"The Poisonous Mushroom"

Background: This story comes from *Der Giftpilz*, an anti-Semitic children's book published by Julius Streicher, the publisher of *Der Stürmer*. He was executed as a war criminal in 1946. This summary and partial translation is taken from a 1938 publication issued by the "Friends of Europe" in London, an organization to which I have not been able to find a successor to request permission to reprint.

Adapted from: http://research.calvin.edu/german-propaganda-archive/story2.htm



The Poisonous Mushroom



Just as it is often hard to tell a toadstool from an edible mushroom, so too it is often very hard to recognise the Jew as a swindler and criminal.

A mother and her young boy are gathering mushrooms in the German forest. The boy finds some poisonous ones. The mother explains that there are good mushrooms and poisonous ones, and, as they go home, says: Look, Franz, human beings in this world are like the mushrooms in the forest. There are good mushrooms and there are good people. There are poisonous, bad mushrooms and there are bad people. And we have to be on our guard against bad people just as we have against poisonous mushrooms. Do you understand that?

Yes, mother, Franz replies. I understand that in dealing with bad people trouble may arise, just as when one eats a poisonous mushroom. One may even die!

And do you know who these bad men are, these poisonous mushrooms of mankind? the mother continued.

Franz slaps his chest in pride: Of course I know! They are the Jews! Our teacher has often told us about them.

The mother praises her boy for his intelligence, and goes on to explain the different kinds of poisonous Jews: the Jewish pedlar, the Jewish cattle dealer, the Kosher butcher, the Jewish doctor, the baptised Jew, and so on. However they disguise themselves, or however friendly they try to be, affirming a thousand times their good intentions to us, one must not believe them. Jews they are and Jews they remain. For our folk they are poison.

Like the poisonous mushroom! says Franz.

Yes, my child! Just as a single poisonous mushrooms can kill a whole family, so a solitary Jew can destroy a whole village, a whole city, even an entire folk.

Franz has understood.

Tell me, mother, do all non Jews know that the Jew is as dangerous as a poisonous mushroom?

Mother shakes her head. Unfortunately not, my child. There are millions of non Jews who do not yet know the Jews. So we have to enlighten people and warn them against the Jews. Our young people, too, must be warned. Our boys and girls must learn to know the Jew. They must learn that the Jew is the most dangerous poison mushroom in existence. Just as poisonous mushrooms spring up everywhere, so the Jew is found in every country in the world. Just as poisonous mushrooms often lead to the most dreadful calamity, so the Jew is the cause of misery and distress, illness and death.

German youth must learn to recognise the Jewish poison mushroom. They must learn what a danger the Jew is for the German folk and for the whole world. They must learn that the Jewish problem involves the destiny of us all.

The following tales tell the truth about the Jewish poison mushroom. They show the many shapes the Jew assumes. They show the depravity and baseness of the Jewish race. They show the Jew for what he really is: The Devil in human form.

How to Identify a Jew

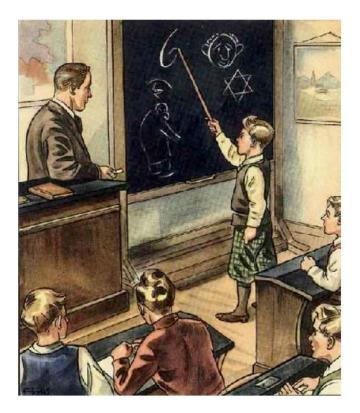
The 7th year boys' class is dealing with the question of how to recognise a Jew. The teacher, Birkmann, has made various drawings on the blackboard to assist the class. The boy Karl stands before the board with a pointer and explains the drawings.

One can tell a Jew by his nose. The Jewish nose is bent at the tip. It looks like a figure 6. So we call them Figure sixes. Many non Jews also have bent noses. But in their case the nose is bent up, not down. They have

nothing to do with the Jewish nose.

Encouraged by the teacher, Karl points out that the lips are another distinguishing feature; they are usually puffed up. The eyebrows are: Usually thicker and more fleshy than ours. From the eyes one can see that the Jew is: A false, deceitful person.

The best scholar in the class, Fritz Müller then comes to the front and continues. Fritz points out that Jews are



usually: Middle sized and have short legs. Their arms too, are usually short. Many Jews have curved legs and are flat footed. They often have a low slanting forehead. We call it a retreating forehead. Many criminals have such foreheads. The Jews are also criminals. Their hair is mostly dark and often curled like the hair of Negroes. Their ears are very big and look like the handle of a coffee cup.

Two other boys add their contribution. One deals with variations, such as blond Jews, and the other with the peculiarities of Jewish movements and speech.

The Jew talks nearly always through his nose.

He often has: A repugnant, sweetish smell. A fine nose can always smell a Jew.

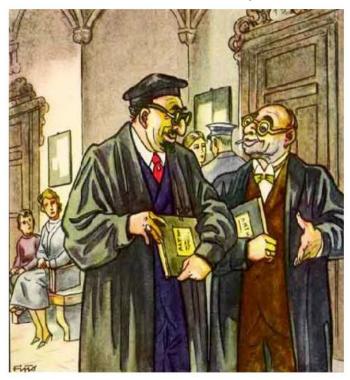
With these answers the teacher is satisfied.

He turns the board round. The following verses are written on it and are recited by the children:

From a Jew's face The wicked Devil speaks to us, The Devil who, in every country, Is known as evil plague.

Would we from the Jew be free, Again be gay and happy, Then must youth fight with us To get rid of the Jewish Devil.

How Two Women were Tricked by Jewish Lawyers



This story tells how a Jewish lawyer, by making the same promises to two German women, complainant and defendant, takes fees from both. In the court judgment is given: Both women are guilty. Both must pay.

After the court proceedings the two Jewish lawyers who have so arranged the case congratulate one another on the good business they have done:

Now we have jewed the two Gojas of their money, we can put it in our sack!

The two German women recognise they have been cheated, make peace with one another, and take the experience as a warning never to quarrel again and: Never to go again to Jewish lawyers.

We will remember all our lives this saying:

The Jewish lawyer Has no feeling for justice. He only goes to court Because of the prospect of money.

Whether brave and good people Wear themselves out and bleed, Leaves the Jew completely cold. Never go to a Jewish lawyer!

How Jewish Traders Cheat



It is a festival evening in the village when the Jew turns up with his wares. The Jew flatters the peasant woman and spreads out his wares.

Everything the heart desires, Levy has for sale.

But the German peasant girl turns down his offers.

The Jew persists, and shows her some stuff of purest wool. That will make a dress for you, woman, so that you will look like a Baroness or a Princess, like a Queen. And cheap, too, that I can tell you!

But the peasant woman knows the Jew too well.

I am buying nothing from you, she says, and goes away.

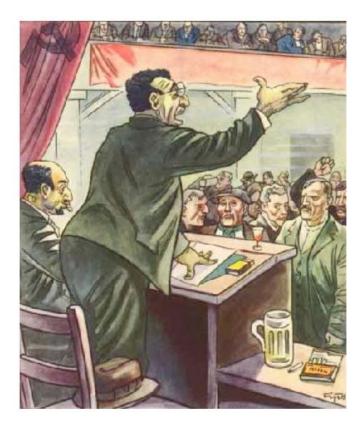
The Jew packs up and goes away cursing. He consoles himself with the knowledge that there are lots of other peasants who can be more easily duped than this one.

Woe to the woman, however, who lets herself be taken in by his chatter. It will happen to her. As has happened to so many other peasant women once they have let the Jew in. There is no escape. There is an old saying:

The Jewish hawker Is a cheat and seducer. He lies all the time And you -- you pay the price.

So many have gone through the mill. Would you be saved from these penalties? Then don't let the Jew come in And buy only from a German!

How Worker Hartmann Became a National Socialist



This story tells how a decent German worker, after listening to the talk of a Jewish speaker in a communist meeting, turns away in disgust and joins the National Socialists of Herr Hitler.

The Hitler Youth is out for a tramp. On the way they meet worker Hartmann and they invite him to tell them a story. Worker Hartmann tells how, years ago, unemployed, he became a communist. He describes the communist meetings. One day he observes that the leaders are Jews.

And as one of the Jews was always talking about Russia and always saying it was best there, I grew angry and interrupted: Why are you always talking about Russia? We are German workers! Yes, we're Germans.We want to hear something about Germany, not Russia!

He goes on to tell how the speaker grew fearfully angry and finally called out:

What do we care about Germany? All that matters is that we get on and have a good time!

Now I knew enough. We workers should become traitors to the Fatherland. We should cooperate with the Jews for the ruin of Germany. I would not be a traitor to the Fatherland. No, never! I turned my back on the Jews and left the meeting. Three others came with me. That night I could not sleep. But then I knew what to do. I left the communist party. Later, I found my way to Adolf Hitler. And I say to you: I shall stay with Hitler as long as I live.

I knew the Jews. I shall always think of the song that we workers sung:

If a folk wants to be powerful It must hold firmly together. For strikes and upsets and the class struggle Are the ruin of a folk. This the world has been taught often enough

This the world has been taught often enough Throughout the centuries. Eternal peace will only come When we have been freed from the Jews.