

ENGLISH SECTION

L'Abeille de la Nouvelle-Orléans
Daily Edition.

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tuals.

A Signal of Distress from the Bel-
gian Bishops to Public Opinion.

The Story of the Belgian Deportations

(Concluded from Yesterday.)

Immediately after the arrival of Baron von der Goltz in the capacity of Governor-General at Brussels, I went to ask him to ratify the guarantees given by Governor von Heune to the province of Antwerp, extending them to the whole country, without any time limit. The governor-general retained my petition, in order to consider it at his leisure. The following day he was good enough to come in person to Mechlin to express his approval and, in the presence of two aides-de-camp and of my private secretary, to confirm the promise that the liberty of Belgian citizens would be respected.

In my letter of October 16 last to Baron von Bissing, after reminding him of the undertaking given by his predecessor, I concluded: "Your Excellency will understand how painful the burden of responsibility I should have incurred towards families would be, if the confidence they placed in you through me and at my earnest entreaty should be so lamentably disappointed."

The Governor-general replied: "The employment of the Belgian unemployed in Germany, which has only been initiated after two years of war, differs essentially from the captivity of men fit for military service. Moreover, the measure is not related to the conduct of war properly speaking, but is determined by social and economic causes."

As if the word of an honest man could be canceled at the end of a year or two years like an officer's lease!

As if the declaration confirmed in 1911 did not explicitly exclude both military operations and forced labor!

Finally, as if every Belgian workman who takes the place of a German workman did not enable the latter to fill a gap in the German army!

We, the shepherds of these sheep who are torn from us by brutal force, full of anguish at the thought of the moral and religious isolation in which they are about to languish, impotent witnesses of the grief and terror in the numerous homes shattered or threatened, turn to souls, believing or unbelieving, in Allied countries in neutral countries, and even in enemy countries, who have a respect for human dignity.

When Cardinal Lavigerie embarked on his anti-slavery campaign, Pope Leo XIII, as he blessed his mission, said: "Opinion is more than ever the queen of the world; it is on this you must work. You will only conquer by means of opinion."

May divine Providence deign to inspire all who have any authority, all who are masters of speech and pen, to rally round our humble Belgian flag for the abolition of European slavery!

May human conscience triumph over all sophisms, and remain steadfastly faithful to the great precept of Saint Ambrose: Honor above everything, nihil proferendum honestum!

In the name of the Belgian Bishops, we have been unable to communicate with the Bishop of Bruges.

(Signed)

J. CARDINAL MERCIER,
Archbishop of Mechlin.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The New Orleans Bee, No. 520 Conti St., is prepared to publish in its daily paper all legal and judicial advertisements and notices at the rate of three and a half (3 1/2) cents per square line, net, instead of seven (7) cents per square line as heretofore.

A LETTER FROM THE DUC DE RICHELIEU

Relative to the Concert to Be Given in New Orleans, on
March 4th.

French Tuberculous Soldiers' Relief Committee, 681 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Colonel Hugues J. de la Vergne, 5931 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, La.

My dear colonel,

Our friend, Walter Denegre, has very kindly offered his house for my wife's concert on behalf of our work in order that she give her recital on Sunday the 4th of March, either in the afternoon or the evening, whichever is the better to get people to come to. The tickets are to be \$2.50 a piece and I am appealing to you to get together as large a number as possible of patrons and patronesses (there should be at the very least fifty) each of whom would guarantee the sale of three or four tickets. Thus, without any undue trouble to each of them we can be assured of a large enough audience for the financial success of this undertaking. Walter Denegre has promised to write to number of his friends and advise me as to whom we had best send circulars from here, informing them of the object and nature of our work.

I know how valuable your cooperation and that of madame de la Vergne will be, and I trust that your efforts will meet with full success. At my wife's recital in Baltimore a few days ago, Dr. William H. Welch, the greatest pathologist in America, made a wonderful speech, explaining the value to the French government who so sorely needs funds for the various sanatoria that are being started all over that country.

Unfortunately his explanation was not taken down in shorthand, as I wanted it to be, so I cannot forward you this valuable document, but if you could get one of the prominent doctors in New Orleans to make a short address on the question of tuberculosis and its importance for the whole of humanity, I think this feature would very much add to the interest of my wife's concert, and I could forward to him some of the French circulars explaining the urgency of our cause.

Anticipatedly thanking you and with kind regards to madame de la Vergne, in which my wife joins me, please believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

RICHELIEU.

Lady Patronesses.

The following ladies have accepted to be patronesses for the concert. The list is to be completed, the names below having been listed, so far:

Mrs. H. J. de la Vergne, president; Mesdames John P. Richardson, George O. Whitney, Nelson M. S. Whittney, Sadie C. McDonald, R. H. Downman, Hugh de L. Vincent, James Bearn, J. D. Lacey, E. F. Sault, W. T. Jones, Henry Beer, George B. Penrose, A. Britton, Robert P. Fins, John J. Gannon, Miss Nellie Farwell; Mesdames Frank B. Hayne, Ben S. Story, George W. Clay, Lucien E. Lyons, Willie Burke, Alfred Le Blanc, W. S. Penick, George Denison, George Lahey, John Clarke, L. Marquette, George Starwick, John Douglas.

Manufacture of Seaplanes in Louisiana.

Mr. Howard Carter, manager of the Carter Brothers Aeroplane Co., of Detroit, Mich., has returned from a trip through the Southern Coast States, seeking a suitable location for a hydro-aeroplane factory for the production of the Carter double-motored type of seaplanes. He reports that Southern States abound with numerous desirable locations on account of their waters not becoming ice-bound during the winter months, which is very essential in production of this type of aircraft. Further mentioned that it is only a question of a few years when there will be scores of factories producing all types of aircraft in this locality which is especially adapted to this new industry, based not only on the local market, but is at the very door of Central and South American export trade, being only distant by a few hours from these markets by the air route. Like automobiles, the aircraft models will be many and varied, ranging from the diminutive water craft at five hundred dollars or less

LA GUERRE EN EUROPE.

Suite de la 1ère page.

déclaré que le gouvernement helvétique peut faire face à toute invasion de son territoire. L'armée suisse forte de plus de 400,000 hommes est excellentement entraînée aux exercices du tir, et à surmonter les difficultés topographiques de ce pays montagneux.

Dépêche Spéciale à l'ABEILLE.

Londres, 17 février. — Il se prépare sur tout le front franco-belge, pour le début de la campagne du printemps, la bataille la plus gigantesque de la guerre actuelle. Les armées de l'Entente ont reçu des renforts considérables de troupes et des quantités immenses de munitions et de grosses pièces d'artillerie. De leur côté les allemands ont énormément grossi leurs effectifs et augmenté considérablement leur matériel de guerre.

LETTER D'UN PARISIEN

Suite de la 1ère page.

préface d'un rayonnement qui imposera la vaillance de tout un peuple dont Paul Janson fut une des gloires et dont il devra être un des modèles.

JEAN BERNARD.

INSURANCE STATEMENT.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE, INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL STATEMENT.

Fidelity Phenix Fire Insurance Company, of New York, N. Y.

For the year ending December 31st, 1916, published in conformity with Section 1874 and 1875 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Louisiana, (as amended and reenacted by Act 126 of 1916.)

Capital paid up..... \$ 2,500,000.00
Assets..... 19,219,357.62

Liabilities less capital and surplus..... 9,703,732.63
Surplus..... 7,045,621.99

Premiums received in Louisiana, 1916:..... \$88,808.54

Total..... \$83,803.54

Losses paid in Louisiana, 1916:..... \$92,717.62

Marine..... \$—

Total..... \$92,717.62

JAMES PREVOST, Manager.

LEON IRWIN & CO INC., Agents.

Feb 14-16

Flag Day.

At the last conference of commissioners on uniform State laws, the uniform Flag law was adopted but by vote of the Executive committee, same being found somewhat defective in form, it was concluded not to send the law out to the States, but to recommit it to the committee of which Mr. George W. Bates of Michigan, is chairman, and have the matter considered again at the next conference.

Louisiana, in 1913, through the efforts of Mr. W. O. Hart, one of the commissioners on uniform State laws and a member of the executive committee, adopted the flag law prepared by that body, which is now in force in many of the States and has been maintained in its entirety by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of Hatter and Haywood vs. State of Nebraska, reported in the 265th U. S. Reports, page 54.

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The movement is civic and educational as well as artistic; and as New Orleans needs just that which the founder has so freely provided, we feel confident an appreciative public will warmly welcome this most desirable and useful acquisition to our public institutions.

ENG SEC MUST

COMMERCIAL.

Spot Cotton.

New Orleans..... 12.10
Mobile..... 16.85
Little Rock..... 16.00
Montgomery..... 17.00
Memphis..... 16.50

Middle..... 17.00

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