

“First a German, then a Civil Servant” (July 31, 1933)

Abstract

The race laws of April 7, 1933, were part of the National Socialist “coordination” [*Gleichschaltung*] of all public authorities. They signaled the end of legal equality for German Jews. From that point on, all employees in the civil service, the administration, and the judicial system would have to present a so-called certification of Aryan ancestry [*Ariernachweis*]. Subsequent decrees forced Jews out of more and more branches of professional activity. Whereas a large part of the German population reacted with aversion or passivity to the SA’s “rabble-rousing” or “hooligan” antisemitism [*Radau-Antisemitismus*], many Germans welcomed the exclusion of Jews from particular professions and hoped to benefit from it economically. The photograph shows an event organized by the Reich Union of German Civil Servants in Hamburg. The banner suspended from the balcony reads: “First a German, then a Civil Servant.”

Source



Source: “First a German, then a Civil Servant.” Slogan for the event of the Reichsbund der deutschen Beamten in Hamburg. Photo date: July 31, 1933. Photo: Joseph Schorer.
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Recommended Citation: “First a German, then a Civil Servant” (July 31, 1933), published in: German History in Documents and Images,
<<https://germanhistorydocs.org/en/nazi-germany-1933-1945/ghdi:image-1943>> [May 17, 2024].