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P O C K E T G U I D E T O

THE CITIES OF
BELGIUM AND
LUXEMBOURG

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LUXEMBOURG

WAR DEPARTMENT • WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Prepared by

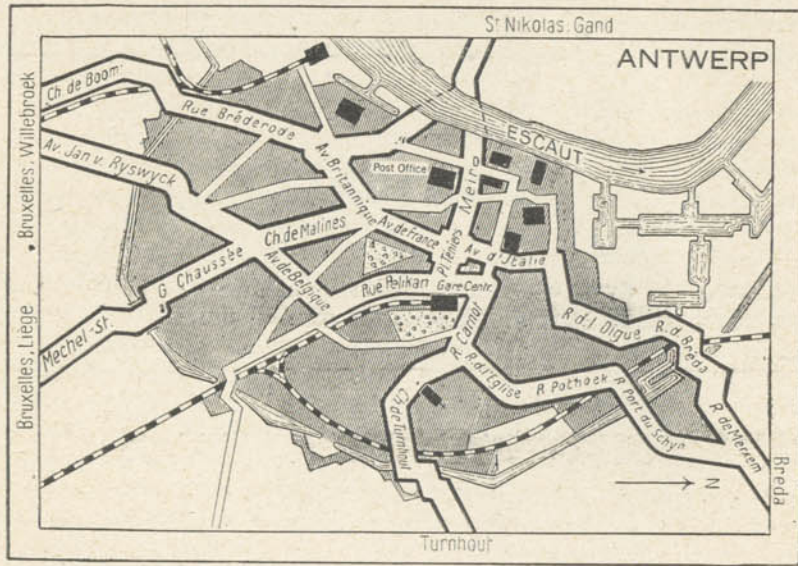
ARMY INFORMATION BRANCH
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UNITED STATES ARMY

ATTENTION

About the only thing in this booklet that can be guaranteed is the terrain. The rest of it is up to the fortunes or misfortunes of war. Many of the towns and cities described here have been bombed and shelled by us as we approached, and shelled by the enemy as he retreated. And many of them will still show the marks of the destruction visited upon them when these lands were being conquered and occupied by the Germans.

The short historical notes and city plans concerning most of the towns are correct as of the outbreak of the war. But the changes of war were still happening in many places when this pocket guide went to press.

You may find that art treasures described and located in these pages have been looted or destroyed, and it may be years before those that can be restored are sights to see again. On the other hand, some of them, by a stroke of good fortune, may be left intact, and you will be able to enjoy them.



ANTWERP

A visit to ANTWERP will soon convince you that its atmosphere is so individual that it in no way resembles other cities, either in Belgium or in Europe. Apart from being one of the world's most important harbors, Antwerp is an imposing town with wide avenues and magnificent buildings. At the same time it is Belgium's greatest commercial city and one of her proudest centers of culture. But, before trying to understand the Antwerp of today, you must know something of the story of yesterday.

The history of Antwerp is the history of the SCHELDT, for it is the course of this river which has influenced the life of the city to such an extent that it has become the pulsebeat of its inhabitants. During the middle-ages the growth of Antwerp was slow. Later on, however, in the Renaissance period, Antwerp achieved a leadership in economic activity probably attained by no other city before. The natural deepening of the waters in the channels, thus improving the access to the harbor, was one of the most important factors contributing to this supremacy. The days of the Spanish Fury inaugurated a 200-year stagnation in the development of the harbor.

The closing of the mouth of the Scheldt, obtained by the Dutch in the Treaty of Munster in 1648, sealed the fate of the city, and it was only in 1792, when the Treaty of The Hague was signed, that the Scheldt was reopened. After Belgium's separation from Holland, the coast of Dutch Flanders, which forms the south bank of the Western Scheldt, remained in Dutch possession to the great disappointment of the Belgians. It was not until 1850 that Antwerp began to approach the importance of its chief rivals. Since then, however, canals to the Industrial hinterland of Charleroi have been built and extensive dock systems have been constructed. Until the outbreak of this war, Antwerp was a harbor which ranked with Rotterdam, Hamburg, and New York, and in 1938 almost 12,000 entering vessels were registered. Antwerp is not as large a center of population as the great rival ports of Rotterdam and Hamburg. In 1938 the population of the commune numbered 273,317. However, the population of "the agglomeration," that is, Antwerp together with the five adjoining communes of Berchem, Borgerhout, Deurne, Hoboken and Merksem, was 492,654.

It has been said that sight-seeing is a highly organized way of rushing past a huge number of beautiful things that might

be seen if only time were taken to look at them and find out what they are. But Antwerp offers such a collection of interesting views that no matter how inexperienced a traveller you are, you will enjoy every minute of your stay in this city.

The medieval city of Antwerp grew up on the right bank of the Scheldt, around the STEEN, or citadel. All of the ancient buildings are found within the walls of the old city, which were replaced in 1859 by the prominent line of inner boulevards. Despite the size of the area so enclosed—more than six square miles—the districts of prime importance to you as a traveller lie comparatively close together.

You will probably arrive in Antwerp at the CENTRAL STATION, and if so, you will be at once in the heart of the city.

The Central Station or Centraalstation, as it is called in Flemish, with its lofty dome 245 feet high, offers a foretaste of the city's monumental character. However, the station's exit for passengers arriving in Antwerp is far less impressive than its front entrance, and consequently once outside the building you would do well to go back to the station's main entrance at the DE KEYSERLEI (Avenue de Keyser). This broad tree-shaded avenue is the first of a series of thoroughfares running westward to the Old Town. In im-

portance, De Keyserlei is to Antwerp what Fifth Avenue is to New York. No matter where you go in Antwerp, you will find that most of the streets will lead you to this avenue. Walking down De Keyserlei past many of the city's best hotels, you come to the TENIERSPLAATS (Place Teniers) and thus cross the line of Antwerp's big avenues. Named after the countries which were Belgium's allies in the first World War, these avenues are planted with a quadruple line of trees and embellished with gardens. Continuing on the De Keyserlei, however, and walking toward the Scheldt, you come to the MEIR, which, commercially and topographically, forms the center of the old town. During the daytime this broad street will be as crowded as De Keyserlei, but after business hours, the Meir is more or less deserted. The ROYAL PALACE and the COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE are the most important buildings which you should visit on this excursion. The Royal Palace, erected in 1745 by a private citizen and occupied by Napoleon in 1812, was not acquired by the crown until after 1815. The Exchange building, which is enclosed on all sides by houses, was built around 1862. The balcony on the second floor (Belgians call this the first floor) is open to visitors during exchange hours. At the end of the Meir is Antwerp's skyscraper, the TORENGEBOUW.

If you are a native of New York or Chicago you will wonder at what the people of Antwerp call their highest building, and perhaps you will be surprised to hear them explain to you that this 285 foot high structure is also the tallest in continental Europe. If the building is still open to the public you would do well to take this opportunity to view a fine panorama of the city and harbor from the cafe at the top. From here you can easily find your way to the Scheldt, and thus also to the magnificent CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME, the tower of which dominates the skyline of the city. The Cathedral is such a beautiful work that, in the words of Charles V, it should be kept in a casket in order to preserve it from the ravages of time. This Gothic Church, construction of which was started in 1352, was completed in 1518. The 40-foot north tower, a masterpiece of open-style work, is one of the most noteworthy parts of the building. Its total length is 384 feet and its area is 70,000 square feet.

After having crossed the town you can start your visit to special points of interest. The ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN, prior to the war among the finest on the continent, is worth a visit, and if you happen to be in Antwerp in the late spring or summer, you may choose to rest on one of the benches of its beautiful garden while

listening to the music of a military band. The TOWN HALL, with its more than 250 foot long Renaissance façade occupies the western side of the GROOTE MARKT. Here you will be able to admire the picturesque group of Guild Houses dating mainly from the 15th and 16th centuries. Among the other buildings which you should make a point to see especially are the PLANTIN-MORETUS MUSEUM, the house of the 16th century printer, Christopher Plantin, where you will find not only works printed by his own house, but also books bearing the imprints of Gutenberg, Aldus of Venice, Elzevir of Amsterdam and other historic names. The ROYAL MUSEUM OF ART offers you one of the best collections of masterpieces in Europe. Don't forget that Antwerp is the birthplace of Rubens, and was also the home of Metsys, Van Dyck, Jordeans, Teniers and other world famous masters.

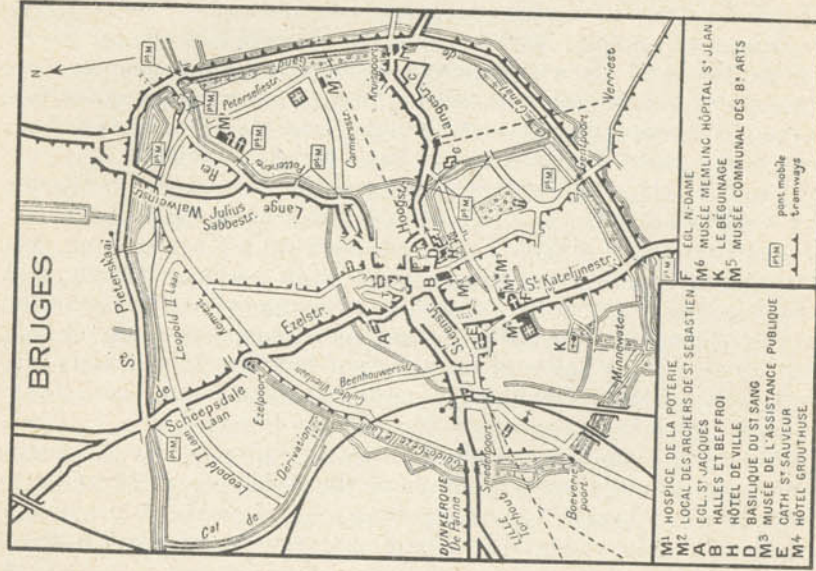
If you want to relax, or if you seek some recreation, you should visit one of Antwerp's well kept parks. The NACHTIGALE PARK, known for its giant trees, and the REVIERENHOF PARK with its charming lakes, are among the best known, and both can be reached by bus or tram from the Central Station. During the winter season you may want to pay a visit to Antwerp's OPERA HOUSE or attend the concerts given frequently in one of its big concert halls.

A visit to the FLEMISH THEATRE may be less interesting, especially if you don't understand the language.

On a nice summer day you can go to the beach on the left bank of the Scheldt. It will give you an opportunity to see the two tunnels under the Scheldt, one for foot passengers, the other for cars. If harbor inspection is allowed you may be interested in one of the boat excursions along the docks of the Scheldt.

Prior to the war Antwerp kept up the same high standards of food as all other Belgian cities. Regional specialties are the *Patates Frites* (French Fried potatoes) which are sold on the street corners; and asparagus, if it is in season. Among the drinks, beer is Antwerp's favorite, although wine during meals is not uncommon, especially if you are lucky enough to be invited for dinner at the house of an Antwerp family. If you visit the left bank of the Scheldt you should try their clams (*mosselen*) and eels, especially the dish called "*Paling in't groen*."

As a last remark it may be well to remind you that Antwerp is a Flemish city, but as a result of the development of its harbor its inhabitants are cosmopolitan and thus there is a good chance that you will be able to find many persons who will understand English.



BRUGES

No one can ever claim to know Belgium without having visited BRUGES. The peculiar charm of this city is due partly to the presence of so many canals and partly to its wealth of Medieval and Renaissance buildings. Notwithstanding the development of modern industries Bruges has managed to retain its beauty and is to date less spoiled than other cities by modern construction and so-called progress.

The city of Bruges, the name of which is derived from the word "bridge," is said to date back as far as the seventh century. During the twelfth century, thanks to its proximity to the inlet to the sea, Bruges became one of Europe's greatest commercial centers. Led by Pieter de Coninck, a weaver, and Jan Breydel, a butcher, the people of Bruges revolted against the French governor of Flanders, Jacques de Chatillon, and massacred all those unable to pronounce the difficult Flemish words "Schild en Vriend" (Shield and Friend). The silting-up of the inlet to the sea was the principal factor in Bruges' rapid decline during the fifteenth and sixteenth

centuries. This explains why almost every important building in Bruges dates back to the period of its greatest wealth during the 1300's and 1400's.

Bruges is the capital of the province of West Flanders and had, in the days prior to the second World War, a population of 52,000. This city is so rich in things worth seeing that it is difficult to make a choice for a brief visit.

In the central and southern parts of the city you will find such buildings as *St. SAVOIR'S CATHEDRAL*, in which hang paintings by Thiery Bouts, Bloondeel, and Pourbub. This building, belonging to three distinct periods (14th, 15th and 19th centuries) is open to the public every day. On the *GROOTE MARKT*, stands a 19th century monument to Pieter de Coninck and Jan Breydel, who have played such an important role in Flanders' history.

The *BELFRY*, overshadowing the square, was built in the 13th and 14th centuries, although the upper story was not added until 1482. Also in the *Groote Markt* are the Gothic styled *GENERAL POST OFFICE* and the *PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING*. The *CHAPEL OF THE HOLY BLOOD*, from where the historical *PROCESSION* of the Holy Blood sets out on the first Monday after May 2, is located in the same district. This Chapel was built to receive

some drops of the Blood of Christ brought from Jerusalem in 1150. The Romanesque lower chapel dates back to the 12th century, whereas the Gothic upper chapel was built 300 years later. A small museum, containing the silver gilt reliquary of the Holy Blood, together with other works of art, is at the right of the entrance to the upper chapel.

The *TOWN HALL* and the *LAW COURTS* are located in the same neighborhood.

The *MUNICIPAL MUSEUM OF ART* in Bruges, a building in modern style, has one of the richest collections of masters of the early Flemish school, while the *MANSION OF THE LORDS OF BRUUTHUISE* which has been converted into an *ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM*, exhibits a unique collection of lace and antique furniture. The early Gothic *CHURCH OF OUR LADY* was built in the 13th century. Here you will be able to admire such works of art as the *Mater Dolorosa*, attributed to Isenbrandt, and the statue of the Virgin and Child by Michelangelo. A remarkable collection of paintings by Hans Memling are to be found in the *ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL MUSEUM*, which is located in the *Mariastraat*, opposite the west end of the Church of Our Lady. A few blocks from here is the thirteenth century *BÉGUINAGE*, a nunnery for nuns of the

Béguine order (Beginjnhof), which is well worth a visit. A bridge crosses from the south side of the Béguinage to the bank of the MINNEWATER or Lake of Love.

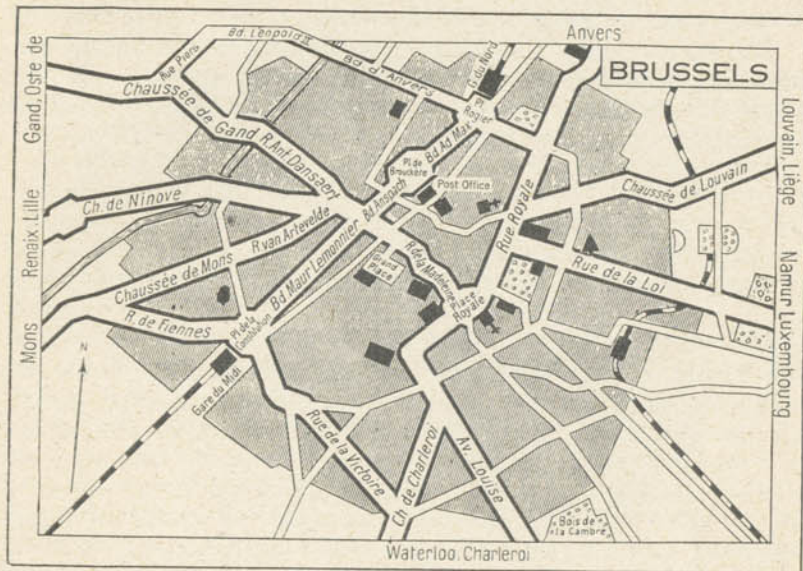
In the Northeastern part of the city you may want to visit such buildings as the fifteenth century CITIZENS' HOUSE, the GUIDO GEZELLE MUSEUM, and the JERUSALEM CHURCH.

For those who want to know more about the inner life of Bruges it suffices to stroll along the picturesque side streets, where the numerous laceworkers live. Bruges' real spirit does not lie exclusively in the historical value of its ancient buildings, but also in the simple and charming atmosphere of its narrow winding streets.

Most travellers, once in Bruges, take the opportunity to make an excursion to ZEEBRUGGE, less than 25 miles away. Zeebrugge is a family resort on the Belgian seacoast. The MOLE, which became celebrated during the first World War, is $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles long and the favorite walk of tourists. It was here during the first World War that the British performed a daring act of strategy. Feinting a big scale attack on Zeebrugge with the cruiser Vindictive, the British moved in the obsolete cruisers Intrepid and Iphigenia filled with concrete, and sank them in the channel of the canal.

effectively sealing it, and thus rendering it useless to the Germans as a submarine base.

There is no night life in Bruges although the theater and numerous movie houses make it possible to spend an agreeable evening. Bruges is a Flemish city, but many of its inhabitants understand English fairly well.



BRUSSELS

BELGIUM is only a small country, and you will get an idea of its compactness when you realize that the distance between the farthest points is less than a hundred miles. It will, however, interest you to see how many interesting and picturesque places are packed within the boundaries of this small nation, and it will astonish you even more when you discover how each locality has succeeded in maintaining its own characteristics. A visit to the great city of BRUSSELS, capital of Belgium, will be a striking example of this and will show you how the Belgian towns have managed to be modern and progressive without sacrificing their ancient heritage.

Because of its location on the trade route between Bruges and Cologne, Brussels was, from 1313, the residence of the Counts of Louvain and the Dukes of Brabant. Under the Burgundians (1406-77), Brussels was the scene of brilliant courts, and under the Hapsburgs it became the capital of the Netherlands which then included both Holland and Belgium. In 1695, during the bombardment by the French, much of the lower town was destroyed. In 1830, Brussels was the scene of the first uprising against the Dutch

regime. Since then Brussels has been the capital of the independent Belgian kingdom, and in the period before the outbreak of the second World War, Brussels was by far the largest center of population in the country with a total of 936,000 inhabitants.

Brussels is situated in the hilly valley of the little river SENNE. Apart from being Belgium's most important city, seat of the Government, and residence of the royal family, Brussels is generally recognized by all who know it well as one of the most charming and at the same time one of the gayest places to live.

The city is divided into the Upper Town, with its ROYAL PALACE and Government offices, and the Lower Town, which is the center of commerce and entertainment.

Chances are that you will arrive in Brussels at the NORTH STATION, which brings you into the lower town section at the PLACE CHARLES ROGIER. From here you can take your choice and walk either along the beautiful BOULEVARD ADOLF MAX, with its numerous sidewalk cafés, or along the old and narrow RUE NEUVE at your left.

The Boulevard will lead you to the PLACE BROUCKÈRE, center of activity, and one of the squares where you will want to stroll and listen to and watch a busy town.

The PLACE DE LA MONNAIE, with its famous OPERA HOUSE—THEATRE ROYAL DE LA MONNAIE—and the impressive classically styled STOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING, is just a stone's throw from the Place Brouckère. The center of interest to you as traveller, however, will be the GRANDE PLACE, which is without a doubt one of the finest squares on the Continent. This square has seen a great deal of Brussels history. Formerly the central market place, it has now become a mecca for tourists. Its picturesque GUILDHALLS, the TOWN HALL with its carved spire and the MAISON DU ROI are a few of its most beautiful buildings.

The TOWN HALL (Hôtel de Ville), with its medieval front, occupies most of the south side of the square, and was built during the years 1402-54. This building with its historic portraits and eighteenth century tapestry, can be visited every day of the week. Each of the houses of the Guildhalls has its individual character and the quaint HALL OF THE BOATMEN (number 6) will undoubtedly attract you most.

It is also in this part of the town that you will find the statue of *Mannikin Pis*, which has become the mascot of all Bruxellois. The tradition goes that this statue was erected by a thankful father after the recovery of his lost child. The father made a vow that

if his child were returned to him, he would build a fountain on the spot where his son was found and surmount it with a statue depicting the little boy in the exact attitude in which he was discovered. Go and see *Mannikin Pis* and you will know in what position he was found.

The UPPER TOWN centers around the PLACE ROYALE. In the middle of this square is the statue of Godfrey de Bouillon, leader of the first Crusade. From here you enter the elegant court quarters and the radiating streets of the upper town. The ROYAL LIBRARY, Belgium's national library, and the MUSEUM OF MODERN ART are both located in that part of the city. The MUSEUM OF OLD MASTERS, which ranks among the best art collections in Europe, is nearby and can be reached by following the Rue de la Régence in the direction of the Law Courts. Past this Museum is the CHURCH OF NOTRE DÂME-DU-SABLON, construction of which was begun in 1304 and not finished until the 16th century. The PALAIS DE JUSTICE (Law Courts), which went up in flames during the German retreat in September 1944, was said to have been the largest architectural creation of the nineteenth century. The ROYAL PALACE, erected in the first part of the nineteenth century, and the Parliament House are also situated in that part of the city.

If you want to admire another perfect specimen of Gothic architecture, you should visit the Collegiate Church of Saints Michael and Gudula, commonly known as STE. GUDULE, the principal church of Brussels.

Among Brussels' parks, the CINQUANTENAIRE is one of the best known. It is laid out in formal gardens and ornamented with sculpture. The PALAIS DE CINQUANTENAIRE, an impressive building comprising six parts, and one of Brussels' landmarks, is on the east side of the Park.

Apart from Brussels itself, a visit to the immediate surroundings of the city is more than worth while. The FOREST OF SOIGNES, which stretches from the southern edge of Brussels to the village of WATERLOO, and the BOIS DE LA CAMBRE are favorite resorts of Brussels' residents. A visit to the village of Waterloo will place you in the heart of the battlefield where the final defeat of Napoleon took place. The CHURCH to the right of the main road contains a memorial to British troops killed in the battle of Waterloo, a bust of Wellington, and numerous tablets to the memory of British officers. Opposite is the house—now a café—called "Au Quartier-Général de Wellington," in which Wellington slept on the eve of the battle.

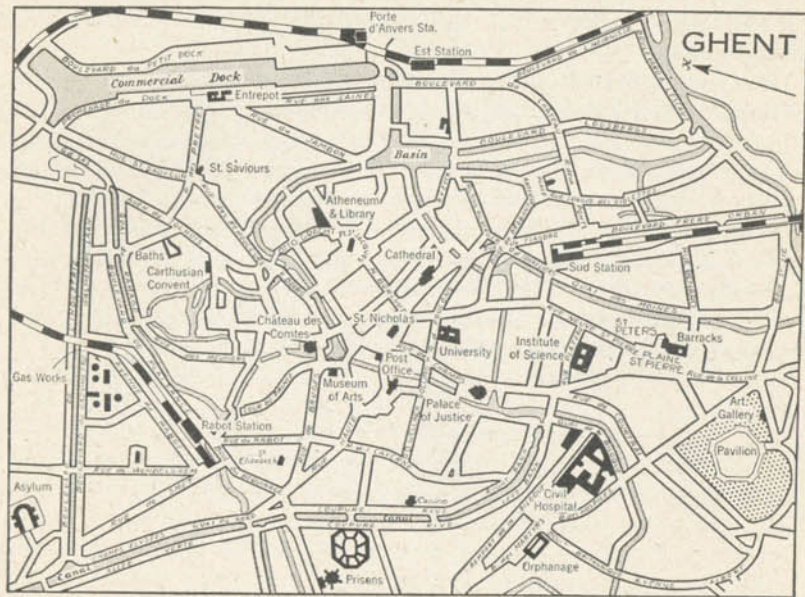
If you visit Brussels during the summer months you must not miss a trip along the picturesque road to the village of TERVEUREN, some six miles outside Brussels. The beautiful park of Terveuren will soon put you in a romantic mood, while the CONGO MUSEUM offers you one of the world's most interesting collections of colonial art and life.

Brussels can supply any kind of recreation you want from sports to night-clubs, from concerts by world-famous orchestras and soloists to operas and theaters. One of the more characteristic forms of recreation, however, is sitting in one of the numerous sidewalk cafes. It is here that you will learn to know Brussels and its people best, because it is here that the Bruxellois sips his cup of coffee or glass of beer while watching the passers-by, telling his companion the latest gossip of the day, or flirting with a charming Bruxelloise.

Eating out in Brussels used to be a recreation in itself. Remember that especially in Brussels the most unpretentious looking places often have the best cooking. When you want to give your purse a breathing spell, there are plenty of still more modest places where you can get a satisfactory meal at very reasonable prices. Beer is the most popular drink with your meal, while the best

qualities of French wines can be obtained in all good restaurants. A *café filtré*, coffee in an individual drip pot, is usually served after meals.

As you probably know, Belgium has two national languages: French and Flemish. Brussels is situated on the border of the linguistic line and therefore it is a bilingual city. Most members of the prosperous classes use French in their daily conversation, while Flemish is more widely used by the inhabitants of the outer districts and the working classes. Brussels is the center of Belgium's dense communication system and you will therefore have no difficulty in traveling from here to any of the other Belgian cities. If you are not hurried, a journey by *Vicinaux* (a cross between a trolleycar and a train), is ideal for sightseeing.



GHENT

GHENT, situated at the confluence of the rivers Lys and Scheldt is the capital of East Flanders. No other town has played so important a role in Flemish history as Ghent, which explains why it has at present one of the richest collections of buildings and monuments dating from every age.

Founded in 980, Ghent was successively one of the world's main centers of grain trade and the weaving industry. During the eleventh century, the weaving industry brought the city an unsurpassed prosperity which ended in the fourteenth century with the growth of wool manufacturing in England. During the Hundred Years War, Jacob van Artevelde, friend and confidant of Edward II of England, secured the neutrality of Flanders, thus insuring a supply of wool to England. Assassinated as a result of his policy of favoritism toward England, he was succeeded by his son Philip van Artevelde, who became Regent of Flanders in 1382. It was Philip van Artevelde who led the citizens of Ghent in the unsuccessful struggle against the French overlords. In 1540 the men of Ghent were equally unsuccessful in their rebel-

lion against the rule of Emperor Charles V. Until that time Ghent had been one of the leading cities in Europe and during that period the wealth of the Ghent Burghers was equalled by their turbulent spirit of independence. With the outbreak of the religious strifes in the Netherlands the fortunes of the city suffered a decline. After 1714 Ghent formed part of the Austrian Netherlands. In 1814 it was incorporated in the Kingdom of the United Netherlands and after 1830 it became part of Belgium.

Ghent with its population of 164,000 is the second port of Belgium. There is perhaps no other town of its size in the world which can boast of such a succession of towers and spires and turrets. Ghent's industrial center has been developed primarily at the outskirts of the city, leaving in peace its beautiful monuments.

The principal approach from the station to the city is the **KORTRIJKSCHE STEENWEG**. From here you can visit the **CITADEL PARK**, which is noted for its beautiful lawns and flower gardens and the **MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS**, which although not comparable with the galleries of Brussels and Antwerp is still worth a visit, especially if you are fond of the old Dutch and Flemish masters.

The **KOUTER**, or **PLACE D'ARMES**, is the market place which you reach soon after walking through the **Kortrijksche Steenweg**, the **NEDERKOUTE** and the **SCHOUWBURG PLAATS**. On your way you may take time out to admire the **ABBAY OF BYLOCKE**, which is now transformed into an interesting **ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM**, and the classical early 19th century construction of the **LAW COURTS**. The **STATE UNIVERSITY** of Ghent, founded in 1815 is not too distant. Once there, you are in the neighborhood of the fourteenth century **BELFRY**, or **Belfort** as it is called in Flemish, with its famous chimes. At the base of the tower is the **CLOTH TOWER**. The Belfry has a cast iron steeple on the top of which is a gold dragon which, according to tradition, was brought from Constantinople either by the Varangians or by the Emperor Baldwin after the Latin conquest.

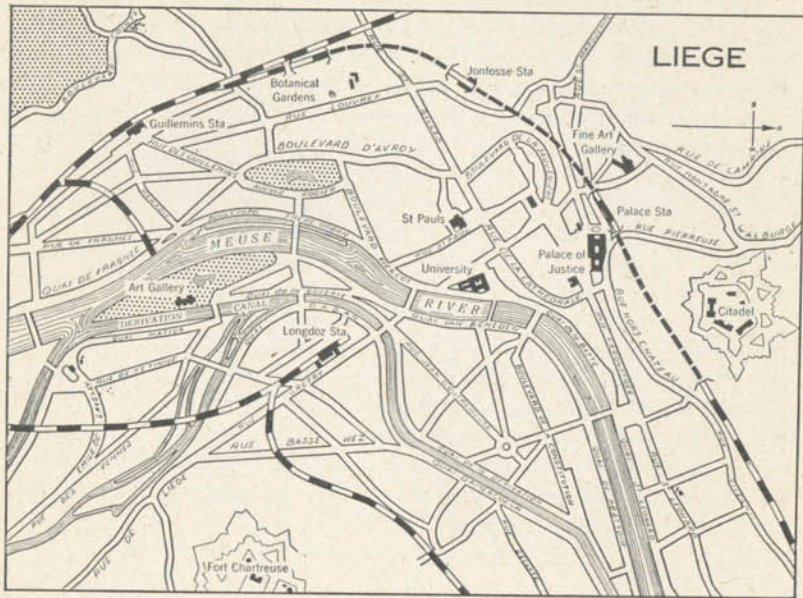
Among the other important buildings is the **CATHEDRAL OF ST. BAVON**. Its interior, one of the most richly decorated of any church, contains the masterpiece of the Van Eyck Brothers, "The Adoration of the Lamb." However, there were reports during the war that this famous altarpiece had been stolen by the Germans. The **TOWN HALL** with its two-part facade, one in Gothic style dating from 1518 and that facing the market in Renaissance

style of 1595-1621, should be visited for its beautiful interior. It is here that the Pacification of Ghent was signed.

The CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, built in the first part of the seventeenth century contains many well known paintings including the "Crucifixion" by Van Dyck. The CASTLE OF THE COUNTS OF FLANDERS, Gravensteen, dating from the 12th century and showing you a magnificent example of a medieval fortress, is one of Ghent's landmarks. This medieval fortress, the stronghold of the early counts of Flanders, was restored to the city after serving for nearly 100 years as a factory. In the eastern part of the city you can visit the CASTLE OF GERARD THE DEVIL (1245) and the Little and Great Béguinages. The GREAT BÉGUINAGE is one of the most interesting institutions of Ghent; originally established in 1234 near the Bruges gate, it was transferred in 1874 to the suburb of St. Amandsberg. The Béguinage constitutes a little town in itself, surrounded by walls and a moat, and contains numerous small houses, eighteen convents and a church.

Although a description of Ghent sounds like an enumeration of buildings, the individual history and aspect of each one gives the city a legendary character which sets it apart from all others.

Apart from its beautiful sights, Ghent does not offer you any special recreation such as can be found in Antwerp and Brussels. While in Ghent remember that you are in one of Flanders' great cities, so if you happen to know a few words of French don't show them off here unless the person to whom you are speaking has asked you to do so.



LIEGE

LIEGE, cultural center of French-speaking Belgium, is the capital of the province of the same name, with a population of 250,000. Like most of the Flemish towns, Liège, often called the capital of Wallonia, has gone through many struggles since the Middle Ages in order to preserve that liberty so dear to the Belgians.

The city of Liège was founded by St. Lambert, Bishop of Maastricht. In the fourteenth century it became the capital of the prince-bishopric of Liège, which for four hundred years retained its independence of the Southern Netherlands. Strife between the citizens of Liège and the prince bishop was frequent throughout that period. During the last century Liège was surrounded by a ring of forts and the city played an important role in both the first and the present World Wars.

Liège enjoys a remarkable location at the confluence of the MEUSE and the OURTHE, at the base of slate hills rising steeply on all sides.

The broad tree-lined streets which run parallel with the Meuse enclose the inner city. The CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, on a square to

the right of the BOULEVARD D'AVROY dates back to the sixteenth century and is a fine example of late Gothic style. Apart from its richly ornamented interior special attention should be given to the stained-glass windows.

The CATHEDRAL OF ST. PAUL is a thirteenth century building with some additions from the sixteenth century. The LAW COURTS (Palais de Justice) is one of the most noteworthy buildings of Liège. Erected in 1526 by Bishop Eberhard de la Marck as the palace of the prince-bishop, it is ranged around two courtyards.

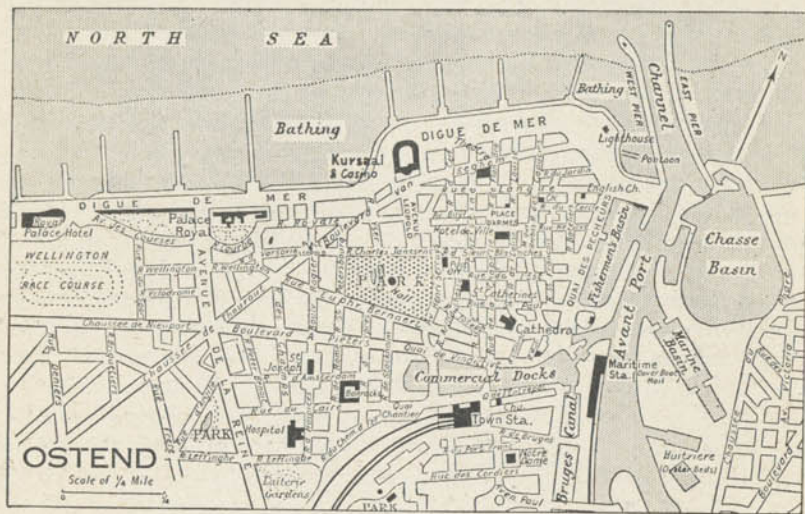
The eighteenth century TOWN HALL and CORN EXCHANGE are both in the same neighborhood, and not too far away from there is the CITADEL PARK. This park, which is laid out at a height of more than 500 feet on the wall foundations of the former citadel, offers a splendid view over the city.

The ANSEMBOURG MUSEUM, housed in an eighteenth century patrician residence, the CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW, a romanesque basilica of the 11th and 12th centuries, and the CURTIUS MUSEUM, which contains a collection of Roman and Frankish antiquities, are three other buildings of interest.

The beauty of Liège, however, is not limited to its magnificent buildings and monuments. Its picturesque quays on the river

Meuse and their bridges, linking the left bank of the Meuse with the island bounded by that river and its tributary the Ourthe, ST. LAMBERT'S SQUARE, where pigeons have made their homes as in St. Mark's square in Venice, the MARKET PLACE with its PERRON FOUNTAIN, are favorite tourist centers which you should not miss.

Liège offers you the same variety of recreation as most other big cities. During the winter months you may go to the concerts for which Liège is famous, while the summer months are especially suited for excursions to the lovely Vesdre, Ourthe, and Ambleve valleys. Furthermore, the magnificent health resort of SPA, with its luxurious Casino, parks and avenues is not too far from Liège. December and January are excellent months for an excursion to ELSNBORN where you can practice your favorite winter sport.



OSTEND

OSTEND is Belgium's leading seaside resort and the largest town on the Belgian coast. The city's central position on Belgium's 41-mile North Sea coast makes it an easy starting point for visits to such other well known beaches as LA PANNE, BLANKENBERGE, and LE ZOUTE.

Ostend was a fishing village and a seaport long before it became a holiday resort. Fortified by the Prince of Orange in 1583, it was captured by the troops of the Archduke Albert in 1604 after a three years' siege. The foundations of Ostend as it exists today were laid at the end of the last century when the fortifications were demolished. During the first World War Ostend was used by the Germans as a submarine base.

The tourist season in Ostend is from June to September, and although the city has many picturesque sights you had better visit nearby Bruges during the winter months and reserve your time off during the hot August days for relaxation at Ostend's beach. Among the interesting buildings of the city, mention should be made of the Gothic CHURCH OF SS PETER AND PAUL, con-

taining a chapel and mausoleum of Queen Marie-Louise, first queen of Belgium. The PLACE D'ARMES, with its eighteenth century TOWN HALL where you will find a collection of paintings by the famous contemporary Ostend artist James Ensor, is also worth your time. However, Ostend is primarily a seaside resort. Its DIGUE, or PROMENADE, its CASINO, its bathing beach or GRANDE PLAGE are the city's real centers of attraction. Ostend offers a wide variety of recreation. The Casino is known for its festivals and concerts of classical works with leading stars under the direction of famous conductors. Apart from this the Casino is known for its gaming rooms and dance halls.

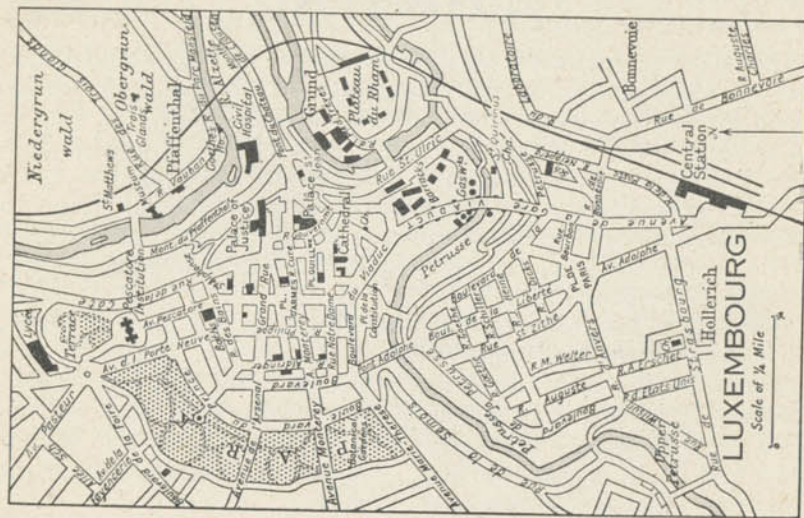
In the afternoon the sidewalk cafes on the Promenade attract most tourists' attention. A cup of coffee or a dish of ice cream is all you have to order, and you can spend the afternoon watching the passers-by and observing the milling crowds on the beach. As evening falls, a walk on the Promenade to view the sun setting on the water will offer you a spectacle not soon to be forgotten.

LUXEMBOURG

The city of LUXEMBOURG gave its name to the Grand-Duchy (1,000 square miles, 300,000 inhabitants) of which it is the capital and by far the largest town. With its three suburbs of GRUND, CLAUSEN, and PFAFFENTHAL it numbers 60,000 inhabitants. It is the residence of the sovereign (Grand-Duchess Charlotte), the seat of government, and of a Roman Catholic Bishop. French is the official language, but German is also universally understood. The people however, commonly speak "the Luxembourg tongue", a Frankish dialect.

The name Luxembourg, formerly *Lützelburg*, is derived from a Frankish word signifying "Little Outpost" and recalls the gift by Charles Martel of a fragment of the Merovingian Empire to the Abbey of St. Maximin at Trier. In 963, the "little outpost" was ceded by the monks to Siegfried, an Ardennes noble who became the first count of Luxembourg. He laid the foundations of the fortress which his successors elaborated.

Among the most noteworthy of the many sieges which the fortress of Luxembourg endured were those of 1684, when it fell



to Louis XIV, King of France, and of 1794–1795, when it resisted for eight months the Revolutionary Armies of France. From 1815 to 1867, when it was dismantled in accordance with the treaty of London, the fortress was regarded as an inland Gibraltar.

Luxembourg was invaded by the Germans in August, 1914, and was occupied until 22 November, 1918, when it was entered by American troops. It was again invaded by Germany on 10 May, 1940, and liberated again by United States soldiers, 12 September, 1944.

The palatial A. R. B. E. D. BUILDING, built in 1919–22 in Renaissance style, is located on the AVENUE DE LA LIBERTÉ (Freiheitsstrasse). It houses the head office of the *Acéries Réunies de Bouebach, Eich, Dudelange* (United Steelworks of Burbach, Eich and Dudelange), the largest industrial concern in the Grand-Duchy and one of the largest in Europe. Farther along, on the same side of the Avenue is the head office of the NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK (*Caisse d'Epargne, Sparkasse*) which, like that of the *GUILLAUME-LUXEMBOURG RAILWAY*, opposite, is in medieval style. Next you cross the ADOLPHE BRIDGE (*PONT ADOLPHE*). It was designed by Séjourné, engineer of the French Railway in 1903. In a single arch of 280 ft. it spans the ravine of the *Pétrusse*. The BOULEVARD

DU VIADUC, on the northern brink of the ravine, leads on the right to the PLACE DE LA CONSTITUTION where a monument rises in honor of the Luxembourg volunteers killed in World War I. It is reported to have been destroyed by the Nazis in 1942. Here also is an entrance to the PÉTRUSSE CASEMATES, a series of shellproof underground gun-emplacements and connecting galleries first constructed by the Spaniards in 1674 and extended by subsequent defenders of Luxembourg, namely, the French, Austrians and Prussians. These underground fortifications which were blasted out of the rock have a total length of 12 miles and greater diversity than the catacombs of Rome or Paris.

A short street on the left of the Place de la Constitution leads on the right-hand side to a former Jesuit college founded in 1594. It still houses the ATHÉNÉE or grand-ducal college and the NATIONAL LIBRARY (Bibliothèque Nationale) of 80,000 volumes. The former college chapel, next door, constructed in 1618, has become the CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE-DAME. It has an interesting Renaissance portal, its altars are Renaissance while the rest of the interior is in gothic style. To the left of the entrance is the cenotaph of John the Blind, Count of Luxembourg and King of Bohemia, who was killed at Crécy (1346). Beyond the Cathedral are the GOVERNMENT

OFFICES (Hôtel du Gouvernement). Opposite, the RUE DU FOSSÉ (Grabenstrasse) leads into the spacious PLACE GUILLAUME (Wilhelmsplatz) named after the equestrian statue (by Mercié of Lyon) of William II, King of Holland and Grand-Duke of Luxembourg. This square is the scene of weekly markets (Wednesday and Saturday) and is flanked on the south by the nineteenth-century TOWN HALL (Hôtel de Ville). A passage on the north side of the square links it with the Place d'Armes (Waffenplatz, renamed by the Nazi invaders "Adolf Hitler Platz"). In the PLACE D'ARMES is the MUNICIPAL PALACE, also called "Cerele," in French renaissance style, and opposite a monument by Federspiel in honor of the Luxembourg poets Dicks and Lentz. North of the Place d'Armes is the GRAND'RUE (Grosstrasse), the shopping center of the town.

On the left the Grand'rue extends to the Park, laid out in 1872, enclosing the city on the north and west and dividing it from the residential suburb of LIMPERSBERG. Among its glades and fine flower-beds—Luxembourg is known as "city of roses"—are the studios of the Broadcasting Station (Radio Luxembourg) near the center, the statue of Princesse Amélie by Ch. Petre of Nancy, and at the northern end the Pescatore Foundation, an institution for

the aged. A beautiful terrace in front of the latter commands a magnificent view of the suburb of Pfaffenthal which preserves fragments of barracks and other buildings erected by Vauban. The house in which Goethe stayed during his visit to Luxembourg in October 1792, can be seen from here. In the woods, just opposite, are three old powder towers, called the TROIS GLANDS (Three Acorns).

The Grand'rue ends on the right at the MARCHÉ-AUX-HERBES (Krautmarkt), close to which are the LAW COURTS (Palais de Justice) dating in part from the sixteenth century. On the left side of the Rue du Marché-aux-Herbes is the GRAND-DUCAL PALACE erected in 1572-73 in Spanish Renaissance style. Next to it is the nineteenth-century CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES (Chambre des Députés), the Luxembourg Parliament.

At the rear of the Palace is the quiet MARCHÉ-AUX-POISSONS (Fish-Market), once the center of the city. On the north side is the NATIONAL MUSEUM (Musée National) with excellent archaeological collections and noted for its Gallo-Roman antiquities. On the south is the CHURCH OF ST. MICHEL, in flamboyant style. At the side of the church is the approach to the eighteenth century CASTLE BRIDGE (Pont du Château, Schlossbrücke), linking the inner city

with the BOCK (Bouc), a rocky "peninsula" formed by a bend in the Alzette. One of the most striking corners of Luxembourg, the Bock is crowned by remnants of sixteenth-century fortifications. To the right of the Castle Bridge is an entrance to the Bock Casemates. Hence, the CHEMIN DE LA CORNICHE (Corniche Road), clinging to the rock above the Alzette, runs southward to the SAINT-ESPRIT (Heiliggeist) BARRACKS, headquarters of Luxembourg's volunteer army of 180 officers and men. On the farther side of the Barracks, the Viaduct, built in 1859-61 spans the ravine of the Pétrusse on 25 arches. On the south, it passes to the right of the fourteenth-century CHAPEL OF ST. QUIRINUS (Chapelle St.-Quirin), built above a grotto.

All hotels have restaurant services for lunch and dinner. The best and cheapest breakfasts, however, are bought in bakeries or tea-rooms (pâtisseries). Local specialties are Luxembourg (cooked) cheese and Ardennes (Esleck) ham. The national drink is "Gréchen," a natural, early Moselle wine, but fruit brandies, such as "quetsch, mirabelle, and Kirsch" are very popular too, and are usually consumed in black coffee after a meal. The best coffee is the café-filtré, served in a glass with an individual dripolator. Side-walk cafes are all over town.

