

BOYCOTT THE NAZI PRESS

Following is the text of Colonel Britton's 48th weekly talk in the B.B.C. European service to the people of the occupied countries:-

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First I'm asked to repeat the warning given before. Heavier air raids are coming, much heavier. The biggest attacks will continue to be made by the Royal Air Force on Germany itself, but heavy attacks will also be made on factories working for the Nazis in the occupied countries. So keep away. Keep out of these factories. And the minute you hear sirens or aeroplanes, take shelter.

The raids will get heavier and heavier.

And now I want to talk to you about something else.

In most countries of Europe there are being produced newspapers which are a disgrace to their owners and their editors.

The men who produce these newspapers are traitors to their country, who would do anything for money, or they're simply Germans.

I want you to help destroy some of these papers. It's quite easy. Don't buy them.

I'm going to give you the names of a few of them. I'll give you the names of two French newspapers.

Au Pilori, which is printed in Paris. It's address is 55 Avenue George V. This happens to be also the address of the Societe d'Edition de Propagande Francaise, which is under the control of the German Propaganda Bureau. Au Pilori is a frankly pro-German weekly paper. On July 10, last year, the editor rather unwisely announced that he would refer to German troops on the Eastern Front as "our troops" - German troops to be described by Frenchmen as "our troops".

The names are known of the men who produce this paper - Robert Pierret, Jean Lestandi, and others. And we know the names of the contributors. They will be dealt with in due course. In the meanwhile, don't buy this paper.

Here's another one - Gringoire, famous or infamous all over Europe. Gringoire is published every Friday in Marseilles. 39 rue de Grignan, Marseilles, and you see it everywhere.

This scurrilous rag tries to please Adolf Hitler by calling Britain "the enemy". The editor of this paper thinks - or pretends to think - that France will become France again by grovelling to the Germans, by preaching collaboration with the Boche. A grave mistake. I would warn M. de Parcevaux and M. Horace de Carbuccia, who run Gringoire that they are making a sad mistake, perhaps a fatal mistake. To kiss the hand of the Boche and to be French are two quite opposite things. Don't buy this paper Gringoire and don't be seen with it, it might do you harm.

Now the names of two papers published in Belgium. Le Nouveau Journal. This is a war-time creation which tries to spread a defeatist spirit. It slanders the Belgian people by pretending that Belgium accepts German domination. The true press of Belgium - the underground press - proves every day that the Belgian people will never rest until Nazism is destroyed. We note the names of the two men who are behind Le Nouveau Journal. Paul Collin and Robert Poulet.

(Cont'd)

The second paper is Het Laatste Nieuws. When the Nazis went into Belgium, the director of this paper gave instructions that Het Laatste Nieuws should cease publication. Most of the staff of the paper obeyed, but one young journalist called Hadernan, a quite insignificant sub-editor, put himself before his country and became the director of this paper. Het Laatste Nieuws was once a great paper. It will be so again. At present it is a contemptible rag. Don't buy it.

I've the names of two Danish papers which injure Denmark.

Faeredrelandet and Birlingske Tidende.

Faeredrelandet is the organ of the Frits Clausens party. Its editor is Helge Bangsted. Behind it are the three brothers Bryld. It is financed partly by blackmail, partly by the Germans. Its circulation is about four thousand. Cut down its circulation. Don't buy it.

Birlingske Tidende has a large circulation. Its main morning edition sells something like 140,000 copies, far too many. This paper is not Nazi but it is weak and today utterly unworthy of its traditions. Its owners are weak men whose main concern is the balance sheet. Danes, boycott this paper. Cut down its circulation.

In Norway there are two newspapers which should be boycotted. I shall give only their names - Aftenposten and Fritt Folk. Don't buy them or be seen with them.

One Czech newspaper. I need say nothing about this. Its name is Vlastka. Everyone knows what Vlastka represents. Don't buy this paper.

And now I want to mention two newspapers published in the Polish language. Nowy Kurjer Warszawski and Gonice Krakowski.

Of all the newspapers published by the Germans in Poland those are the vilest. No true Pole has ever contributed to the columns of either. Nowy Kurjer Warszawski is produced by bilingual Germans from Danzig. Gonice Krakowski is the newspaper of Frank. Poland knows the name of Frank. The name is written in blood. It will not be erased with ink.

I know that there are many other Nazi newspapers published in the occupied countries, but for the moment let us concentrate our attack on these I've mentioned.

And now one more word. On Sunday the great people of Poland celebrate their National Day. It's a proud day for Poland. Let us all give a thought to Poland on this day and pray that it will not be long before Poland rises again as all the occupied countries will infallibly rise again.

Good luck to Poland and good luck to the V army.

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