler Fund (Adolf Hitler Spende) to 10% for the chemical industry was based, it was explained that even the Trade Association itself had encountered very many difficulties on account of this, as a large number of firms in the chemical industry had submitted protests.

In view of the fact that Herr THEUSS was not acquainted with any further details, it was only arranged with him that he should comply with our request that a single original receipt be issued for the total amount of the receipts to be made out for our individual plants, which are to be regarded as certificates in dealing with local party organizations, and that the number of authenticated receipt copies required by us be made out.

2.) Preliminary discussion with Dr. UNGEWITTER.

Dr. UNGEWITTER as well as Oberregierungsrat Dr. KIRCHNER of the Employers' Association (Arbeitsgeber-Verband) who was consulted by telephone, were both surprised about the ruling regarding the increase of the Adolf Hitler Fund imposed on the chemical industry. They had not been approached in this matter in any way. Only the Managing Director of the Trade Association, Dr. MARTIUS, once a long

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time ago, gave a hint to Dr. UNGEWITTER, that the chemical industry should pay a higher rate particularly in respect of those groups whose wage proportion was very low. It was not intimated to Dr. UNGEWITTER on which basis a differentiation between high and low wage proportions should be made; nor did he ascertain any further details upon enquiry at the Reichsverband (Reich Association) until the new circular letter had been sent out.

3.) Meeting at the Reichs-Verband der Deutschen Industrie (Reich Association of German Industry).

Present:

Dr. UNGEWITTER
Dr. C. DUISBERG
(Union of Employers' Association) Vereinigung der
Arbeitgeber-Verbaende
Dr. ACHENBACH
Oberleutnant von der LINDE
(Union of Employers' Associations)
SCHAUKE (Part of the time)

Dr. ACHENBACH was asked for the reasons which lead to the fixing of the different rates. In this connection it was pointed out to him, - and this was also repeated many times in the course of the discussion - that the I.G. was actually immediately prepared to subscribe to the Adolf Hitler Fund within the framework of the first circular letter of the Reich Association of German Industry and that they, on account of their absolutely positive attitude to the whole matter, were naturally prepared to support this collection. It was only through the fixing of the new increased rate at 10% which had now ensued that there was a certain surprise in I.G. regarding what could be the basis for such a varied rate fixing and it would certainly be against the spirit and the purpose of this contribution if the free

attitude in this matter were to be rendered more difficult by such differentiations. In the course of the conversation, the following was ascertained:

1) The rates were fixed without consultation of the participating Associations as, in view of the necessity to act quickly, no progress would otherwise have been made. This excuse we expressed as unjustified. The

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Industrie Ausschuss (Industrial Committee) of which Dr. KOETTGEN became president in agreement with the two Head Associations, did not meet in full but the matter was essentially deliberated between Dr. KOETTGEN, BRAUWEILER, Dr. ACHENBACH, HOFMANN as liaison man to the NSDAP, and Oberleutnant (Translator's Note: Word crossed out in original) von der LINDE. The Industrial Committee consisted of the following gentlemen:

Dr. KOETTGEN,	Chairman	
Engineer FIETZSCH	Chemical Industry	
Dr. FOENSGEN	Iron, Steel and Coal	}
Geh. Bergrat HILBER		
Geh. Komm. Rat MITTELSTEN-SCHEID	Textiles.	

2) The difference in the rate was due to the fact that a number of industrial groups with exceptionally high wage proportions could only be induced to consent under the condition that these industrial groups whose wage proportion came to only 3 to 5% were made to participate at double the rate. To the question as to which industrial groups had such a low wage proportion, it was explained that apart from the cigarette industry, this applies amongst others also to the chemical industry.

We pointed out at this point that according to the investigation report, the chemical industry had, quite roughly estimated, a 24% wage proportion, that, however, as soon as one examines the conditions more closely, taking into consideration the total wage proportion in calculating the cost of the finished product from the first stage of production, coal, there is for dye-stuffs alone a wage proportion of 85% (proof of this is in possession of Dr. SCHWARZ, Ludwigshafen). However, even if one did not go so far, the wage proportion, as already mentioned in the investigation report, exceeds 20%. The gentlemen replied that they had acted from entirely different considerations and that they were already convinced of the necessity for a new scale of rates owing to the numerous protests received from firms in the chemical industry.

It was then considered to maintain a rate of 10% in respect of those groups of the chemical industry

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whose wage proportion amounts to less than 15% of the production cost and to fix a rate of 5% in respect of all others.

For I.G., it was stated that they would accordingly also pay a rate of 5% as their wage proportion exceeds 15%; of course, I.G. was always prepared to pay immediately.

3) The gentlemen expressed their willingness - after the discussion with the gentlemen of the Industrial Committee to have a discussion based on this differentiation, with Dr. MARTIUS, of the Trade Association (Berufsgenossenschaft) together with Dr. UNGEWITTER on Monday. In this connection, they

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pointed out particularly that they would, of course, not mention the name of our firm but wanted to arrange for an alteration of the rates in the suggested manner, in general, in view of the protests received by the groups of the Chemical Industry.

The gentlemen then tried to persuade us to pay at least the first installment at a rate of 10% which could subsequently be placed to our credit in respect of future payments. I declined to do so and declared that they should first bring the final ruling into effect on the basis of the proposal made by them and that they should inform the firms through the Trade Association. We would then pay immediately.

4) The gentlemen pointed out that of course, certain documentary proof would have to be submitted regarding the wage proportion. However, it was then pointed out that after all one could by no means use a voluntary donation for divulging cost calculations or even turnover figures. The statement by our firm in this connection would have to suffice. It was then suggested that the Trade Association could reserve the right to ask for such documentary proof in doubtful cases.

5) The paragraph contained in the circular letter according to which current arrangements have to be included in the new regulation is to

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be interpreted that any payment obligations still liable for several months, are settled by this big contribution. Amounts already paid are not taken into consideration.

6) The object of the contribution is the support of the SA, in which to a certain extent the Stahlhelm will also participate. The ways and means for carrying this out were to be specially discussed between Herr SELDTE and the Reich Chancellor. Furthermore a certain amount is to be set aside for training purposes. The SA consists at present of 900,000 members, 500,000 of whom are unemployed. The main purpose of this contribution is to alleviate social distress in these circles. In this sense too we consider the contribution to be perfectly justified and absolutely necessary.

7) The urgency of the matter arises from the fact that by next Tuesday, the banks want to make a first installment of 3 million RM available, which sum would then be handed to the Reich Chancellor. In order to guarantee this 3 million RM, the Industrial Committee has approached the larger firms, among others, also us, with the request to execute indemnity bonds for the amount of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th installments, inasmuch as these installments, on the originally fixed dates, were not to be paid to the Trade Association but to the Deutsche Bank und Disconto-Gesellschaft who shall be authorized to grant a credit to the Industrial Committee for the amount of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th installments. For us, it is therefore only a question of pledging ourselves once again to pay the 2nd, 3rd and 4th installments to the Industrial Committee. It is only the place of payment which is changed. The amount of the guaranteed contribution and the payment dates remain the same.

The form will be submitted in the course of the day and may be completed after permission has been received from Geheimrat SCHMITZ.

(Signature) C. DUISBERG

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION

I, DOROTHEA L. GALEWSKI, M.P. NO. 34079, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. NL-3799.

DOROTHEA L. GALEWSKI
M.P. NO. 34079

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