

LE SOIR

BRUXELLES 1943, Democriteaanse, België, B. W. 64, Tel. 17.18.54 • SERVICES PARISIENS: 1, boul. Malesherbes, Paris 18^e 7^e
N° 131
REDACTION: 21, PLACE DE LOUVAIN BRUXELLES
TELEPHONE: 17.24.80 et 17.27.50 (20 lignes)
COMPT. CHEQUES-POSTAUX N° 712.254
Sam. 2 et Dim
EDITION C

FRANCO

PAUVRE ET HONNETE

Le Peuple

EDITION SPECIALE GRATUITE

ORGANE CENTRAL
DU
PARTI SOCIALISTE
BELGE
P. S. B.
Centrales
Bruxelloise et
Wallonne

UNDERGROUND PRESS IN BELGIUM

1943

PRIERE DE FAIRE CIRCULER CE JOURNAL

N° 68

LIBRE BELGIQUE

DE VRIJHEID ROOIE VLAAMEN ORGEN

Orgaan der Belgische Socialistische Partij
(Vlaamsche en Brusselsche Centrales)

VRIJE JEUGD

**THE
UNDERGROUND
PRESS
IN BELGIUM**

BELGIAN MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

Belgium. Office belge d'information et
de documentation, London.

**THE
UNDERGROUND PRESS
IN BELGIUM**

BELGIAN MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

THE LIBRARY
THE UNIVERSITY
OF TEXAS

PREFACE

These are pages from a noble book of history: the terrible and glorious history of the Belgian people's resistance to Nazi oppression.

I commend them to the foreign reader with fervour and pride, for in them beats the sorrowful but indomitable heart of a nation which, for centuries, has always risen to great heights in the face of calamity.

That valiant, unsubmissive race, to which I have the honour to belong, is the race of King Albert, of Cardinal Mercier and Burgomaster Max, and of the soldiers of the Yser and of Flanders. Our allies have learned its worth in battle. So have our enemies.

To-day, from the abyss of misery undeserved, the Belgians are producing a new literature of nobility, testifying to their heroic determination not to submit to violence, tyranny and coercion.

To those who read these pages I make but one appeal: Remember that every line has been written in blood.

ANTOINE DELROSSE,
Minister of Justice and Information.

March, 1944.

PUBLISHED BY
LINCOLNS-PRAGER (PUBLISHERS) LTD.,
83, CLAREWOOD COURT, SEYMOUR PLACE,
LONDON, W.1.
1944

Publisher's Gift
FEB 12 1945

Printed in Great Britain by
LOVE & MALCOMSON, LTD.,
REDHILL.

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INTRODUCTION

Towns, countrysides, villages, smiling women, children at play — were it not for a general greyness, a certain shabbiness about their clothes, an obvious slowing down in the pace of life, this country would not, at first sight, look very different from the happy Belgium of former days. One must look very closely. These women with drooping shoulders and ringed eyes have husbands who are prisoners or who have been deported; their children's development has been stunted. Not only are they deprived of the chocolate, sweets and toys which children usually enjoy at this age, but bread, meat and butter are for them luxuries. The men you meet have lost the easy gait, the *joie de vivre* of the free citizen. Each day brings a fresh load of danger; the threat of deportation, the supervision of a wary police, the possibility of being made a hostage or of being tortured under some pretext or other. In this way, a people proud of their tradition, a hard-working, healthy nation, are gradually wasting away. And no nine provinces old in civilisation stifle their anguish so that their temporary masters shall not have the pleasure of seeing them suffer.

* * *

And yet — if you were Le Sage's *Diable Boiteux*, if you could, like him, slip into houses through a chink in the roof without being seen! Or if you could only share the confidence which these men and women have in each other, you would discover the mutilated but triumphant soul of the nation. You would feel their hope and faith, vibrant and unvanquished. You would see tired eyelids cast off their resignation and weary fists clenched. And on their exhausted faces you would read the certainty of victories to come.

Nobody who has lived through the occupation of Belgium will ever forget the handshakes of the friends he left behind

him; nor could he ever forget the martyrs' graves on which flowers may not be laid.

* * *

The authors of this booklet desire to make the voice of enchained liberty heard in the free world. Every single page of this book, with the exception of the introduction and comments, was written inside Belgium. Every word you are going to read was thought out and written down on the other side of the front. Most of the authors are anonymous. Only a few of them are known to us. We know them because their names will figure amongst those which the free Belgium of to-morrow will revere. They died that their country might live, that the voice of their Motherland might reach all Belgians, and that the world might know that never for one day, in spite of overwhelming afflictions has Belgium failed to proclaim her faith in her own destiny

* * *

More than two hundred underground newspapers, written in French or Flemish, appear in occupied Belgium. Those circulated in frontier districts are even written in German dialect. Of these publications some are full-length reviews giving reliably informed, up-to-date news. They have been known to reproduce photographs of war operations only a few days after their first publication in London. These papers have a wide circulation. The chief publication reaches the remarkably high figure of 50,000 every fortnight. This is all the more extraordinary when you think of the many problems which such an undertaking must involve. They have no supplies of paper, lead or power; public conveyances are watched, lorries have disappeared and so on.

Others, more modest in scope, are only circulated in certain districts. Some aim only at expressing the fighting spirit of some little group. The pages you are about to read have been chosen at random from these numerous and varied publications. They denounce the looting carried out by the occupation authorities; they blazon forth heroic resistance. They keep an oppressed nation in touch with the Allied war effort and with the war effort of their Government.

Sometimes the writers make mistakes because their information is inevitably patchy and improvised. But they never lie — it is impossible to lie when the words you are writing may in fact be your last message to your own family; and therein lies the value of the extracts which compose this book. They are as impressive and as moving as a last will and testament. They should be read with the same fervour as that with which they were chosen. You will immediately understand how proud the present writers are to place before the free nations this faithful and glorious record of their oppressed Motherland. You too, after reading these pages, will be inexpressibly proud — proud to find that man has proved worthy of man, proud to discover behind the harassed features of a barbarously oppressed people all those qualities which constitute the nobility of man.

THE UNDERGROUND PRESS IN BELGIUM

"LA LIBRE BELGIQUE,"

April 1, 1942.

CARDINAL VAN ROEY CONDEMNNS THE NEW IDEAS

In an address delivered on March 4, 1942, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Malines has once again condemned with the utmost clarity the principles on which the so-called "New Order" is based.

We think it desirable to publish the longest possible extracts from the Cardinal's discourse, especially as it has naturally been ignored in the German-controlled Press.

After pointing out that "in certain circles attempts are being made to spread not only what may be called patriotic defeatism, but also Catholic defeatism," his Eminence considered the philosophic system which it is sought to impose on us at this moment. He said:

General survey.—Let us first take the conception of man and of life, according to the new ideas. The foundation of the whole edifice is the doctrine of race. To understand the importance of that doctrine, let us read a passage from the book "Gott und Volk" (God and People), which is being widely circulated at the present time in German lands.

"We are living (it says) in decisive times. With our knowledge of the values of race and blood there has come into being a new conception of life. Outwardly it reveals itself in the formation of a new style and a new will to live.

The epoch of international humanitarian dreams is coming to an end, and with it the dream of a Christian humanity, which for two thousand years had been agitating men's minds without their coming one step nearer to achieving it.

"Race and people have become sacred ideas. They are the features of our time and the law of the future. That which serves this law is good and should continue to exist. That which does not recognise this law is bad and should be altered or, better still, disappear."

Briefly stated, said the Cardinal, the doctrine of blood and race comes to this: Blood is the principle of life, of all life, not only of physical, vegetative, sensitive life, but also of spiritual life, of the acts of the will, the intelligence, and all that is beautiful in man. The blood, therefore, which flows in the veins of every individual belongs to the race: the individual is thus essentially subordinate to the race, and has only a relative, accidental and passing value, whereas the race is the permanent, absolute value. There are, by virtue of their blood, inferior races and superior races, the latter being destined to dominate the others.

It is obvious that Christian spiritualism is radically opposed to that purely materialistic doctrine.

Morality.—If we then turn from the conception of life to that of morality, you will notice immediately a profound difference between the new theory and Christianity.

According to the new ideas, morality springs from the theory of blood and race; everything that is favourable to the race, and promotes the purity and vigour of the race, is good and lawful; everything that corrupts or deteriorates the race, or forms an obstacle to the interests of the race, is bad and unlawful. It is the same with justice: whatever is favourable to the race is just; whatever is injurious to the race is unjust.

That morality, clearly, is absolutely incompatible with Catholic morality.

The value of man.—If we consider in what the true value of man consists, according to the two conceptions, we arrive at the same contradictions. According to the system which we are analysing, the greatness of men consists in dominating others: it is force, without regard for anyone, and with no other rule than the supreme interest of the race.

Contrariwise, according to Catholic doctrine, the human ideal consists in dominating oneself, by renunciation and self-denial, and by striving against the passions: the outcome is humility, gentleness, and charity towards others; force also, but solely against evil and sin.

Conclusion.—Such is the ideal of human greatness, according to Christianity. Compare that greatness — almost paradoxical — with the greatness which you are asked to admire, and notice how irreconcilable they are.

"LA VOIX DES BELGES,"
No. 23, February, 1943.

THE USEFULNESS OF THE UNDERGROUND PRESS

In the course of conversation one will often hear people say: "What is the use of the underground Press?" And occasionally they will add: "In the other war it was needed, but to-day it is different, as we have the radio." And some prudent person will remark: "All these little newspapers demand many useless sacrifices." The wisecracks who talk like that have no idea that they are making these confidences to a member of the staff, perhaps the editor himself, or even the founder, of the *Voix des Belges*; this is what, in our last number, we called "talking of rope in a hanged man's house." The men thus addressed, it may be added, refrain from introducing themselves to persons "too wise" to know anything of devotion.

More than a million readers.

In the past eighteen months, over a quarter of a million newspapers bearing our title have been circulated all over the country. If we assume that each copy was read by four people, this is quite a respectable circulation. Though it has been larger, proportionately, in the Walloon districts, the Flemish provinces have not been forgotten, and in some localities devoted collaborators regularly translate our articles to a group of patriots whose knowledge of French is inadequate or non-existent. For the benefit of the latter we

have been asked on several occasions to publish a Flemish edition with the same contents — not another newspaper but an identical one, so that the same ideas would be expressed in each of our two national languages, since Walloons and Flemings alike are conscious of their Belgian nationality; and it is only the material difficulties, which our friends understand, that have prevented us up to now from responding to this natural desire. We will leave out of account the articles reproduced here and there or issued in separate form, preferring to use the space at our disposal to mention for once, and with our contemporaries especially in mind, some of the sacrifices required in an illegal effort such as ours.

Many big sacrifices.

To produce a clandestine newspaper does, indeed, call for sacrifices, as we know better than anybody. In the first place there are personal risks, due to enemy repression. The Gestapo fume with rage each time a new number appears and is added to their collection. Their fury is expressed in arrests, in tortures designed to extort from their victims certain "explanations" — that is to say, denunciations — and in the infliction of penalties. One of these days — when liberation comes — we shall be able to publish the list of the heroes who knew how to be silent, who even accepted a responsibility which was not theirs in order to shield their leaders, or perhaps ordinary friends, and who were filled with joy when they heard in the depths of their prison cells that *La Voix des Belges*, or another journal like it, was still appearing. Personal sacrifices are made, too, by all those who risk their freedom, perhaps their lives, to edit, print, transport and distribute thousands of copies of every new issue, without any self-interest, with no other object than to fulfil their duty, and with no reward but the testimony of a clear conscience.

There are also material sacrifices. A journal like ours, with its very large circulation, costs a lot of money — paper, too, is a black market commodity. Never — we have said it before and we say it again — has our newspaper received from anyone, whether Allies, Government, political party, company or private individual, a single centime as a subsidy.

It is the Belgians alone, anonymous but convinced patriots, who, by buying copies of the journal and by their unconditional contributions to the Maintenance Fund (the announcements inserted in the paper are only there for checking purposes), have enabled us to purchase tons of paper and other materials, to pay the printers, the transport charges, and so on — in short, to achieve our purpose.

Justified and useful sacrifices.

Yes, sacrifices have to be made. Many more sacrifices than the public imagine. That those sacrifices are vain and useless, however, we deny, and the Germans also deny it by their efforts to track us down, together with our gallant comrades. The clandestine Press is first and foremost an expression of the spirit of resistance. With thousands of enemy boots tramping our streets, our walls disfigured by countless enemy ordinances, a subservient Press trying to falsify our ideas, not a few business men pursuing their own little (or big) affairs, and the ranks of the German Field Gendarmerie and Gestapo swollen by squads of traitors — with all this it might have been assumed that the soul of Belgium had surrendered at the same time as her soldiers laid down their arms. Well, that is not so. To the machine-guns and the rifles we oppose a pen. That pen mocks at everything; it is the expression of an ardent and inviolate soul, which imparts to the people its feelings of hope and its firm confidence in the triumph of Right.

The first means of propaganda.

Being the expression of a state of mind, the underground Press remains the first means of propaganda. The wave of defeatism, the spirit of capitulation that swept over our country during the summer of 1940 (let us frankly admit that), has been succeeded everywhere by the spirit of resistance. Why? Because two influences fought each other and finally one of them got the better of the other. On the one hand was a selfish and pleasure-seeking spirit, the miserable aftermath of the pre-war years, expressed in phrases coined in high places, if indeed their actual author is not known. Utterance was given to that spirit in clichés of this sort: "Let the Germans carry on; they are nice people. If you do

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not resist, we shall emerge from the struggle unharmed (which meant: "with our purses well filled"); and when peace comes (a German victory was what they had in mind we shall be able to resume our traditional rôle," etc.

To that spirit of compromise, shady politics, and cowardice — to call things by their proper name — the patriots retorted that hope was not necessary to effort. Accepting the capitulation of our army as a fact necessary on May 28 1940, but a lamentable fact, they regarded that day as one of deep mourning for the Motherland, and not as a day of national rejoicing. There can be no surrender — the victorious enemy remains the enemy; no shutting of our eyes either, for under the new gloves and the well-combed hair are still concealed the same ugly skulls and the ruthless hands that tortured our country in 1914 and are doing it again, and more, to-day. The German of May, 1940, like the German of August, 1914, tears up the scrap of paper and rides rough-shod through all his promises.

The only truly national means.

To unmask the enemy — and those creatures, even more odious, the traitors, the cowards, the war profiteers — such has always been our first aim, and that of all our patriotic contemporaries. Nor is this our only aim. It is not enough that we save our honest countrymen from an injurious influence; we must also help them to think things out, to reflect on past mistakes, and to prepare for the future. Otherwise, by continually destroying without ever replacing anything, the way would be left open to anarchy and ever increasing disorder. For our part, while welcoming all contributions to our columns without considering the personal convictions of the writers, it has been our purpose also to express the feelings of the Belgian people and their important reactions. The *Voix des Belges* is the mouthpiece of thousands of consciences, muzzled but not silent. Given more intelligence, the occupier would try to discover his mistakes, the governor would pay heed to his responsibilities, the coward and the opportunist would feel the pangs of a salutary remorse . . . while there is still time.

The broadcaster of Radio-Belgique, or any other speaker outside Belgium, however sympathetic he may be, is not fully

qualified to achieve these results, for he is too far removed from the danger zone. Even when his information on the situation of our country is not altogether erroneous — as in the case of the praise recently addressed to a magistracy which has degraded itself by its compromises — it has a singular resemblance to those conversations overheard in a club, where highly respectable gentlemen, comfortably seated in easy-chairs, sip at a fifteen-franc glass of port and talk disdainfully of the incapacity of British officers in Egypt and the incessant retreat of the Russians (conversations of September, 1942).

Let the broadcaster give us the war news, adding, perhaps, particulars of the production of the Allied countries, or extracts from the addresses of the great statesmen (whom we regard almost as our own, since our destinies are bound together); let him transmit to us the instructions of our lawful Government, or tell us about those of our soldiers who have not had the misfortune and shame of being vanquished — and everything will be all right. We shall be glad to make selections from such broadcasts and perform the service of putting them on paper. As the saying goes, "Verba volant, scripta manent" — words pass, but writings remain. The writings to which we refer endeavour to interpret the feelings of those for whom they are intended, and to be the mirror, the one and only mirror, of our wounded, ragged, but beloved Motherland.

"LA LIBRE BELGIQUE,"

No. 53, February 15, 1943.

THE UNVANQUISHED

Our army had capitulated. Gone were the victory parades, and the days when the flower-girls could not supply flowers enough: what was yesterday a well-organised corps had become to-day a routed mob seeking escape from oppressive fear and the pursuing enemy. The glorious page that our children were to have read in Belgian history books of the future was no more.

But an army is not a people; nor does it affect the individual splendour and grandeur of every fighter. To make the people capitulate is a much harder task, for to achieve that it is not sufficient to be ten against one, with the heaviest tanks and the biggest shells; you must also be able to annihilate the spiritual patrimony handed down to the nation by centuries of common effort. And that, with all their wealth and their strength, their hunting down and rounding up, the Boches have not yet succeeded in doing.

May, 1940, saw the collapse of our arms; June, 1940, witnessed the re-awakening of our people. From that people arose those who believed that the struggle was not over, but on the contrary, was only about to begin. These were men to whom life and death had no meaning except in the light of an ideal completely incompatible with that which it was sought to impose on them, and they came from everywhere: from Flanders and from Wallonia, from the provinces and from the capital, combining their efforts to drive out the unjust invader from our midst and to reduce to naught a doctrine which oppressed them.

All these men were ready to lose everything in the gamble, including their liberty and their lives, and while the lesson of the dead will be engraved in brazen letters on the pediment of our history, that of the living will penetrate to the depths of our soul, giving us courage to fight on harder than ever and to hold out more stoically still against a too greedy oppressor.

Just think, M. von Falkenhause — without you or your lackeys suspecting it, we have found it possible to correspond with those of our friends who are still prisoners, and their example, their words and their attitude after months of detention have been to us nothing but wonderful encouragement to persevere more tenaciously than ever, to fight to-morrow harder than yesterday, to avenge the barbarous treatment they have to suffer at the hands of your vassals, and one day, a day close at hand, to win the victory.

They told us not of their need of consolation, but that we must be prudent, that we must think of ourselves and the best way of achieving victory, and that we must do our utmost to avoid falling one day into your clutches; they also spoke of their certainty that victory was approaching. And

for long we shall hear resounding through the corridors of the prison the cry that greeted us: "Tripoli!"

Tripoli — the beginning of your defeat, the prelude to the march against Europe; Tripoli — that name rings in our ears like the opening strains of the fanfare of liberation. And in every cell that we passed, every time a glance of complicity could catch our eye, we saw a thumb held up, two fingers forming the V-sign of our victory.

You do not know, you Boches, what it is to see once again those with whom one has worked long for the liberation of one's country, with whom one has experienced the great adventure, the greatest of one's life, the magnificent adventure for a common ideal, and to find them there, under the locking eyes of a few backsliders. You cannot understand the intense emotion that filled the hearts of two visiting strangers who passed through the prison that day. They felt answerable to all those prisoners, answerable for their liberation, maybe, but above all answerable for the immense task which they had delegated to us.

For every defeat of our country, every insult and every blow inflicted on those prisoners, were defeats, insults and blows against us. And while the character of the undertaking was enough to form between the visitors and the visited bonds of true brotherhood, the greatness of an idealism that seemed to burst the walls of cells too small for it fired us with a rare enthusiasm.

What we should like above all to-day would be for our compatriots, for once in their lives, to be able to visit those cells and feel the sense of responsibility emerging from them; men, perhaps, they too would realise that, in these tragic hours through which we are passing, no Belgian has the right any longer to think of his own well-being, comfort or fortune, or to be influenced by prejudices which are only too often foolhardy or fruitless.

They would understand, perhaps, that the hour has struck when all Belgium owes to those who are paying for their heroism with their freedom a debt which nothing can efface. From behind the bars the voice of the prisoners calls us to our duty: to unite, each and every one, to feel our interdependence and to help each other, so that to-morrow we may triumph together.

There is no dependency in the prisoners; no one depressed; no one thinks of his own interests; there is only a great, unanimous voice, expressing the solidarity of those who have been vanquished in war, vanquished by treacher and by brutality, yet who remain vanquishers themselves by their high moral bearing and their unshakable hope.

In the words of St. Exupery, "we have been vanquished we must be silent, as silent as seeds." But see, gentlemen the native soil in which you sowed is now doing its work. The contact which we have made with it will cause the good corn to sprout everywhere, that corn of which no one suspects the presence as yet, but which to-morrow the sun rays of victory will bring forth in sheaves of gold.

"LE SANGLIER ARDENNAIS,"
November 11, 1942.

LET ALL TAKE ACTION AGAINST THE OCCUPIERS AND THE TRAITORS: HASTEN THE HOUR OF DELIVERANCE

TWENTY-FOUR years ago the Germans, defeated, were quitting the invaded countries in disorder. Soon you will be enabled to witness a similar collapse.

For the second time in twenty-five years the barbarians have overrun our country, for the second time they have made Belgian blood flow, casting aside their treaties; for the second time they have sacked and pillaged our little Belgium. But we will not have the German jackboot, the execrable régime, destroyer of all liberty. We have had enough of these Nazi bandits. So let us take action to hasten the hour when, all together and with the help of the Allies we shall drive out the enemy and throttle the traitors.

Patriot, November 11 must be to you the decisive opportunity to prove not only that you are watching, but that shaking off all hesitations, you are resolved to proceed to action. This day should also awaken in your Belgian heart the ardent and urgent desire to have done with this "new order" of slavery and oppression.

Patriot, this anniversary of our martyred country's rebirth must be to you an occasion for bringing every means to bear in striking blows at the invader that he will remember. You will do all in your power to clog, to paralyse, to nullify production for Hitler; to put foodstuffs and raw material out of reach of German plundering, and to put out of action the means of transport employed by the enemy occupant. You will carry on the fight ferociously, and manifest your desire to win by taking part in your liberation. You will bring to your stricken country, which is already finding new life, your personal contribution to the common effort against the common enemy. You will do your part in cleansing our native land from the defilement of the traitors and making them bite the dust.

Let the enemy know that, for the Belgians, the war is not over. On November 11, assert your determination to fight against everything that is not Belgian or Allied.

Long live Belgium. Long live the Allies.
Down with the Germans. Down with the traitors, the betrayers of our country.

The wild boar of the Ardennes emerges once more from his wallow, with menacing tusks and vengeful eye, to give us our battle orders, which you must pass on everywhere.

Out with the invader from our country, all united for the liberation of the Motherland.

Directions from the Luxembourg Provincial Committee of the Walloon Front.

1. Celebrate November 11 by stopping work everywhere.
 2. Wear our national colours.
 3. Visit and lay flowers on the war memorials and our heroes' graves.
 4. Give our pennies to "Solidarité," the Red Cross of the Walloon Front.
 5. Every patriot, acting singly or with others, will do one deed against the enemy war machine and against the traitors.
- WORKERS.—That Hitler still stands is principally because enslaved Europe works for him; because he finds in the occupied countries not only food supplies and raw materials, but factories that produce for his war machine. To work for Hitler is to forge chains for ourselves and weapons

against the Allies, and to prolong our slavery and our sufferings.

Stop work on November 11.

HEADS OF FIRMS.—The hour of responsibilities has struck. It is no longer a time for watching and waiting, but for action. On November 11 close your works, make it paid holiday for all your personnel, and show by this patriotic act your desire to take part in common action against the invader.

TRADERS.—Give your collaboration and your sympathy to the mass action of the patriots. Close your shops on November 11, and give all your staff a holiday.

THEATRE AND CINEMA MANAGERS.—By closing on November 11 and giving your staff a holiday you will win the gratitude, after the war, of the whole population, and will be making your contribution to the general action.

TEACHERS.—By virtue of your educational profession you know the special meaning that should be given to this day, which eloquently symbolizes the aspirations of the Belgian people. You are conscious of the imperious duties incumbent on you as Belgians. On November 11 close your schools and give the pupils a holiday. If higher authorities prevent this — an act of which note should be taken for after the war — you will find ways of making the day practically a holiday. You will advise your pupils to remain at home and you will suggest to your staff excuses for absenting themselves.

PARENTS.—Do not send your children to school on November 11.

PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICIALS.—Cease work, with all other patriots, on November 11, either by staying away from your office or by doing no work while there.

TO THE CLERGY.—As every year, on November 11, the Belgian people will find in the church a centre of ardent patriotism. Like July 21, November 11 is a national festival. It reminds all Belgians of that most glorious day when they shook off the detested German yoke.

The Catholic Church suffers particularly from this infamous régime which is the negation of all liberty. Make a point of commemorating November 11 in your church with solemn services. Invite the faithful to remember this

day in their devotions, and to pray that God may hasten the final victory which will deliver the free peoples from the powers of darkness represented by Hitler and his odious evil-doers.

Catholics, Communists, Liberals, Socialists, let us all unite against the common enemy.

“La Lécron Noire,”

June, 1943.

FROM THE MASSACRES AT KATYN TO THE TORTURES OF ARNAUD FRAITTEUR

The latest anti-Bolshevist propaganda, stridently proclaimed and placarded by the Germans, consists in stressing and throwing into strong relief the massacres of Poles at Katyn. The voices of the propagandists grate on our ears in the cinemas and on the German-controlled radio of the occupied countries, as they broadcast their ridiculous and stupid talks, which we receive with a more than sceptical smile. We will mention what goes on in the cinemas. What a joke the public make of it there! But the windows of our large stores have been taken over by enemy propagandists, who use them to publicise their lies against Russia, against Communism, against the Jews, and so on. The reply to all this is prompt — the windows are shattered one after another, to the great satisfaction of the public. As for the infamous posters, headed, “The Cemetery at Katyn,” nearly all are torn down soon as they appear on the walls, before half the population has had a chance to admire them! Sometimes the physical features of the murderers are made to change their nationality, so that square, bullet-heads take the place of the features of our Russian friends. That made the Germans themselves tear the posters down, while the population gazed over their frustration.

Now let us speak of the Germans' deeds of bravery (sic) towards our unfortunate compatriots who have fallen into their clutches. We will not recall the massacre of our countrymen along the roads of Belgium and France, by the

German Air Force in 1940, when all Belgium, seized with panic and the remembrance of 1914, fled before the invader the torturer of old people, women and children. We will not refresh the Germans' memory by reminding them of their attacks on our peaceful Belgium, on Holland, Luxembourg, Poland, France and Czechoslovakia, and on other countries; of the ferocious and devilish bombing of London (times have changed since 1940!). But we will speak, begin with, of the recent massacres of Jews in Warsaw, where men, women and children of all ages, from babes in arms to nonagenarians, were slaughtered pitilessly by the thousand. This is no old story—it happened only a few weeks ago; and the Germans did not go unscathed, for the Poles resisted, and they have avenged their dead by sacrificing themselves. Their last sleep, the Jews buried in Poland, and in all parts of Europe, where they have been murdered by shooting or by poison-gas — in all parts, I repeat, these unfortunate victims will have jumped for joy in their graves, or will pass for graves, at the sight of this first punishment inflicted on their cruel torturers.

What we wish to speak about is the frightful torture suffered by that brave young Belgian, Arnaud Fraireur, and by his comrades in the struggle, Berthulot and Raskin. Although the German ordinance states plainly, to quote its own words, that "any person who, without lawful authority, shall be found in possession of fire-arms, or make use of them, shall be shot without trial," it is pointed out in the German-controlled newspaper, "Le Soir" (dated May 1943), that there is provision for a military court procedure which suspends this summary sentence by prolonging the execution, with the object of discovering the motive of the crime and the names of the accomplices, keeping the public opinion informed of the revelations in the case, and enlightening it on the identity of the perpetrators and the detailed circumstances of the attack.

It is true that these gentlemen have staged a got-up trial in an "ersatz" court scene worthy of the finest variety show. But nothing is said to the Belgian public of the unspeakable tortures inflicted on the accused men by three "Doktors" of one of the leading German universities (fine things are learnt there, indeed!). Actually these three doctors are

German army surgeons, and their names, addresses, birth-places and dates, degrees, family histories, and so on, are known and have been duly transmitted to London (what a time we shall have during the occupation of Germany, coming very soon!). They are specialists in the art of torture, and in addition to the manhandling of the accused by ordinary Gestapo agents, which is only a foretaste of what goes on in the "Question" room of the secret State police, these worthy representatives of German medical science undertake to make their wretched victims talk.

Some of the means employed on our unfortunate friends Fraireur, Berthulot and Raskin, are indicated below:—

1. Dislocation of fingers and toes.
2. Extraction of finger nails and toe nails.
3. Drilling down to the jawbone.
4. Forcible feeding with salted food, inducing thirst, and refusing drink.
5. Being made to stand for hours facing a wall; any slackening of the lower limbs being punished with blows on the back of the head, crushing nose and face against the wall.
6. Hypodermic injection into the urethra of tincture of iodine.
7. Hypodermic injections of large quantities of tincture of iodine into the abdomen.

We cannot speak of other tortures, even more hideous, but we would mention two facts: poor young Fraireur had his genital parts literally torn out, and the execution of this martyr and his two comrades was by slow and jerky strangulation by hanging.

On the day of the execution a motor car arrived, escorted by other cars armed with machine-guns, to take the prisoners away to a camp, where they were delivered into the hands of the V.N.V. (Flemish National-Socialists), who carried out the sentence by hanging, as above described. Fortunately the instigators of these hideous tortures are known, and, whether German or Flemish Nazis, they will one day pay dearly for their crimes.

All the foregoing facts, we would repeat, are strictly accurate.

Where are the torturers, the murderous executioners? Let the Germans bring these facts to the knowledge of the

public, by means of radio, Press, and posters. But as the have taken good care to remain silent in the matter, we have taken it upon ourselves to make known this information Belgians — the slackers as well as the true patriots — must be kept informed of these infamous deeds, which are committed daily but are passed over in silence. The cowardly perpetrators, Belgians as well as Germans, hope to go unpunished, as the dead tell no tales and their victims can give no evidence when the day of reckoning comes.

But the day of reckoning will come, and then, as our beloved Victor de Laveleye, of Radio-Belgium, has expressed it: "We will get the Germans in the end."

HARRY TEMP ETTE.

"LE PARTISAN,"

No. 11, June, 1943.

THE BELGIAN PARTISANS WILL RETURN BLOW FOR BLOW

To the increasingly hard blows dealt them by the Partisans the Hitlerites are replying with their favourite weapons — crime and calumny. In the vain hope of breaking the vigorous assault of the fighters for freedom, our German executioners are making more arrests and committing more murders than before, at the same time launching a campaign of lies intended to cause confusion in the minds of patriots.

The chief of this sinister gang, "President" Reeder, has mounted the stage in person, to pile up the insults and the lies. This scoundrel, who dares to say that our fighters indulge in "rowdy orgies," coolly asserted that the Partisans formed a "sub-organisation" of the Independence Front which was itself, he said, simply a "camouflaged Communist" organisation.

A few weeks earlier, in the course of one of those travesties of justice which everyone recognises, since the Reichstag Fire trial, as odious frauds, the Hitlerites tried the same trick. Cut to the quick by the execution of one of their

most infamous servitors, the traitor Paul Colin, they tried, in a sham "statements by the accused," to impute this act of violence to the Independence Front.

All these lies will deceive nobody. Belgians have long since learned that the Nazis glibly tax with being a Communist anyone who makes a stand against their schemes for oppression. Belgians also know that the Partisans are not "mercenaries," but disinterested patriots who shed their blood freely for the liberation of the Motherland.

To prevent any misunderstanding, however, the Partisans' Command think it desirable to put matters publicly in their right perspective:

The Belgian Partisans are a self-contained organisation, unconnected with any party or group, but uniting all Belgians, of whatever politics or creed, who have taken up arms against the enemy occupant. Communists, Catholics, Socialists, Liberals, Independents — all are found among the Partisans, animated by the same patriotic motives.

The Belgian Partisans, like very many other patriotic organisations, adhere to the Independence Front, which undertakes the task of co-ordinating the action of all the resistance groups, though it does not itself organise punitive actions. But the Belgian Partisans alone are responsible for their activities. The execution of the traitor Paul Colin, for example, was carried out in conformity with the orders of the Partisans' Command, which accepts all the responsibility.

The just punishment of Paul Colin — that ill-famed punishment which had placed himself at the service of Germany, even before the war, and later proceeded to make himself a tool for the vilest undertakings of the enemy occupier — was approved by the entire country. Having realised that, and in order to calm the fear aroused in the Fascist ranks by so many executions of traitors, the Nazis tried to confuse people's minds by making a great to-do over a parody of a trial, of which even the scribblers in the pay of the enemy were allowed only fleeting glimpses. The increasingly bold activities of our detachments have thrown Hitler's followers into paroxysms of rage and caused them to redouble their fury.

Nothing will stop the Partisans in their fight.

A summary of our activity is eloquent of the proportion it has already attained. During the past four months alone in guerrilla actions against Fascist formations, 34 Hitlerites have been killed; in isolated attacks, 79 traitors have been shot dead and 23 seriously wounded; 12 German militia Gestapo men have been similarly eliminated, and more than 250 soldiers have been killed in the derailment of several German troop trains. The derailment of 22 goods trains has caused the destruction of 15 locomotives, 180 wagons and large quantities of supplies intended for the enemy occupant. In addition, 35 sabotage operations have been carried out against the railway system, resulting in the destruction of stretches of the permanent way and of signalling apparatus; 15 locomotives have been wrecked by the judicious placing of explosives, and 72 have been tampered with. 52 truckloads of straw, flax and similar commodities have been set on fire, 75 wagons deliberately damaged, 6 Westinghouse brake tubes severed or destroyed, and 1 enemy transport lorries demolished. Eight canal locks and two bridges have been dynamited. Seven successful raids on labour offices have brought about the destruction of tens of thousands of notices prepared for the deportation of Belgians, and 80 attacks have been carried out against economic objectives serving the German war machine, such as factories and enemy supply depots.

Warriors of the vanguard, the Partisans fight with all the strength of body and soul. They shed their blood for the common cause, and when they fall into the clutches of the sadistically cruel enemy they die heroically.

They die fighting, like Soupart, the hero of the "Fochabrol" of Houdeng. They die, tortured to death in Nagaols or in the Breendonck camp, facing the enemy proud to the last. They die riddled with the bullets of the firing squad, as Guillissen died, and as Victor Thonet, region Commander of the Charleroi Partisans, has just died. Thonet, on the eve of his execution, wrote to his mother that she could be proud of the manner in which he was about to die, "for it is the death of a soldier, of one who has fought to the very end for his ideal."

Of all this the enemy Press says nothing. Not a word does

print about the unspeakable tortures inflicted on hundreds of our fellow-countrymen, the prisoners whose jaws are broken, whose limbs are shattered, and who are beaten to death by the Nazi brutes. It does not mention the trials behind closed doors, or the summary executions. It does not dare to publish the names of all the victims — of the 508 so-called terrorists, for example, whose execution was announced recently, with devilish delight, by the traitor Heyrelle.

But this hypocritical silence will not save those responsible for all these crimes from suffering the just penalty. The Belgian Partisans will avenge those crimes. They will go on tracking down the traitors and, since the Hitlerites are assassinating hundreds and hundreds of Belgian citizens, the Partisans will return blow for blow. Henceforth, vengeance for these crimes will fall on the men of the German army. For every Belgian slain by the Nazis, a German national will be struck down.

Patriots, uphold the Partisans in their action. Whatever your political or religious beliefs may be, if you want to dedicate yourselves to the great work of freeing the Motherland, join the ranks of the Partisans.

The decisive battles are approaching. Germany, harried in the East and in the West by the victorious onslaughts of the Allies, is in a serious plight, and is obliged to scatter her forces. Let us seize the advantage. Now is the moment to redouble our efforts and strike crushing blows that will hasten the enemy's final collapse.

Forward into battle at the Partisans' side.

Let us intensify our guerrilla warfare. Attack the enemy's detachments and annihilate his outposts; punish the traitors in his pay, destroy his supply bases, paralyse his transport, derail his troop trains, destroy his war material. Let us, by sabotage, bring war production to a standstill. Support strike action against the occupier and against deportations, and back up the efforts of the population who are fighting for their daily bread.

Let us attack with armed force the Nazi detachments engaged in repressive action, the arrest of hostages, and the search for objectors to deportation.

Let us prepare for the revolt that will set the nation free and be ready, sword in hand, to expel the occupier from our country.

“LIBERATION,”
No. 4, April, 1942.

NATIONAL MANIFESTO OF THE INDEPENDENCE FRONT

“HASTEN THE REVOLT THAT WILL DRIVE THE OCCUPIER OUT”

THE Independence Front, a nation-wide organisation, held in March its general meeting, which was attended by delegates from Brussels, Liège, Verviers, Luxembourg, Antwerp, Flanders, and Charleroi-Mons. These various groups, ever increasing in activity and expansion, have formed a Directing Committee which will co-ordinate the work of the Independence Front throughout the country.

The meeting approved the text of an Independence Front manifesto, which will be circulated in all the Belgian provinces. It reads as follows:—

Belgium under the Nazi yoke.

For the second time in a quarter of a century our country has been invaded and occupied by Germany, in contempt of treaties and the pledged word.

For nearly two years our provinces and towns, our villages and our hamlets have been groaning under the most hateful of tyrannies. The Nazi occupation of 1940-1942 surpasses in horror and cruelty that of 1914-1918. It is a direct threat to the life and future of Belgium.

With a refined sadism for which there is no precedent in the history of the civilised peoples, Hitler's Germany has dug its claws into our country and established there a régime of plunder, terror, and famine. It has ordered the execution of innumerable innocent persons and has imprisoned and tortured hundreds of patriots.

Germany has stripped Belgium of all her stocks, reduced the country's rations to an inhuman minimum, ruined trade and the smaller industries, falsified the entire economic administration of Belgium, brought her financial structure to ruin, and impoverished thousands of citizens, reducing them to misery. After forcing a quarter of a million Belgian workers to go to Germany to provide labour for Hitler's factories, the Nazis have systematised the deportation of the bodied men, under the specious label of “compulsory labour.” Hitler's Germany, flouting international law, is using Fascist institutions on us in place of those with which our people were endowed by the Constitution. With the help of the despicable Rexist and Flemish Nazi quislings whom he had appointed to key positions in Belgium, the enemy is preparing the way for the incorporation of our country into Hitlerite Germany.

The victory of Hitler and his clique would mean the death of Belgium. It would mean the final establishment of the hateful régime to which Belgium has been subjected for the past two years.

collabority with the Allies.

In the great struggle in which the free nations and the predatory Powers are engaged, Belgium has her part to play. She is a sector of the world front against aggression. Great Britain, Soviet Russia, the United States, China and their Allies are not fighting solely for their own independence, but to liberate the oppressed peoples, and to rid mankind of Hitlerism in all its forms. Our future depends on the victory of the Allies.

The Belgian people form a bloc against the oppressor, and demonstrate their solidarity with the democratic Powers at every opportunity. They refuse to collaborate in any way with the enemy.

But it is not enough to take up an attitude; it must be backed by deeds. We must act; we must fight. In spite of British resistance, the overwhelming might of the United States, and the sensational reverses which the Red Army has inflicted on Hitler, the Fascist triangle is still powerful. Victory will only be won by the mobilisation against the Axis of all the forces of the nations confronting Hitler,

throughout Europe and the whole world. The outcome of the war, and the future of Belgium, will be decided not on the battlefields, but also on the home front. That is why we must at once organise our Front against the occupier.

And that Front must become active. We must resist requisitions and the deportations, raise our voices against the famine régime that has been imposed on us, combat the criminal schemes of the Rexists and the Flemish Nazis, defend our democratic liberties and institutions. We must slow down and disorganise production and the enemy's transport. We must get ready — like the Yugoslavs and the Greeks — to take up arms again to punish the traitors, avenge our heroes, harass and weaken Hitler's army and, in the manner of the Russian Partisans, hasten the nation uprising which, with our Allies' help, will drive out the occupier from our country.

The Independence Front opens the way to liberation.

So great a task cannot be accomplished unless we are united. Already, in every corner of the country, the spirit of resistance and offensive action is showing itself. Not satisfied with sabotaging and slowing down production, the workers are constantly coming out on strike. The farmers refuse to deliver their produce to the invader. The Corporation is frustrated at every turn. The professors and students of the University of Brussels have refused to work with the traitors. Householders and the wives of prisoners made repeated demonstrations. On July 21 and November 11, in every province the Belgian masses have expressed in unmistakable fashion their grim determination to safeguard their independence of their country. The breath of revolt is in the air.

All our efforts, all our goodwill, must now be joined together, directed to one object, and formed into a compact front — the Independence Front.

The Independence Front appeals to all, to the people of the capital and the people of the provinces, to Flemings and to Walloons, to form groups and be ready for the supreme struggle. It invites all the political organisations, the trade unions, agricultural groups, ex-service men's association

with movements and armed patriots' brigades to rally to the Independence Front, to become affiliated to its committees, and to form new committees in every canton, every commune, every quarter.

To Action!

Act now, in every sector and by every means. Carry on the unrelenting battle against the oppressor with all the weapons at your disposal.

Unite in the Independence Front. Unite to defend your liberties and your independence, your daily bread and your rights; to crush the traitors and the collaborators, to liberate the country and expel the occupier.

United in one and the same ruthless struggle against the invader and his minions, we shall remain united to see that the will of the people is respected, and to ensure the development of the Flemish and Walloon peoples in freedom and independence.

“LE DRAPEAU ROUGE,”
April, 1943.

THEY MUST BE AVENGED

JUDICIAL assassinations and covert crimes; advertised execution of so-called “terrorists,” and the brutal extermination of prisoners in concentration camps — that is how the Nazis defend civilization.”

In the last few weeks dozens of our compatriots have been murdered by the Hitlerian executioners: in Liège province, the old fighter Jules Descy, of Gesves, once a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party; our comrades Alexandre Loyens, of Outgrée, Eugène Gridolet, of Spa, and Peters, of Liège; the patriots A. Luffin and J. Tulkens, of Herstal, J. Berghmans, of Hollogne-aux-Pierres, and R. Delhalle, of Jeneppe. In the Borinage, our comrades Gustave Caudron and Auguste Brouwez, of Flénu. In Luxembourg province, our friends René Demarceau, of Herbeumont, and André Antoine, of Jemelle. In Brussels,

a dozen patriots, among them the old swimming champion Martial Van Schelle. In the Charleroi district and in Brussels, still other victims, every one shot by the Nazis. Brussels, again, hired assassins of the Rexists and of the Flemish Nazi party (V.N.V.) have shot in their homes the Socialist schoolmasters, among them the former communist councillor Pfeiffer, of Molenbeek. And in Hanburg, where several hundred militant Communists, our dear Jules Lahaut at their head, have been subjected to the worst tortures for nearly twenty months, two of our friends — Jacques Diensette and Bourseaux, both under arrest since June, 1941 — have succumbed to the inhuman treatment.

These crimes must be punished. Meet the Fascist terror by fighting more and more energetically* against the occupier and his lackeys. Take direct action, join the Partisans' detachments, rally to the ranks of the Communist Party, which is in the forefront of the fight for liberation. Support the militants who are carrying on the fight for illegal measures, and help the families of the victims by giving to "Solidarité," the Red Cross of the Independent Front.

"LE PARTISAN,"

May, 1943.

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE BELGIAN PARTISAN
COMMAND

April 3. — The Partisans carried out a highly successful attack, lasting from 10.30 p.m. to midnight, against the railway marshalling yard at Louvain. All the station personnel were overpowered and the German guard of six men was machine-gunned and put to flight. It did not show up again until next morning. A tank-wagon containing 2,200 gallons of fuel oil was blown up with dynamite. Several truck loads of straw were set on fire. Two hundred and seventy two Westinghouse brake tubes were destroyed, and trains ready for departure are still held up by this action. On withdrawing, one detachment was attacked by a V.N.V.

Flemish Nazi), who was shot down. The Partisans had no casualties.

March 29. — For the second time in a week the Brussels-Brabant line was dynamited — this time at Corbeek-Loo, resulting in the derailment of a goods train. Several wagons were overturned, heavy damage was done, and all traffic was suspended until 5 p.m. next day.

March 30. — The line between Mouscron (West Flanders) and Tourcoing (France) was dynamited. A goods train ran off the rails, and traffic on this line was completely interrupted for twelve hours.

Partisans set fire to the large Everaert saw-mills at Louvain. So intense was the fire that the flames were visible more than six miles away. A huge quantity of timber intended for the German army, two transport lorries, numerous machines, several hundred litres of petrol, and other products were destroyed.

At the end of March, fifteen pneumatic tubes of Westinghouse brakes were destroyed at Zolder (Limbourg), and ten wagons were immobilised at Eysden by the introduction of oil into the grease boxes. At the Eysden colliery (Limbourg), ten motors were sabotaged by jamming the bearings.

April 1. — On the line from Antwerp to Boom, a crossing at Hoboken was dynamited, causing serious delays to traffic.

April 3. — At Merxem, Klein Dok (Antwerp), five wagons loaded with straw were set on fire and utterly destroyed.

April 6. — At Antwerp, at 6 a.m., a detachment of Partisans made a hand-grenade attack on a platoon of the German Army Transport Corps (N.S.K.K.), who were returning from an exercise. Three of the enemy were seriously wounded and were abandoned by the rest of the platoon, who fled.

April 8. — Partisans took up a rail, on the Houdeng-Vermeir-Comte line, at the spot called Bois de Mignault (Hainaut province). A German army goods train was derailed, the locomotive and seven wagons being destroyed and 18 wagons heavily damaged. The line remained blocked for several hours, and two-way traffic was not restored for several days.

April 14. — The infamous traitor, Paul Colin, was shot in the very premises of the German-controlled newspaper

Nouveau Journal, in Brussels. His death the following day ended a traitorous career. Léon Degrelle was impelled to write that the enemies of the New Order had "hit the mark," and that Colin's death was an irreplaceable loss to the Rexist. Gaston Bekeman, sales manager of the Nazi paper *Nouveau Journal* and *Cassandre*, also received a bullet when he tried to stop our Partisan.

In the first fortnight of April, 25 locomotives were sabotaged at Bertix (Luxembourg). At Zeebrugge, six wagons were damaged in one day by acid poured into the green boxes.

April 18. — Partisans blew up the crane at Pourrie railway station (Namur province).

Several acts of sabotage have been carried out again in canal navigation works. On March 27, the Notté dam, the Dendre river canal at Lessines (Hainault), was destroyed by a charge of 11 lb. of dynamite, causing the canal to run dry for a distance of three miles. Traffic on the canal was suspended for five days. It may be added that the motor car bringing Gestapo agents to make an enquiry broke down with four burst tyres.

On March 28, two sluice gates on the canal from Blatigny to Ath (Hainault) were damaged.

On April 8, the canal lock of the river Dendre at Rebas (Hainault) was dynamited. It is estimated that the suspension of traffic will continue for six weeks.

“L'ESPOIR,”

No. 20, November, 1942.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

Time is on the side of Germany. . . .

At least, that is what Dr. Goebbels would have us believe. It is a sign of the times. Hitler, Goebbels and company who had so much to say about their victorious “lightning war,” are now setting themselves up as believers in patient. The honourable Minister of Propaganda of the Reich himself says it in so many words: “We must have patience

“ (*Le Soir*, October 22, 1942). An ingenious argument was invented to meet the case, to wit: Germany and her Axis partners have become “possessing Powers.” They must reconstruct the vast spaces of the eastern regions.” In plain words, this gibberish means no more than that Germany feels herself powerless to crush her adversaries by force of arms. Her leaders take refuge in excuses based on economics, to cover up the shattering of their illusions of victory by armed might. Hitler and his gang know that it is physically impossible for them to organise the conquered territories. They know that the Europe they have subjected has been bled white under their occupation, and, last but not least, that the military might of the Allies is growing prodigiously day by day. Mr. Goebbels has a club foot; that is not his fault; but his reasoning, we must say, is as lame as himself.

By her ordinances of October 6, 1942, relating to compulsory labour, Germany discloses the precise measure of the wastage of her strength. She must have men, more men, all the time, whatever the cost. Her finest armies have been whittled away in the Soviet furnace, and they have failed to force any decision. The Russian front holds firm, invulnerable, and Hitler is badly wounded. Hence the deportations of workers and the increased pressure on the Vichy Government. French workers and technicians are objecting more and more strenuously to being sent away to the German inferno. In Belgium also, there is not the slightest doubt, the threatened workers will use every device to sabotage the Nazi industrial machine. Our allies are putting the finishing touches to their preparations for the counter-offensive. Let us help them on our home front.

General Smuts has spoken. His speech was lucid and unimpassioned — a cool and precise statement that brings to us the certainty of victory. “The hour of the offensive has come. . . . 1944 will bring us final victory.” Some are upset by this date; but they must take into account the big start that Germany and her accomplices have had, to say nothing of the treachery by which essential positions were handed over to them. Smuts added: “There will be hard and

bitter blows yet to bear." One conviction stands out insistibly from these statements: the triumph of the Allies assured. As for the rest — the date and the possible hazard of victory — that is inevitably affected, like all human plans by a factor of uncertainty.

Meanwhile, in the words of our beloved B.B.C., "Stalgrad still stands." Who will write one day the epic of the Russian people, who are breaking the back of the unchained and impotent Hiderian beast? In Africa, the Eighth Army has gone over to the attack. Its task will be hard, but has seized the initiative, and that is a sign of strength. In the Pacific, the Japanese — who imagined themselves already in Australia — are falling back in New Guinea and being held at Guadalcanar. In the meantime, their fleet is being subjected to increasingly damaging attacks.

In compensation, Mussolini's Italy is observing its twentieth anniversary of the march on Rome. Italian towns are celebrating the occasion. The R.A.F., always ready to oblige, has taken charge of the illuminations. Milan, Genoa, Turin, Savona, and Novaro have been lit up by dazzling displays of fireworks.

"CHURCHILL GAZETTE,"
No. 57, June, 1943

THE ANGLOPHILES

THE Germans and their hirelings indignantly term "Anglophiles." We apologise for repeating platitudes here but we cannot refrain from expressing the pleasure which this appellation gives us.

According to these gentlemen, the "Anglophiles" cannot claim to be a hundred per cent. Belgian—presumably because we will have nothing to do with the Hitler régime or any similar form of government, and do not accept its many advantages, financial and otherwise, enjoyed by those who come to terms with the enemy and betray their country.

We will not argue the matter out with them, because we believe that in present circumstances it is quite possible to be Anglophiles, since the name implies that we are perfectly honest and have kept faith with our allies and with our country.

We have become Anglophiles through force of circumstance; it is the only thing for which we can thank the Germans. Was it not Germany who on the 10th May, 1940, broke a promise which had been solemnly given? Before then, most of our people were out and out neutrals and were prepared to go to any lengths, however unworthy, in order to preserve that sacrosanct neutrality; they were even prepared to let their neighbour's roof be burned, provided their own remained intact. How many compromises favourable to Germany were accepted in the name of neutrality? But, after the 10th May, we found we were just as Anglophile as we had been in August, 1914. And who was to blame but Germany, who declared herself our enemy, whereas England immediately came to our help?

We are Anglophiles because it was not the English who drank with facile, swift but temporary victories, massacred our women and children. It is not England who for three years has been destroying the flower of Belgian youth because they will not accept humiliating orders. It is not England who diabolically deports our young workmen and working girls, to treat them like convicts and starve them to death. Nor is it England who tortures and kills the élite of our country because they have remained faithful to their patriotic ideal.

We are Anglophiles because, with each day that passes, we realise more and more that compared with the Nazi and Fascist countries, Great Britain is pre-eminently the nation of individual liberty, and because we are forced to the conclusion that without liberty life is valueless.

We admire the United Kingdom because although it was unprepared it threw itself into the fray from the very first day, to defend itself, no doubt, but also to help the small nations who had been outraged. We see the gigantic efforts made by Great Britain, who remained intent on victory although left standing alone for more than a year in the face of Hitler's hordes, who were drunk with pride and easy

victories. We are all the more proud to be Anglophiles in that we have seen the Germans and their Italian henchmen fleeing desperately from El Alamein to Kairouan and Sousse and suffering defeat at Sollum, Bardia, Tobruk, Benghazi, Tripoli, Gabes and elsewhere. They have proved that they are most courageous when they are up against defenceless women and children, or soldiers without arms or much inferior in numbers. We know now what the Germans are worth as soldiers.

Although we are not English, we have the satisfaction of being Anglophiles; the shameful capitulations of Tunis and Bizerta have shown what a great victory the orderly embarkation at Dunkirk was. That victory, the result of firmness, tenacity and will power, which are very British virtues, is without precedent in history. The future will show that Dunkirk is at the root of the many successes of the present, of the defeat of the Germans and the Italian in short, of final victory.

We are Anglophiles because we admire the skill of the airmen, the sailors, the soldiers of England and her dominions, who are the heroes of an epic such as the world would have thought unimaginable. These "Englishmen" knew how to fight on pluckily when strength and numbers were against them, because they were determined to win both for their own sakes and ours.

We feel unqualified admiration for the galaxy of outstanding leaders that Great Britain has selected. How comforting for us to be the allies of a country which has chosen Winston Churchill as its leader. We are proud because we know that it is Mr. Churchill's strength of will that has preserved us from barbarism. We know what Mr. Churchill has done to save humanity from injustice, and we are Anglophiles because Mr. Churchill is English.

We are waiting with impatience for the day when we can hoist the British flag over our windows, our balconies, and all our public monuments, besides our tricolour. It is because we are Anglophiles that in our homes we give the place of honour to a portrait of the great Englishman who has done so much for the whole world.

All this does not prevent us from being enthusiastic Belgian, but, after these two great wars, which have ha-

pped in a quarter of a century, it is to England that we must turn, because she alone can give us the help we need. Whatever Nazi propaganda may say, England has never gone back on any promise that she has freely given; she has the highest respect for those who also keep their word and try to understand her and live at peace with her. Germany cannot and never will be able to say as much.

And after this war the whole of Belgium will continue to be Anglophile. Everywhere, we are sure, there will be squares and streets named after Churchill.

Belgians will never forget what happened in 1914, and again in 1940, nor the treachery of the Germans. They will remember that it is mainly to Churchill and his country that they are indebted for the benefits that victory will bring.

"CHURCHILL GAZETTE,"
No. 50, 1943.

THE "TIGER" OF 1943.

When in 1940 the storm burst in Europe—when the Teutonic hordes swept everything before them in their devastating and continued attacks, when terrified populations driven from their homes and countries were being foully murdered as they fled, and did not know where to turn or on whom to rely—one voice rose above the fenshish din; and one man, a superman, in fact, cried out to us: "Courage. Hold firm in spite of all odds. We will win."

The voice of that man was so vital and he was imbued with such tremendous strength that the eyes of all men were turned towards him.

Yes, Mr. Churchill had the will to conquer, and he was not dismayed either by the irresistible onslaught of German might or by the rout of the other decimated and defeated armies; he would not accept defeat, because he had faith in justice and in his own people.

Exhibiting unbelievable energy, constant vigilance, infallible clear-sightedness and unwearied activity, this

great man went everywhere, stirring up his people, reviving their energies, stepping into every gap, encouraging the strong, upholding the weak, succouring the fallen — and the Germans were halted. Surprised at first, they tried without success, to renew their drive and to reassemble the forces, which they believed were inexhaustible, and to hurl furiously against their only remaining enemy the terrifying might of their arms. But Churchill did not flinch; he counted the blows which were dealt on Britain and angrily flung this biting promise in our enemy's face: "We will repay you tenfold."

Solidly behind him, the British nation began to summon up its remaining strength — its air force and navy withstood the enemy's assaults and kept unsullied the name of Britain; the oppressed and martyred peoples felt a renewed burst of vigour, and their spirit of resistance grew daily stronger.

Soon Churchill was able to keep his promises; terrible blows were struck at the Germans, now at one point, now at another, blows delivered with careful premeditation; blows that will gradually pierce the Reich through and through, inflicting ever greater and bloodier wounds, which the English Tiger will never allow to heal, and which he will seek to aggravate with fresh blows of equal ferocity and strength.

And this gigantic struggle has pursued its course, struggle in which one of the adversaries, namely Germany, has been weakened day by day, while the other has, through increased strength and fighting capacity, become irresistible and invincible.

Then the world realised how ghastly had been the danger from which Churchill had saved it, and sought to give him all the help necessary to deal the final blow to the wounded beast. America, Russia, France, all the attacked people have ranged themselves at his side and the promised victory should not be far away.

History has given us great emperors, great kings, great generals, who, with the help of disciplined armies and powerful, organised forces, have dominated the world. Today it is a statesman who has saved broken and conquered peoples from slavery and bondage; to-morrow Churchill will set all these people free and will restore to each country, in

matter how small, its freedom and independence, together with a sound, permanent peace.

In our last number, we reminded our readers that the *Churchill Gazette* has now been in existence for two years; perhaps they will now understand more clearly than ever why we chose *Churchill Gazette* as the title of our fighting paper.

This paper is first and foremost a tentative and respectful homage to the great fighter who carried us in his wake — a small token of our admiration, gratitude and devotion. But at the same time we would emphasise that, like him, we have faith in divine justice — faith in our own rights; that like him we resolved to struggle in spite of all odds, to struggle until final victory should be ours. Thanks to him, already our breasts are swelling with the shout of victory, and the cry, "Long live Churchill!" which will soon burst from our lips.

"LE PEUPLE," April, 1943.

A PHRASE OF CHURCHILL'S

REFERRING to his fellow-countrymen the other day, Mr. Winston Churchill declared: "I don't care much for prophesying, but I will venture to say that this time next year — or perhaps the following year — we will have finished with Hitler."

These words made a very painful and lasting impression on Belgians in Belgium. They should be studied again for this reason: Allied propaganda has so accustomed us to cheerful assurances that when such a statement reaches our ears, we immediately tend to exaggerate its pessimistic implications. The people most disconcerted were, of course, those who at the beginning of the year forecast that we would achieve freedom during the coming summer. It is quite understandable that such fits of depression should occur now and again. Every passing week makes our ordeal more arduous and more unbearable. The certainty

of final victory is not enough; we must be told that victory is quite near. We are all the more impatient because we are bound hand and foot — or very nearly so.

Two conclusions can be deduced from Churchill's declaration.

Firstly: Suppose the British Premier were absolutely convinced in his inmost soul that the war would end this year would he not still have made this remark? Of course would. Because, however certain he may be, it is better that he should be too cautious than too optimistic; because by postponing the date of Germany's collapse he is really helping to bring it nearer, in so far as he is stimulating hearers to greater efforts; and finally, because the enemy is listening to him. If it has been decided to strike heavy blows, there is little point in telling the enemy so. What have, then, every reason to believe that, by postponing victory for a year or two, Churchill was less concerned about the accuracy of his prophecy than about his duty as Prime Minister to foresee the worst. In that case it would be wrong to take his prophecy literally.

Secondly: He was in a way obliged to make this statement which was a mere parenthesis in his general speech. Moreover, it is obvious that this sentence is intentionally pessimistic. To the English it must have been as if Churchill had said, "Contrary to what you believe, the war again Hitler may last another year, or two years perhaps." It is obvious that he intended to give his audience a disagreeable jolt. Why? Because Churchill knows his own people because he knows that the average Englishman likes to take his time, especially when he is sure of victory, that in the thought of obstacles to be overcome makes him set his teeth and that from time to time he needs to be spurred on. It might be added that there was at that time some confusion in British public opinion, even among members of the War Cabinet, as a result of the temporary rejection of the Beveridge Plan. To stress the difficulties which lay ahead before victory could be achieved was a good way of re-establishing unanimity. Finally, the sentence was intended to bring to earth, even to alarm, the American people and especially American industrialists — it was important to do this because the American people, confident in their security and in the all-powerfulness of their means of production

know that time is on their side. Can one imagine Ford, Kaiser, and the rest being prepared to go all out on war production if they had wind of the fact that the war was almost won?

Such thoughts must have been uppermost in Churchill's mind when he uttered this chilling prophecy. It was not intended for the Russians, with whom the Prime Minister must have concluded some agreement about earlier action. Nor was it intended for us — and we should not allow it to upset us. Perhaps, you will say, it was wrong of the B.B.C. to broadcast the speech to us. And yet what would have been our reaction had they left it to the enemy to tell us? For there are indeed two types of propaganda. One consists in telling the people with illusions, such as announcing the speedy collapse of the enemy and always promising victory for next spring; the other hides neither setbacks nor the uncertainties of the future, and never gives out as certain what is only probable. The first method acts like a drug; the second does sometimes act like a cold douche. You can decide for yourselves which is the healthier.

That is all very well, it will be said; but what people want to know is whether they really have another year to wait. No one can say — but one thing is sure: before the end of summer events will turn against Hitler with ever-increasing speed. In the meantime, let us organise our work as prudently and as coolly as if we still had to spend all this time under the German heel; but let us also be ready to face those great changes which may occur at any moment.

“LIBERTÉ,”

May, 1943.

CROCODILE TEARS

When the Minerva and Gevaert factories were bombed at Antwerp, casualties were high. All Belgian patriots mourned the dead deeply and sincerely.

But we deny those who butchered 10,000 Belgians and tens of thousands of the inhabitants of Rotterdam the right

to shed the smallest tear over these fresh victims of a war brought about by the Nazis.

The Nazis and their "New Order" collaborators produced their most touching and sentimental phraseology and devoted column after column to their laments. CROCODILE TEARS. . . . They were far from being interested in the fate of these victims. . . . Their aim was to make use of the misfortunes of our people to help their loathsome propaganda.

They know the warm feelings Belgians have for the Allies and they never lose an opportunity of destroying this sympathy. They take any weapon which is to hand — they even exploit our grief; they even set our national flag flying at half-mast on public buildings — the flag we had not seen since the 10th May, 1940.

But they did hide from us the information that the factories were destroyed. Gevaerts produced photographic paper and films, and Erla — formerly called Minerva where 6,000 workers, both men and women, were employed supplied aeroplane engines.

They did hide from us the fact that anti-aircraft batteries had been set up at certain schools; that shelters were closed and that the Germans forbade the workers to leave the benches.

By wiping out a factory producing specialised and vital war material, the R.A.F. may have caused the death of hundreds of civilians, but they will have spared the lives of tens of thousands of Allied soldiers.

The occupation of our country and the turning over of our factories to German war production have placed us right in the war zone. Every day we realise more and more strongly that every Belgian is at war, and that every Belgian must be a soldier.

Those who are really responsible for Antwerp's dead are the men who turned our country into an arsenal for Hitler.

The fact that the culprits gave 10,000,000 francs — our money — to the victims does not in any way exonerate them. Dargent can concoct as many falsely sentimental proclamations as he likes, and organise public subscriptions — nobody is hoodwinked. Everyone knows that his only aim is to help the working of the Nazi propaganda machine.

In order to avenge the Antwerp victims, in order to avoid the repetition of such disasters, we must all — every day and by every possible means — resist the occupation authorities so that they may be hounded from Belgian soil.

—
"LA VOIX DES BELGES,"
No. 27, May, 1943.

10th MAY, 1943.

THREE years ago. . . .

The Nazi hordes cowardly invaded our Fatherland, where they have ever since sown ruin, devastation and misery.

Hitler, insolently sure that he would triumph, set up National-Socialist Governments in Europe, the loathsome hypocrisy and inexorable cruelty of which have since been made amply manifest to us.

Germany thought that she could conquer Europe by a blitzkrieg" and turn it into a greater Germany.

But the free peoples were roused to action. The U.S.S.R. has delivered terrible blows against the Wehrmacht — at Kaliningrad in particular. German morale has not yet recovered from this loss, and never will. Things have not gone well in Africa, either: since El Alamein, Rommel has been rather shaky — and now Von Arnim is, too. A powerful Franco-Anglo-American army is standing ready for fresh assaults. The "European Fortress" is besieged. The seas have been cleared of the submarines which infested them — infested is perhaps rather a strong word, since 850 ships reached Algiers at the same time. The Allies have superiority in the air. All the conditions necessary for victory have been prepared. Events will now move rapidly. Now at last the worst sufferings and the most heartbreaking humiliations take on a new meaning. The hunger, misery and anguish endured by the oppressed peoples will not have been in vain. . . . We, too, shall have contributed to the common struggle — we shall have helped to forge our own freedom.

All will soon be over now. And "they" know it: if you

question Germans discreetly when by chance they happen be alone, you will hear revealing statements; just notice in their behaviour has altered during recent weeks; talk to your fellow-countrymen who have just come back from Germany and, should the opportunity come your way, read letters from deported men to their families. The Germans know they are beaten and show it by increasingly harsh regulations concerning employment (as *they* put it), food distribution, the repression of terrorist or communist activities, etc. (*they* put it).

But in spite of all they do, a just retribution awaits them. The oppressor will be driven out; the traitors will be punished, collaborators will be brought to book; those who have served their country well will be rewarded — the soldiers, prisoners, men who were deported, and the patriots all those, in fact, who will have played their part in this struggle.

“L'INSOUMIS,”

July, 1942

DEFEATS BEFORE FINAL VICTORY

THE rapidity with which events have moved in Africa has again stunned certain of our fellow-countrymen whose morale was already low; propagators of too hasty and, above all, too personal conclusions are talking about an Allied collapse, and the impossibility of recovery.

Others, less affected by bad news, sigh at the possibility of a postponement of an offensive in the West. Pessimism thus wins the day. Only very few can retain full confidence in the future.

And yet, although we do not seek to minimise the defeat sustained in Libya, we, like the British people, continue to have faith in Churchill's firm determination, and we are convinced that the plans conceived at the Washington Conference will be carried out in the manner and at the time agreed upon.

After the magnificent resistance of the Free French at Bir el Attein, we never dreamed that Tobruk, Bardia and Sollum would fall in a few days. The number of prisoners taken by the enemy and the large quantities of abandoned war material imply some serious error on the part of the Allied High Command. Nor will we deny that mistakes were made; but mistakes can be rectified, and the fact that the offensive was halted at Alamein might give reason to hope that the Allies would soon turn. We hope so with all our hearts.

On the other hand, final defeat in this sector would be a very serious matter, in so far as it would involve the loss of the Suez Canal and would block our route to the Middle East. Should this happen, a fierce attack against Gibraltar would give the Axis the opportunity of closing the Mediterranean to the British fleet. But we have not reached that point yet. It is because we are convinced that England has stood against this possibility that we are confident in the future, and we ask you to share our confidence.

When in 1918 the Germans were rushing to the attack and were within an inch of victory, Foch's determination changed the entire situation, and in a few months we had won the war.

The present situation, although hardly comparable to the one which existed in 1918, when one considers the difference in the weapons of war and the mobile nature of operations, is serious, but not hopeless, and the possibility of defeat in Egypt will not interfere with the Allies' determination to pursue the struggle.

Let us then be persuaded that, if Churchill has promised an offensive in the West for this year, he will be true to his word. Operations in Africa will change neither the hour nor the manner of the offensive.

The task is no easy one and the cost will be high, but the Allies are capable of carrying it through.

When the Allies launch their offensive we will once more play our part in the final recovery of our independence. And that will be neither smooth nor easy.

Having realised this fact, we shall not fail in this vital duty.

And that is why, instead of giving way to pessimism, we might now more than ever to fortify ourselves for the coming

ing struggle, which will be fierce and which will call for great sacrifices.

True to our watchword, which is to hold out, struggle, resist, and conquer or die, we assure our fellow-countrymen that when the time for action comes we shall be at our posts. For Belgians, the day of liberation is near. Let us be worthy of it.

Let us track down the traitors and foil their plots. Let us give fresh courage to the exhausted so that final victory shall find us all united.

—♦—
“LA VOIX DES BELGES,”

No. 27, May, 1943.

PATRIOTIC ORGANISATIONS ASSEMBLE THE FORCES AGAINST HITLER

In order to overcome the resistance of our martyred population who have defied their oppressors, Hitler uses every possible means, including the threat of starvation. Those who refuse to work in Germany are deprived of their food cards. The Nazis are ready to use any methods to put an end to the mass movements — especially strikes — which the deportations have caused.

Faced with this new peril, which threatens both Belgium and the future of Belgian youth, the patriotic organisations have determined to unite their efforts, no longer in support of platonic and fruitless protestations, but to take resolute action and to mobilise against Hitler all the forces of occupied Belgium. Moved by this spirit, they have decided:

1. To support all Belgians who protest against deportation, either by refusing to answer the summons of their Nazi taskmasters, or by starting a strike or by taking part in manifestations against the occupation authorities.

2. To ask civil servants and other officials, heads of firms, professional workers, and, generally speaking, all Belgians holding administrative posts, to give practical assistance to those of their fellow-countrymen who are threatened with deportation — either by providing them with food cards

financial aid, or by supporting their action by every means in their power.

3. To urge the peasants to take an active part in the struggle by harbouring workers and students who refuse to leave for Germany, and by offering them food and shelter.

4. To enlist in the ranks of the patriotic organisations all the workers, young men and students who have managed to escape the clutches of the Nazi slave-drivers.

5. To call upon those workers who have already been deported to remember that they are Belgians, and that no one can force them to manufacture arms which will be used against their country.

—♦—
“LA BELGIQUE NOUVELLE,”

May, 1943.

A JOINT DECLARATION BY THE PATRIOTIC RESISTANCE ORGANISATIONS IN BELGIUM

Our country is in greater danger than ever. The Nazi invaders, not content with persecuting patriots, with subjecting Belgians to the vilest régime known throughout history, with pillaging our national riches and reducing our people to hunger and wretchedness, and with meting out the most inhuman treatment to our prisoners—not content with all this, they have set up within our country a system of deportation reminiscent of the dark ages of slavery. To their Teutonic overlords Belgians are merely human cattle, to be implacably driven towards a Germany now on the brink of disaster.

Such criminal action, added to the already long list of crimes of which Germany has been guilty throughout her history, has aroused the indignation of the civilised world. In Belgium those in high places have condemned Hitler's slave-driving tactics. These protests have been of no avail. Our youth, the life-blood of our nation, is in deadly peril.

In view of this final peril, the patriotic organisations have decided:

1. To support all Belgians who are determined to resist

the threat of deportation either by refusing to answer the summons or by going on strike.

2. To encourage officials, heads of firms, the profession classes, and all who hold administrative posts, to give practical assistance to those threatened with deportation either by providing them with food cards, or by offering them hospitality, or by giving them financial help.

3. To urge the peasants to provide food and lodging for these men and so take an active part in the struggle.

4. To encourage the young men — workers and students alike — threatened with deportation to join the ranks of the patriotic resistance organisations, in order to wage relentless war against the invaders and to prepare themselves for the arrival of the liberating armies.

5. To urge those workers already deported to carry on active, passive and moral sabotage in Germany while awaiting the outbreak of open revolt against the Hitler régime.

The patriotic organisations of our martyred country appeal to the Belgian Government in London to grasp the fact that the Belgian people are determined to see the country undergo a thorough purge. They address an urgent appeal to the Allies to give effective support to Belgian resistance against oppression. It would be indescribably tragic if the mass of the Belgian people should see the hope which has sustained them finally disappointed. Our fellow citizens must be told that the world knows and understands their struggle, which is not in vain. Our workers and young men must not feel that they have been abandoned by Belgians in Belgium or by Belgians outside the country.

Belgians must feel that great events are about to take place. The certainty that the help and encouragement they are receiving in their struggle is not in words alone will instil fresh courage into their hearts and inspire them to greater efforts.

This declaration is addressed to the Belgian Government in London: at the same time the country expresses its determination to continue the struggle until our national territory has been completely liberated. The patriotic organisations would like to have their decisions widely broadcast from London. The time has come to make known to the world that, in spite of the dreadful ordeals which face them

Belgians are more determined than ever to crush Hitlerism, to support Allied strategy, to free Belgium, and to win back her complete independence.
(This was signed by 17 patriotic groups and by more than 50 free newspapers).

“L'INSOURMIS,”
July, 1942.

NEWS FLASHES

On the 10th May, 1942, at Gosselies, about 11 o'clock, when worshippers were coming out of church after High Mass, a magnificent tricolour flag was seen hanging at a respectable height from a telephone wire above the Calvaire cross-roads. A patriot had hoisted it there from the roof of a neighbouring building. There was a great commotion among high-ranking German officers. The firemen were called out, but they refused to take it down. In the end a German officer decided to mount a ladder and untie the flag. Then he tore it and stamped on it with rage... while a Belgian police officer respectfully saluted the national emblem as it was being defiled by German hands. Another patriot took photographs of the scene, which were afterwards distributed in Gosselies and the neighbourhood. As for the patriot who played this little trick on our protectors, he is still at liberty, in spite of the Gestapo's efforts to find him.

On Sunday, the 21st June, a bomb exploded in the Charleroi offices of the Gestapo. The building was badly damaged and many Germans, both male and female, are believed to have been killed. As reprisals, the Germans introduced a curfew at nine o'clock in the whole district. On the first day, the great majority of the inhabitants were standing at their doors at nine o'clock when the German patrol went by. The Germans retorted by threatening to inflict a hundred-franc fine on anybody found in public

after curfew time. May the people at Charleroi and the neighbouring districts continue their gallant resistance!

An English plane was shot down near Arlon. The pilot had both legs broken and a member of the crew had his splinters in his thighs and was in a critical state. No doubt the unharmed members of the crew had managed to elude the Germans. The two wounded airmen were taken to a building and left there under the guard of a "Schupo". After insisting a long time, a local priest managed to soften the German's heart, and was allowed to see the wounded men. The one who was dying welcomed the priest with a smile and said, in his native tongue, "We'll beat them soon. Our men will be here before September." A fine example of courage and optimism!

Throughout Belgium, sabotage and active resistance to the Nazi oppressor increases daily. We try to keep patriots as well informed as possible, so that they know the feelings of the Belgian people and can follow the course of resistance.

On the 10th May, at Charleroi, a parcel was found on the steps of the Coliseum cinema after the show had begun. A policeman who was instructed to remove the parcel was killed when it exploded. A person named Léon Cognéan was slightly injured.

On the 23rd May, at about eleven in the evening, a bomb exploded near the sluice gates of the Charleroi Canal in Brussels, opposite the Porte de Nimove.

On the 24th May, at 1 a.m., an explosion damaged a pulley wheel of the shaft of the coal-mine at Roux called the Charbonnage du Nord de Charleroi.

At Montignies-lez-Lens, a stack containing 300 kilograms of straw which the Germans intended to use was destroyed by fire during the night of the 22nd to 23rd May.

On the evening of the 26th May, at Ganshoren, a bomb exploded at the "Cercle," the premises of the V.N.V.

On the morning of the 26th May, an explosion destroyed the ventilation apparatus of the Charbonnage du Hazard, at Cheratte.

At 5 a.m. on the 25th May, explosions occurred in the A.G.E.C. electrical engineering sheds at Marcinelle, Charleroi. Two big alternator stators, a whole alternator, and a dynamo were destroyed. According to first estimates, more than two millions' worth of equipment was destroyed.

On the 11th May, at about 11 at night, four violent explosions caused severe damage to four transformers in the engineering works at Jemappes, which are working for the Germans. 3,500 litres of oil leaked from a storage tank and was lost. Work was interrupted.

On the 10th May, in Brussels, patriots broke the windows of the *Brüsseler Zeitung*, the "Verlag der Deutschen Arbeitsfront," the "Mittleuropäisches Reisebüro," the Italian Frontist Agency, and the Rossel-Le Soir Agency.

During the night of the 13th to the 14th May, an explosion destroyed a travelling crane used for moving red-hot iron bars in the ironworks at Marchienne-au-Pont.

On the 24th May, four explosions occurred at the nitrous fertilizer works at Houdeng-Goegnies, causing severe damage to four electrical transformers and wasting 24,000 litres of oil.

On the 20th June, in Brussels, at the offices of the Werberelle, the recruiting office for workers sent to Germany, a bomb exploded and killed eight people.

On the 22nd June, at 9.30 a.m., there was an explosion in the offices of the German Security Police at Marcinelle.

At Quevaucamps, a stack containing 700 kgs. of straw was destroyed by fire during the night of the 22nd to the 23rd of June.

The following night, as the Berlin-Paris train was passing through Loth station, a bomb exploded but caused no material damage.

On the 16th June, a bomb exploded in the yard of the Wisnigen garage in Brussels, destroying several German cars.

On the 26th June, a hand-grenade was thrown into the Anderghem café and wounded several German soldiers.

On Thursday, the 4th June, at about 1 p.m., fifty or more English bombers and fighters attacked the docks at Brugge from a very low altitude. Only five bombs were dropped but several 4,000-ton ships which were being repaired were destroyed. As they flew off, the English planes were pursued by German fighters. They brought down an English fighter but the pilot landed by parachute. Two German planes were shot down.

“LA VOIX DES BELGES,”
No. 27, May, 1943.

THE BOMBING OF ANTWERP

COMMENTING on this unfortunate event, *Chut* recalls that when London was ablaze, not a single German said “Poor Londoners” — on the contrary! Similarly, continues *Chut* when, every night, fires are started in Germany, there is not a Belgian worthy of the name who would dream of sighing, “Poor dear Germany.” If our protectors really want to know why, we will tell them. We are reduced to slavery, we are robbed, famished, persecuted, gagged — although not all of us, thank goodness! And we are supposed to be grateful! They shoot our best men. They take our young men from their homes and force them to work in Germany — they take away our young girls and expose them to the worst outrages. In order to remove bells quickly, they take the tops off the belfries — as at Helme

For example. And we are supposed to say “Amen.” Our workers are obliged to manufacture, in our factories and with our machinery, the instruments of death which will make our Allies, and we are supposed to say “Carry on.” Of Stern efforts are necessary if we are to expel this cursed breed from our Fatherland. They will not be brushed away with a feather duster. Force tends to strike the innocent as well as the guilty. Before the blow is struck a warning is given. With sorrowful hearts the Allies say, “It must be done.” When it is done, as at Antwerp, high-ranking German officers shed crocodile tears and say “Poor Belgians.” And they rub their eyes to squeeze out still more tears. They bring wreaths and “marks” of consolation. They follow the funeral procession, playing on the anger or the sorrow of the people. With solemn faces and voices full of bitterness, they hiss: “It’s a bad look-out for Churchill.” No, let us weep for our dead in peace. Weep for your dead in Germany. There’s plenty of weeping to be done. And who was it who gave us no warning when the aeroplanes were circling in the sky? You. Who prevented our workmen from taking shelter? You. Who forbade the evacuation of the schools from the danger zone? You. To cover up your loathsome work, you needed, alas, a shield of living Belgian flesh.

“LA RÉSISTANCE,”
No. 23, January, 1943.

AN EYE FOR AN EYE

At the beginning of this year, the occupation authorities set up in Belgium a reign of terror without precedent in the history of our country. The invaders, not content with indulging in the loathsome farce of a series of ridiculous repressive measures — such as a curfew at the most fantastic hours, the arbitrary closing down of all cafés and places of entertainment, constant raids on the centres of our towns, and the ludicrous mobilisation of a swarm of Feldgendarmes

— not content with these measures, and prompted by revolting sadism, they hound and execute imprisoned patriots of whom, as they say, they wish to make examples.

The events of recent weeks amply prove that here as elsewhere the Nazis are on the wrong track, and that severe measures and threats will never crush the determination of the Belgian people to resist Hitler and his régime as a man. Do these despicable Germans realise how reveal their panic and uneasiness are? Can they really believe that after all these months we are hoodwinked by their loathsome tactics? Do they think we are taken in by their lies, which every day we hear broadcast from Allied countries, reassuring news of irreparable losses sustained by the Wehrmacht on the Eastern front, where, surely and methodically the final disintegration of the "invincible" German army is taking place?

By subjecting our civil population to a reign of terror, the enemy is merely wreaking vengeance on the weak for the colossal defeat inflicted on him by superior forces — the heroic soldiers of the Red Army, who with every victory bring nearer the hour of liberation, the end of the nightmare, the punishment of war criminals — of all criminals those who started this war as well as those who worked on the side of the aggressor. Even now, brave Belgian patriots are giving our enemies a sinister foretaste of what the final reckoning will be like. Every passing day affords us the satisfying spectacle of a Hitler puppet lying prostrate on some street corner, of a traitor killed — his evil face bashed on the pavement. An eye for an eye. Our dead, all our dead, will be avenged.

The traitors snivel.

From the group of blackguards in Goebbels's pay there has arisen a chorus of hypocritical weepings and wailings. The virtuous Poulet weeps copious tears into his fine cambric handkerchief for the heroes — that is to say, the traitors — Kaumont and Teughels, Martin and Jaspas. . . . Every morning he sobs over two columns of the *Nouvelles Journales* in the vain hope of concealing his incurable funk. For he too feels, now more than ever, that his sins have found him out, he and all the well-paid traitors who toady to Falken-

stein and Reeder, and all those informers like Colin, and loyal Belgians like Henri de Man.

It huck would have it that there exists among the Belgian people a minority of incurable dolts whose solemn imbecility is equalled only by their unbelievable and monstrous egotism — such people voice their regret at the recent "outrages," and maintain that in the first place these "outrages" have no purpose, and that secondly it is the innocent who have to suffer.

These mental degenerates had on the 28th May dreamed of ending the war at the "Café du Commerce," as they sipped their 10-franc glass of "demi-gueuze" and played "belote," which is an excellent way of shutting out the miseries of the outside world. Poor, well-fed wretches, who claim to speak in the name of common sense and outraged morality. Not long ago, these same people forecast the speedy collapse of the Soviet Union, and speculated in secret on a Hitlerian victory, "which, by Jove, would bring order to the world." Their order, of course — a strange order marked by the victory of crass stupidity and intellectual ineptitude. But we'll let that pass. . . .

So, according to these well-filled individuals, the exploits carried out by patriots serve no purpose, and do not hasten the course of the war! A train which has been derailed, a steam boiler which has been blown up, a factory where work has had to stand still because of patriotic activity, a coalfield standing idle for a month or more — all that, they say, is needless and has no effect on the course of events, even though this is just the time when Hitler is in direst need of coal and machinery, planes and munitions, armour-plating and chemical products. A traitor killed (the same traitor who handed over to the enemy those very patriots whose execution these contradictory individuals deplore), an informer put out of the way, a collaborator struck down by an avenging hand — all this apparently counts for nothing in this terrible struggle waged by an entire nation against the common enemy.

All very well, our card-player will retort, but why kill Germans? For, to him, the Germans are no longer the enemy — they are the occupation authorities. They are those well-behaved

soldiers of the first weeks of May, 1940. They are sacrosanct although they starve our people to death, and strip our land of its riches, and hound into their gaols hundreds thousands of our workers.

Perched on the leather seats of the "Café du Commerce" our friends do not sense the secret anxiety which is eating into the minds of the Nazis. Perhaps they have not heard of the execution of the head of the Gestapo in Brussels, the notorious torturer, emulator of Heydrich, and disciple of Himmler. This man sent to their deaths hundreds of our fellow-countrymen. Unless patriots had taken action he would have continued to carry out with impunity bloody executions. His death, apparently, served no world purpose, even though any trouble in the occupied countries has serious repercussions on the rear of the German army. Already Himmler has had to rush to Brussels with special Gestapo brigades. Already the Germans have had to reinforce not only the Feldgendarmarie, but also the security police. Germans in Belgium live in a constant state of "qui-vive." They are afraid of their own shadow. They are no longer sure of things, and cannot trust anybody. As we have patriots to thank for their confused state of mind. At the risk of displeasing these 1943 arm-chair critics, respectfully salute Belgium's anonymous heroes.

The innocent.

Some patriots are executed: they are the "innocent" people who pay for the faults of others." According to the gentlemen of the "Café du Commerce," patriots are guilty people—criminals, in fact.

To this argument we can reply that for two and a half years dozens of patriots have been secretly executed by the occupation authorities. They are quietly put out of the world. Their ashes are sometimes sent back to their family, and that is that. Of course the German-controlled Press does not make the smallest mention of these almost daily crimes. After the war, people will be appalled at the number of civilians who fell victim to the Gestapo. Added to the list will be the names of patriots who have been allowed to die in German camps and fortresses.

Let us speak plainly. The patriots whom the Nazis have

executed by way of so-called reprisals would in any case have been shot by the firing squad. Now, to frighten the population, they are shot publicly and their names are published. Previously the same crimes were committed in the sinister Gestapo headquarters, at the same terrifying rate. But, as it was not convenient to upset public opinion, these atrocities were committed behind closed doors. One must be either blind or a traitor not to understand these obvious facts.

The sacrifices made by the patriots are written in letters of gold on the pages of our history. They were innocent. Their only crime was to serve the interests of their country and refuse to bow their heads before tyrants. The inhabitants of Rotterdam, Warsaw, Belgrade and London were innocent, too, when the Luftwaffe bombed them mercilessly in the now distant days of its glory. Innocent, too, were the poor refugees whom the Luftwaffe heroically machine-gunned in May, 1940, as they fled terror-stricken along the roads. Never do the German-controlled newspapers of the pampered habitues of the "Café du Commerce" mention those innocent people, although there were thousands of them. It is only when Nazi Germany herself is being hit that she grows sentimental, and begins talking about humanity and civilisation. It is a well-known refrain.

The fighters' hour has come.

The cowards who wanted to "wait and see," the defeatists who thought that after the temporary collapse of our army they could end the war in slippers and dressing-gowns, are reduced to silence. Now the fighters come into their own. Theirs are stout, passionate hearts. They do not know the meaning of fear, and hate the enemy with all their strength and with a sombre, insatiable passion.

They are determined to revenge the thousands of our dead, to revenge them by all means, including the most daring, thus hastening the end of Hitler's brutal and corrupt regime. That is why we can never praise our guerilla fighters too highly: they form an élite drawn from all quarters where the meaning of a few undying words — Honour, "Fatherland," and "Liberty" — is still under-

stood. They have never trembled, nor given in. They know that liberty will not fall into our laps, but must be reconquered. They know that bloodshed must be paid for in bloodshed. They fight in the front line. They are striking and they will continue to strike.

We must expect still more dark hours and ever fiercer repression with every German defeat. Let us remember the countless heroes who fell during the last war to ensure Belgium's freedom. Let us remember the soldiers of the Allied armies who bravely shed their blood to set us free and to make it possible to breathe again in the world. Let us remember the valiant guerrillas in Russia, Yugoslavia, Greece and France.

Let us stand together and clench our fists. Let us fight unwearingly against the enemy and his creatures, who must be destroyed. Let us fear neither the enemy's decrees nor the threats of the traitors in his pay.

LIST OF REPRODUCED PAPERS

" LE MONDE DU TRAVAIL "	...	No. 63, October, 1942.
" LA LIBRE BELGIQUE "	...	No. 15, 10th July, 1941.
" LE COQ VICTORIEUX "	...	No. 71, April, 1943.
" EN AVANT "	...	No. 7, 1943.
" LA LETTE "	...	No. 2, January, 1943.
" DE BOER "	...	No. 3, December, 1942.
" LE DRAPPEAU ROUGE "	...	No. 22, March, 1942.
" LONG BELGIE "	...	No. 4, September, 1943.
" MORGENROOD "	...	September, 1943.
" LA LIBRE BELGIQUE "	...	No. 49, 17th December, 1942.
" LE SOIR "	...	9th November, 1943.
" SOLIDARITE "	...	No. 3, June-July, 1943.
" LA METSE "	...	No. 5, February, 1942.
" LE PATRIOTE "	...	No. 7, 1st January, 1943.
" LE PARTISAN "	...	No. 11, June, 1943.
" LA VOIX DES BELGES "	...	August, 1943.
" LIBERTE "	...	May, 1943.
" LIBERATION "	...	No. 4, April, 1942.
" R.E. "	...	No. 4, June, 1942.
" L'HERCULE GAZETTE "	...	No. 61, August, 1943.
" LE PAYSAN "	...	No. 7.
" LE COMBATTANT "	...	No. 9, June, 1943.
" LE PEUPLE "	...	Special Number for May 1st, 1943.
" LA BELGIQUE NOUVELLE "	...	No. 7, February, 1943.
" N9 JOURNAL "
" JUSTICE LIBRE "	...	23th May, 1943.
" L'ALONETTE "	...	15th November, 1943.
" LA VOIX DES PATRIOTES "	...	November, 1943.

MORT POUR "LIBERTÉ"

Le 19 mai 1943, un avion de ligne de la compagnie Air France, en route de Paris vers Alger, a été abattu par un avion allemand au-dessus de la mer Méditerranée. Les passagers et l'équipage ont péri.

Après le 19 mai, les familles des victimes ont été informées de la mort de leurs proches.

LES ÉLÉMENTS D'UNE GRÈVE

Le 19 mai, les partisans ont organisé une manifestation dans tout le pays. Les manifestants ont porté des pancartes et des banderoles.

Après une grève d'une semaine, les partisans ont décidé de reprendre le travail.

Sur le terrain, les partisans ont continué à organiser des actions de résistance.

Les partisans ont décidé de continuer à lutter pour la liberté.

Après le 19 mai, les partisans ont continué à organiser des actions de résistance.

LIBERTÉ

Organe de la Fédération Liégeoise du Parti Communiste

Grève partout et tout de suite

Les partisans ont décidé de passer à l'action. Ils ont organisé une grève générale dans tout le pays.

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Mal 1943 : Journée de Deuil national et Journée de Lutte pour la Libération du Pays!

Le 19 mai 1943, un avion de ligne de la compagnie Air France, en route de Paris vers Alger, a été abattu par un avion allemand au-dessus de la mer Méditerranée.

CULTIVATEURS !... vos pratiques !

Les cultivateurs ont décidé de passer à l'action. Ils ont organisé une grève générale dans tout le pays.

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Après le 19 mai, les cultivateurs ont continué à organiser des actions de résistance.

Défendons les cloches de nos Églises

Les cloches de nos églises ont été volées par des nazis. Les partisans ont décidé de les défendre.

Schneider parle à la F. N.

Schneider a parlé à la Fédération Nationale. Il a exposé ses idées sur la situation du pays.

Un traité parmi dix autres

Il y a dix traités de paix. Mais aucun n'a été respecté. Les partisans ont décidé de les défendre.

Après le 19 mai, les partisans ont continué à organiser des actions de résistance.

Les partisans ont décidé de continuer à lutter pour la liberté.

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LIBERATION

ORGANE BRUXELLOIS DU FRONT DE L'INDEPENDANCE

LA BELGIQUE PREPARE

LA COMMEMORATION DU 10 MAI

Des manifestations de masses se dérouleront dans tous les centres du pays

Un boycott monstre de la presse vendue Les consignes du Front de l'Indépendance

Le 10 mai 1942, nous nous souvenons de la libération de la Belgique par nos armées alliées. C'est un jour de gloire pour notre pays, un jour de victoire sur l'ennemi fasciste. Ce jour-là, nous avons vu nos soldats combattre vaillamment pour nous libérer de l'oppression nazie. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons célébrer cette libération par de grandes manifestations de masses dans tous les centres du pays. Ces manifestations doivent être un acte de foi et de confiance en notre avenir, un acte de confiance en nos alliés, et un acte de confiance en nous-mêmes. Elles doivent nous permettre de nous souvenir de nos héros et de nos martyrs, et de nous inspirer de leur exemple. Elles doivent nous permettre de nous unir plus étroitement, et de nous préparer à la lutte pour la libération définitive de notre pays. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons boycotter la presse vendue, et nous concentrer sur nos propres activités. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons nous réunir dans nos centres, et nous manifester devant nos autorités. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons nous souvenir de nos héros et de nos martyrs, et de nous inspirer de leur exemple. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons nous unir plus étroitement, et de nous préparer à la lutte pour la libération définitive de notre pays.

Le 10 mai, journée nationale

Le 10 mai 1942, jour de la libération de la Belgique, nous devons nous souvenir de nos héros et de nos martyrs. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons boycotter la presse vendue, et nous concentrer sur nos propres activités. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons nous réunir dans nos centres, et nous manifester devant nos autorités. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons nous souvenir de nos héros et de nos martyrs, et de nous inspirer de leur exemple. C'est pourquoi, le 10 mai, nous devons nous unir plus étroitement, et de nous préparer à la lutte pour la libération définitive de notre pays.

Sous aux frères en uniforme

Les frères en uniforme, nous vous saluons. Vous êtes les premiers à avoir souffert pour la libération de notre pays. Vous êtes les premiers à avoir donné votre sang pour notre liberté. C'est pourquoi, nous vous remercions de tout cœur. C'est pourquoi, nous vous encourageons à continuer votre lutte. C'est pourquoi, nous vous invitons à nous rejoindre. C'est pourquoi, nous vous demandons de nous aider. C'est pourquoi, nous vous prions de nous soutenir. C'est pourquoi, nous vous remercions de tout cœur.

Tous autour du Front de l'Indépendance

Le Front de l'Indépendance est le seul mouvement qui se bat pour la libération de notre pays. C'est pourquoi, nous vous invitons à nous rejoindre. C'est pourquoi, nous vous demandons de nous aider. C'est pourquoi, nous vous prions de nous soutenir. C'est pourquoi, nous vous remercions de tout cœur.

HITLER SUR LA DEFENSIVE

L'esprit de Saint-Nazaire

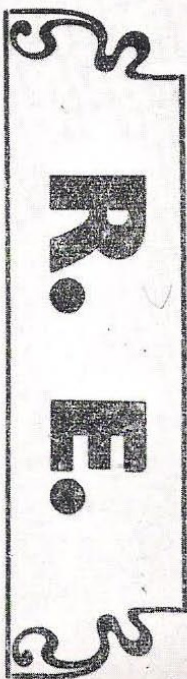
Le régime hitlérien est en train de se démanteler. Les Allemands sont en train de perdre la guerre. C'est pourquoi, nous vous invitons à nous rejoindre. C'est pourquoi, nous vous demandons de nous aider. C'est pourquoi, nous vous prions de nous soutenir. C'est pourquoi, nous vous remercions de tout cœur.

Actualités

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PAIRES LA CHAÎNE

Le régime hitlérien est en train de se démanteler. Les Allemands sont en train de perdre la guerre. C'est pourquoi, nous vous invitons à nous rejoindre. C'est pourquoi, nous vous demandons de nous aider. C'est pourquoi, nous vous prions de nous soutenir. C'est pourquoi, nous vous remercions de tout cœur.



Organe du Rassemblement Etudiantin Wallon

EDITORIAL

ETUDIANTS, ETUDIANTES,

Il y a deux ans que nous vivons sous l'occupation allemande. Le 10 mai 1940, les armées de Hitler envahissent notre pays au mépris de tous les traités. Il est inutile de rappeler ici la « Campagne des 18 jours » et l'exode sur les routes de France : le bombardement des villes ouvertes, le massacre des réfugiés, le pillage en règle du pays.

Ces tristes jours resteront à jamais gravés dans la mémoire de ceux qui les ont vécus.

Que s'est-il passé depuis ?

Où est-il ce « paradis fasciste » que nous promettaient les colportateurs et les partisans de l'Ordre Nouveau ?

Il n'a jamais existé que dans l'imagination nébuleuse d'une bande de voyous genre Hubermont et consorts.

Pour les citoyens belges, ce « paradis » c'est quelque chose de bien défini ! Nos stocks alimentaires ont été raliés, la plus grande partie de nos récoltes prend le chemin de l'Allemagne, toute la production de nos usines et de nos charbonnages sert à alimenter la machine de guerre allemande, notre dette publique s'élève à un chiffre fantastique notre franc est à zéro...

Et ce n'est pas tout ! Non content de nous piller et de nous laisser crever de faim, l'occupant essaye par tous les moyens de nous réduire

en esclavage. La liberté et le droit de n'exister plus, la Constitution Belge et le matiquement ignorée. Des dizaines de nos prisonniers souffrent toujours de stalags d'outre-Rhin malgré toutes les pressions de libération, nos ouvriers sont obligés de travailler en Allemagne, forcés, à aller travailler en Allemagne, les olages innocents sont arrêtés par centaines milliers de patriotes crouissent dans geoles hitleriennes.

Quelle est dans ce sombre tableau noir l'action à nous étudiants ?

1) Les restrictions alimentaires qui nous imposées et la sous-alimentation qui en résulte ne sont certes pas favorables à une bonne paration des examens. La plupart d'entre nous sont dans un état d'affaiblissement évident tout à fait incapables de fournir un sérieux et cependant, on n'a pas songé à réduire nos cours et la matière de nos examens. L'autre part, les conditions matérielles que de charbon, etc. et psychologique de notre situation nerveuse, calard) dans laquelle nous avons travaillé cette année nous handic serrièvement pour affronter la période de que »

2) En ce qui concerne l'arrête du travail le travail obligatoire, nous ne sommes mieux lots que le reste de la population occupant songerait même, parait-il, à aller camps de travail pour les étudiants en vue 3) Et surtout nous souffrons de voir la

mise foulée aux pieds. Nous savions déjà en pays nazi on n'aurait pué e les gens aux trop avancées. Tous nous avons suivi suite de l'exil, Freud, Einstein, Stephan ng et tant d'autres. Mais nous n'avons im- seul instant que les brutes hitleriennes vent pousse le cynisme jusqu'à établir dans propre pays la pratique odieuse des auto- qui leur échauffe la cervelle depuis des

« nous n'aurons eu qu'ils auraient ose leur créatures dans nos Universités, nter nos cours et nous interdire la lecture grands maîtres de la culture universelle que Heinrich Heine ou Romain Rolland

« nous ne voulons pas crever de faim, n'accepterons pas d'être nos jeunes forces

« nous ne voulons pas de retour à un obscurantisme moyen- gerence de l'occupant, dans notre « Aima- r » et s'est pas encore manifestée ouverte- comme par exemple à l'U. L. B. mais ses

« nous ne sommes pas moins dangereuses

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mais également en profondeur. Nous devons nous organiser par groupes, sur la base facultaire et si possible sur la base de classe, et donner à notre union une base de masse solide : c'est la principale condition d'une résistance efficace à l'occupant.

Que les courageux prennent l'initiative.

Notre but immédiat est d'élargir le plus possible le R. E. et d'étendre son action et pour ça. **POUS LES ETUDIANTS ANTI-FASCISTES DOYVEN F SINTEGRER AU R. E.**

Contre les restrictions de tout genre et les mesures vexatoires que nous impose l'occupant.

Contre la fascisation de notre université,

Pour une Belgique libre et indépendante, **ETUDIANTS DE TOUTE OPINION FAITES PARTIE DU RASSEMBLEMENT ETUDIANTIN WALLON.**

LISEZ et DIFFUSEZ SON ORGANES LE R. E.

(Le Comité du R. E.)

A propos de quelques encycliques.

Nous assistons depuis quelques temps, dans la presse nazie, à une nouvelle offensive politico-religieuse dont le but est de démontrer que l'Allemagne est le refuge de tous les véritables fidèles de l'Eglise et que « le devoir des catholiques est d'adhérer à l'Ordre Nouveau ».

La phrase négative est terminée. En U. R. S. S., tous les prêtres ont été découps en petits morceaux et les églises transformées en étabes à cochons. Le clergé anglais est en pleine décadence d'archevêque de Canterbury n'officie-t-il pas sur un autel recouvert d'un drap rouge et orné de la faucille et du marteau ? Les prêtres qui ont refusé de donner la communion à des

LE COMBATTANT

Organ de l'indépendance et de l'unité de l'indépendance des Belges
N° 449

Le mois dernier, le COMBATTANT a publié dans son numéro 447, une note sur le rôle des officiers allemands dans la Belgique occupée. Cette note a été lue avec un grand intérêt par nos lecteurs. Elle a été lue avec un grand intérêt par nos lecteurs. Elle a été lue avec un grand intérêt par nos lecteurs.

En Belgique, nous sommes en présence de deux situations. D'une part, nous sommes en présence de la situation des officiers allemands. D'autre part, nous sommes en présence de la situation des officiers belges. Ces deux situations sont étroitement liées.

La phase d'un combat est un moment où l'on se bat. C'est un moment où l'on se bat. C'est un moment où l'on se bat. C'est un moment où l'on se bat.

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CONTINUED BY ORGANISATION DES PARTISANS BELGES (S.P.B.)
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GILBERT A. FRANKENBERG, MARECHAUX

Le sujet de Paul COLLIN, le libre Belge que l'on a vu en Espagne, est un sujet qui a été lue avec un grand intérêt par nos lecteurs. Elle a été lue avec un grand intérêt par nos lecteurs.

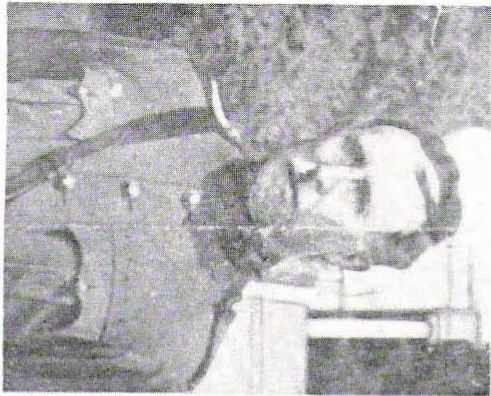
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La Belgique nouvelle

Un but :
 défendre
 nos libertés !
 immortaliser
 nos Héros !
 chatier
 les traîtres !



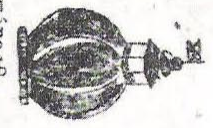
17 février 1934

17 février 1943

Belges, soyez dignes de Lui, Résistez !
 Un peuple qui se défend ne périt pas.

Reponse du Peuple belge à son Gouvernement de Londres

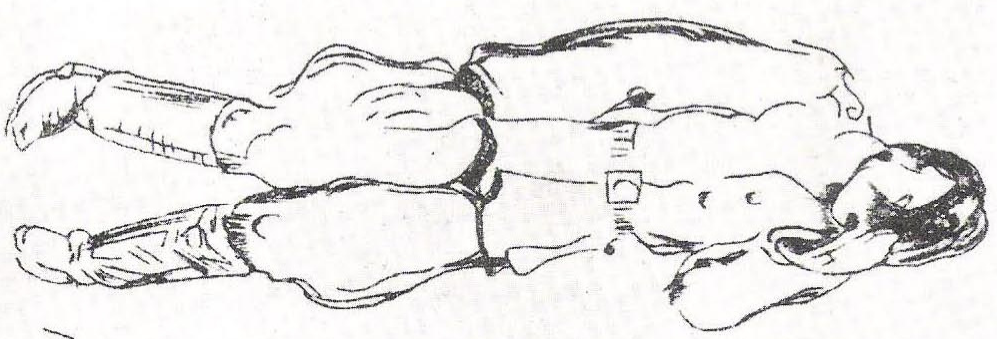
Le 17 février 1943, le peuple belge a répondu à son Gouvernement de Londres par une lettre ouverte, dans laquelle il exprime ses sentiments et ses aspirations. Le peuple belge a toujours été un peuple libre et indépendant, et il ne peut accepter la situation actuelle de son pays, qui est occupé par les ennemis de la liberté et de la justice. Le peuple belge a toujours été un peuple courageux et vaillant, et il est prêt à défendre ses libertés et son indépendance à tout prix. Le peuple belge a toujours été un peuple loyal et fidèle, et il est prêt à soutenir son Roi et son Gouvernement à tout moment. Le peuple belge a toujours été un peuple uni et fraternel, et il est prêt à travailler ensemble pour le bien de son pays. Le peuple belge a toujours été un peuple libre et indépendant, et il ne peut accepter la situation actuelle de son pays, qui est occupé par les ennemis de la liberté et de la justice. Le peuple belge a toujours été un peuple courageux et vaillant, et il est prêt à défendre ses libertés et son indépendance à tout prix. Le peuple belge a toujours été un peuple loyal et fidèle, et il est prêt à soutenir son Roi et son Gouvernement à tout moment. Le peuple belge a toujours été un peuple uni et fraternel, et il est prêt à travailler ensemble pour le bien de son pays.



L'Épouvette



Numéro: 9. - ORGANES L'ÉPIPOUVETTE - Le 15 novembre 1944



Méconnaître à ce point l'histoire.

DEBEOCKER S'EXPLIQUE...

Nous avons dit dans notre précédent numéro comment le rédacteur en chef du *Colporteur* s'était consacré au cours d'une conférence hebdomadaire qui réunissait ses collaborateurs nos lecteurs trouveront ci-dessous la suite des extraits déjà publiés.

« Je ne suis pas un partisan de la guerre, mais je suis un partisan de la révolution. Après une période de réclusion sur ce sujet, Deboccker se résout à dire que la guerre n'est pas la solution, elle crée les conditions d'une révolution nouvelle qui est bien plus de chances d'être une révolution bolchevique (même si elle a une autre "épouvette") qu'une révolution nationale-socialiste. Plus la guerre à l'Orient dure, plus la civilisation occidentale risque de disparaître pour longtemps. (N. de la R. Martin: ça tardait à venir, le parti bolchevique). Deboccker dit: "Les forces bolcheviques ne se préoccupent nullement des intérêts des petits États ceux-ci ne sont que des pions sur leur échiquier." »

« Le passage de la guerre européenne à la guerre mondiale a montré que l'Europe ne connaît qu'une grande puissance: l'Allemagne, mais que celle-ci ne peut vaincre le Commonwealth britannique, les E.U., et la Russie réunis. (En êtes-vous bien certains, Monsieur Deboccker?) »

« Si l'Allemagne parvient à sauver sa propre liberté, à éviter l'affondrement, elle aura obtenu sa victoire, mais elle-ci ne sera plus celle de l'Europe. (C'est évident). »

« Si l'Allemagne parvient à vaincre l'Angleterre, les E.U., et la Russie réunis, ce n'est pas seulement parce qu'il y a disproportion totale entre les forces humaines et économiques engagées de part et d'autre, mais parce qu'il se confirmera que les puissances détiennent la primauté des mers (surtout lorsque cette primauté se lie à une primauté aérienne) sont inattaquables chez elles. Même une Allemagne victorieuse de la Russie ne pourrait que partager avec les Anglo-Saxons l'Empireum mundi, du fait que ces derniers, et malgré le Japon, continuent à dominer les mers. »

« En conclusion, après avoir fait le bilan des motifs qui l'avaient poussé à collaborer avec les Allemands en 1940, Deboccker reconnaît leur faillite complète et désavoue l'attitude de son écrivain: « Nous devons continuer à occuper notre poste. »

« Nous devons défendre notre politique jusqu'au bout: elle est un combat sur deux fronts: un combat contre l'incorporation des Allemands et des Français. »

« Il faut continuer à éliminer notre compréhension aux Allemands, à lutter pour une entente entre nos deux pays. (Voilà, c'est clair.) Deboccker désavoue alors les mercenaires légionnaires rétrogrades. La symphonie que, il y a quelques mois encore l'on pouvait entendre à l'égard de la Légion, instrument de lutte contre le Bolchevisme, ne peut plus être méconnue aujourd'hui à l'égard de la Légion, instrument au service d'une opération politique. »

« Il regrette alors le tour de la propagande pour le travail en Allemagne propagée dans le retour des prisonniers: « Alors que le président Hoover a annoncé la libération de 20.000 prisonniers bolches, nous avons pensé que c'était un devoir pour ceux qui recouvrent leur liberté. »

La Voix des Patriotes

Organe de Combat du Mouvement National Belge

Le 1700 L'ARTISTE EN - Étude de l'œuvre de M. R. S. et de son importance de la Voix des Belges, à travers les articles publiés par elle. Le mouvement national belge est représenté par elle dans sa totalité, dans son esprit, dans son contenu. Elle est le reflet de la pensée, de la volonté, de la conscience du peuple belge. Elle est le miroir de la situation, de la lutte, de l'effort de la nation belge. Elle est le lien entre le passé et le présent, entre le présent et l'avenir. Elle est le flambeau qui guide le peuple belge vers la liberté, vers la justice, vers la paix.

LE FRONT EXTERIEUR

FRONT ARMÉE - On voit par les articles publiés par la Voix des Belges, que le mouvement national belge est représenté par elle dans sa totalité, dans son esprit, dans son contenu. Elle est le reflet de la pensée, de la volonté, de la conscience du peuple belge. Elle est le miroir de la situation, de la lutte, de l'effort de la nation belge. Elle est le lien entre le passé et le présent, entre le présent et l'avenir. Elle est le flambeau qui guide le peuple belge vers la liberté, vers la justice, vers la paix.

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19, rue des Saussaies

REPORTAGES - Les événements de la vie nationale et internationale sont analysés et commentés dans ce supplément. Les reportages sont écrits par des journalistes expérimentés et passionnés. Ils fournissent une vue d'ensemble et une analyse approfondie des événements.

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