Renewed in 1938

Became the virtual constitution of the Third Reich

WHY WAS HITLER ABLE TO CONSOLIDATE HIS POSITION IN POWER?

15 January Law for the Reconstruction of the State From March 1933 many state (local) governments overthrown by SA violence allowing the Reich 7 August government to appoint commissioners. New Hindenburg dies. laws formalise the situation Hitler becomes • Elected state assemblies dissolved Head of State • Reich Governors (often Nazi Gauleiter) created to run states (16)30 June Night of the Long Knives 14 12 November Nazi candidates for Reichstag (15)30 January Law for the Reconstruction of the State 14 12 November Nazi list of candidates for Reichstag win 92% of votes very few changes to original Cabinet • more assertive foreign policy October Germany withdrew from Disarmament Conference, and from 16)30 June Night of the Long Knives SS shoot many SA leaders and other people seen as threat

RECOVERY

win 92% of votes

Other measures

of January 1933

League of Nations

NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH **AUGUST** APRIL MAY JUNE JULY

1934

ACTIVITY

- Study Chart 10A. Compare your predictions (in the Activity on page 169) with what actually happened.
- 2 a) Which groups did Hitler appear to conciliate and which did he suppress?
- b) Why did he treat them differently?
- With which of the following statements on the period 1933–4 would you agree:
 - a) 'Once in power, nothing prevented Hitler from imposing his ideas on Germany.'
 - b) 'Hitler took a mixture of radical and more cautious measures.'
 - c) 'Where he took more drastic measures, it tended to be policies which the elite welcomed, and which weakened the Left.'
 - d) 'Within the first year Hitler established complete control of all key
 - e) 'Hitler was prepared to compromise on areas not crucial to him.'

- (17) August Hitler becomes undisputed head of government
- I August Law Concerning the Head of State of the German Reich merges the offices of the President and the Chancellor in the new position of 'Führer and Reich Chancellor'. Confirmed by a plebiscite • 2 August Hindenburg dies
- Army takes oath of personal loyalty to Hitler: 'I swear by God this sacred oath: I will render unconditional obedience to Adolf Hitler, the Führer of the German nation and people, Supreme Commander of the armed forces and will be ready as a true soldier to risk my life at any time for this oath.