

Personal Tragedy

From Stuttgart we have received the following news: from those cases where the events of our time drive Jews to throw away their lives, one played out in Stuttgart is remarkable due to its attending circumstances. A young businessman, an enthusiastic fan of German gymnastics and sports, a squad leader in a gymnastics club, living in well-ordered circumstances, has shot himself. Amongst his papers was a marked press notice reporting on the decision of the German Gymnastics Foundation to introduce the Aryan paragraphs, alongside it the following letter addressed to his friends.

My dear friends!

A final farewell! A German Jew cannot bring himself to live while fully aware that he is regarded as a traitor to the Fatherland by the movement which nationalist Germany has pinned its hopes on for salvation! I go without hatred, nor holding a grudge. A fervent wish inspires me – may reason take hold soon! Because no – appropriate to my sensibilities – occupation is possible for me until then, with my suicide I am attempting to jolt my Christian friends awake. May you realise from my step what German Jews are going through emotionally. I would have much rather given my life to the Fatherland! Do not mourn, but try to enlighten others and help truth come out victorious.

To do this would be to pay me the greatest honour!

Your F...

The family have requested that the name be not given.