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REVEAL STORY OF SECRET PAPER

Mysterious Belgian Patriot Paper Defied German Searchers for Four Years.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 15.—(United Press, by mail).—With the coming of liberty to Belgium, La Libre Belgique has departed, and The Patriot has reappeared. It is now possible to tell that the most remarkable of war time newspapers, La Libre Belgique, which successfully defied German efforts to suppress it for four years, was The Patriot, a long-established Catholic weekly, in disguise. Victor Jourdain, aged editor of The Patriot, likewise edited the will-o-the-wisp sheet which kept German officials in a constant state of irritation during their occupation of his country and helped to keep the spirit of the Belgian people steadfast.

He died a few weeks ago, just too soon to see his city of Brussels liberated.

The Patriot was suppressed by German order at the outset of the war. A few weeks later copies of a new paper began to fall into the hands of the German officials and army officers. It did not prove popular with the latter. Gen. von Hisinger, military governor offered 25,000 francs reward for the name of the editor and promised one year's imprisonment to any Belgian found reading it. There were arrests in great numbers of persons suspected of the editorship but no convictions. It seemed that almost everybody who could possibly have

been guilty was arrested at one time or another—everybody except Jourdain. One man was held by the Germans to have been proved satisfactorily guilty to warrant a one-year sentence, but Belgians in the secret said he was innocent.

The baffled German police were kept busy running down false clues. Given the tip that the printing plant would be found at such-and-such a street, they would rush thither, only to find a vacant lot or an empty house. Told that a man of a certain name was the actual editor they would comb Brussels for him, learning eventually he was not in the city and never had been. While the police hunted, Victor Jourdain prepared copy. He pointed out intentional errors in the German official communiques, he gave the Belgian people the latest news of the Belgian army and the Allied armies, he ridiculed and lampooned the German officials, and generally kept alive the people's faith in a better day to come.

A few times obscure printing shops in this city set up and printed the 4-page paper. For the most part, however, the work was done in shops elsewhere. Jourdain would appear by night at the home of some small town or city printer, always selecting one for the moment free from German troops. Next morning he would desert by automobile with the entire issue concealed in the car. Distribution would begin as far from the place where the printing was done as possible.

In spite of the difficulties of publication La Libre Belgique nearly always was neat and attractive to everybody who could possibly have

services of a complete printing plant were obtainable, the first page would be bordered in the national colors, red, yellow and black. Editions, of course, were not regular—"regularly irregular" was the paper's own statement of its publication dates, but Jourdain managed usually to issue one each month.

Part compensation for his troubles was found by the editor in such announcements as these: "Not submitted to any censor." "Telegraph address, Commandatur, Brussels."

"Offices: Not being able to establish these in a fixed place, they are installed in an automobile cellar."

"Advertisements: Business being all under the German domination, we have suppressed the page of advertisement, and advise our readers to keep their money for brighter days."

"Price per copy: Elastic, from zero to the infinite. Please do not exceed this limit."

A typical article from La Libre Belgique, printed on the 3d anniversary of the war follows:

"August 4, 1914, Dame Germany started off to war. The plan is simple: Belgium does not count. Paris taken in 6 weeks. Russia crushed before winter. England remaining alone, too small a thing not to understand that nothing is left but to negotiate."

"We made the house of cards crumble! WE! After they decided to take Calais, pass into England, etc., there was the Year! Still US! "Zepplins were to destroy London, London suffered little, the reputation of the Zepplins suffered much. Reactions they tried to crush Russia, by military means first, the comp failed; by diplomatic means then; the Russian people put a stop to that. They plotted in the Balkans, they bled themselves white at Verdun. All was useless. And all this time the people of Germany were suffering enormously. The new chancellor began to realize it. Then they made their last throw; the submarines! And ever in Germany's face they have dared to announce publicly that this weapon is ineffective. Then it is the end! Yes, it certainly is the end."

"Since the coming of America to the arena, the Reckon of the Central Powers has been definitely settled. In a little while they will be for mercy. No doubt another winter will mean great hardships to us. But seeing the importance of our goal we wish we Belgians to suffer if necessary in order to be Right and Justice shall triumph more completely, more gloriously."

"What the Allies know is that we do not ask that consideration or compensation should hasten the end of the war one single day!"

Thomas Nicely of Baker's here to the winter with his daughter, W. D. Long of this city.

Your New Year's Resolution is Pay Cash

You bet there's a difference in cash and credit--and there's a difference between spasmodic sales and every day cash prices---Get into the thrifty, prosperous class this year.

Our stocks are now invoiced and we now have opened worlds of 1919 merchandise---new colors and new designs---everything new and pretty for your selection, at prices that you can well afford--yes, below all sale prices.

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MALLARDS FOR DUCK FARMS

INDUSTRY SHOULD BE DEVELOPED TO SUPPLEMENT DECREASING SUPPLY

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 2.—Raising mallard ducks is an industry which should be developed as extensively as possible in order to supplement the decreasing natural supply of game, according to a bulletin recently published by the United States department of agriculture.

The case with which the mallard can be bred makes it the species for wild duck farming, and its beauty, popularity, hardiness, adaptability and fecundity fit it as no other duck is fitted to be the game duck of the future.

Only one-tenth of the food of mallard ducks is derived from the animal kingdom and about nine-tenths from the vegetable, according to the bulletin which is a report of a study of the natural food habits of this valuable game bird. The study was made to assist those who are propagating mallards in a semi-domesticated condition, to provide proper feed for them, and to enable the improvement of bodies of water and marshes as feeding grounds for wild ducks. It was found that they feed mostly on the sedges, water grass, smart weeds, pondweeds, scumtall, and other semi-aquatic plants. In the stomach of one mallard was found 102, 400 seeds of primrose willow. They also feed some on water beetles, bugs, and dragonflies.

The bulletin, number 720, also discusses the food habits of the dusky or black duck and the southern duck which are closely related to the mallard, though not as important.

Batavia Attractive City.
Batavia is a city divided into two parts—Wetmore, or the modern Batavia, and Bredendstadt, or Old Batavia. In the days of Batavia's prime Old Batavia was known as the "Queen of the East" or more appropriately as the "White Man's Grave." Wetmore is the section of Batavia in which the European residences, government buildings, shops and schools are located. It is a very attractive city, with wide streets, many modern houses, good-looking buildings, spacious lawns and modern improvements.

WOMEN RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES

LONDON, Dec. 17.—(United Press, by mail).—American, British and Dominion women, stranded on the other side of the ocean from home, are going to be repatriated very soon the British government has decided.

Sixty thousand Canadian women are in England today, waiting for the ban to be lifted so they can re-

turn home. The first lot of them sailed late in November. Others will follow as rapidly as possible.

The number of American women is negligible, according to the American consulate. The American government did not put any obstacles in the way of American women wishing to cross the ocean, as did the British government, and the American consulate in England has been visiting women's transports all along. Those who are stranded here remained voluntarily rather than

risk U-boats. The British government's decision to refuse passports to British women during the war left English women in foreign lands completely cut off from their homes.

All phone orders promptly attended to. Phone Red 231. The Toggery. 12-27-18.

Butter Wrappers printed at the Observer office.

For a Good Breakfast

Oat Flakes, small pkg.	13c.	Large package	27c.	10-lb. sack	77c
Genuine New York Buckwheat, 9-lb. sack					\$1.07
Olympic Pancake flour, 10-lb. sack					85c
Olympic Pancake Flour, large package					33c
Golden Rod Pancake Flour, large package					33c
Flapjack Pancake Flour, large package					33c
Aunt Jemima Pancake Flour, large package					14c
Aunt Jemima Pancake Flour, 4-lb. sack					47c
Teco Pancake Flour, package					14c
Washington Crisps Corn Flakes, three packages for					25c
Kellogg's Krumbles, three packages for					25c
Sugar Cured Bacon, per pound					43c and 55c
Citrus Syrup, flavored with Maple and Honey, 5-lb. can					57c
Citrus Syrup, flavored with Maple and Honey, 10-lb. can					\$1.12
Bre'r Rabbit Table Molasses, 5-lb. can					57c
Black Strap Molasses, half gallon					45c. Gallon
Pure Eagle Valley Honey, 1-gallon can					\$2.75
Pure Eagle Valley Honey, pint jar					58c
Gingerbread Molasses, No. 2 can					13c
Rockland Maple Syrup, pint can					32c

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