

# WORLD DOMINION

The World Dominion Movement advocates Informed Continuous Co-ordinated Evangelism to reach everyone at home and abroad. Its basis is belief in the Deity and Atoning Death of the Lord Jesus Christ, the World's Only Saviour, and in the Final Authority of Holy Scripture.

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## Austria and National Socialism

FOR the last six months and more the question of the influence of the German Revolution on Austria has been very much to the fore in the press of this country and, indeed, of Europe generally. Comment on the tactics of the Nazis and their attitude to Austria has in general been anything but favourable. Dr. Dollfuss has appeared to be the champion of a small nation struggling to escape the menacing tentacles which a large and powerful neighbour has been reaching out to crush it; and when, in pursuit of his policy, he has found it expedient to establish himself as a dictator, little has been said in criticism of his action, even by those who are most severe on the institution of dictatorship, when it is Hitler they have in mind.

It is difficult to avoid the feeling that there is a very considerable body of opinion among the Austrians themselves, which differs from Dr. Dollfuss and his colleagues in its view of what has happened in Germany. Communications from Austria indicate that sincerely patriotic Austrians do exist who have been fired by Hitler's slogan: One folk, one united Reich. They do not feel it to be treason to hold the view that the natural destiny of the Austrian provinces is to be incorporated into the larger union of formerly separate German peoples which is called Germany. Without, perhaps, endorsing all that Hitler holds and stands for, they feel that he has accomplished an awakening of the German nation, and the new enthusiasm for the elevation and solidarity of the German people has infected them, for they are, after all, Germans too. It seems certainly true that this position is held by many of the Protestants in Austria. They have no reason to glorify the memory of the Hapsburgs, who in the past were the means of holding the most southerly situated of the German lands apart from all the others. They may be pardoned for doubting whether it is the pure feeling of a born Austrian that impels Dr. Dollfuss to oppose the *Anschluss*, when he is obviously backed by the Roman Catholic Church, which is not noted for its disinterestedness, and by States which cannot be supposed to care much for Austria in itself.

It remains to be seen how Dr. Dollfuss uses his dictatorial power. A test of his patriotism, whether it is the pure love of the Austrian people that inspires him, or something else, will be supplied by the Protestant Church of Austria. If under the new régime its natural liberties are curbed and its evangelizing activities impeded, then we shall know that though the hands are the hands of Esau, the voice is the voice of Jacob, straight from Rome.