



NETHERLANDS NEWS

THE NETHERLANDS
THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES
THE NETHERLANDS WEST INDIES

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Dr. Hendrik Colijn not in
concentration camp.

confined in a hotel at Valkenburg and not in a concentration camp, as reported earlier.

Reports received at Batavia on August 14 indicate that Dr. Hendrik Colijn, recently arrested by the Germans, is

The reports allege that Dr. Colijn is in good health and watched over by two "guardians." However, he is free to make short trips in the surrounding countryside.

Ex-Defense and Finance Ministers
imprisoned by Nazis.

Finance Ministers in pre-war Dutch Cabinets, were among the 60 political notables arrested simultaneously with Dr. Hendrik Colijn, former Dutch Premier. (See page 37 of the Netherlands News.)

A report from London dated August 13 states that J.J.C. van Dijk and Jacob Adriaan de Wilde, Defense and

Autonomy of provinces and
municipalities scrapped by
German authorities.

Gazette of August 12, according to dispatches reaching Lisbon on August 25.

An authoritarian regulation whereby City Councils and Provincial Councils are "put at rest", - suspended - was published in the Dutch Official

New elections will not be held for these government bodies, it was announced. Commissions of deputies formed by Parliament and City and Provincial Councils also are to be suspended if burgomasters and provincial commissioners decide it is necessary.

Commenting on the decree, a government official said that under the principle of this decree, provinces and municipalities are no longer under the sway of a parliamentary body but under one man, vested with complete responsibility who is assisted by councillors. Burgomasters nominate from two to six aldermen as representatives, for a six-year period. The burgomaster also appoints councillors on a special ratio. If the laws of a specific province or city provide, for example, that there should be twenty members in a city council, the burgomaster, under the new ruling, will appoint eleven men. This figure of half the designated number of councillors plus one will be the maximum in all cases.

The burgomaster alone makes decisions but has to heed indications from higher authorities. In The Hague, Amsterdam and Rotterdam burgomasters are under the authority of the Secretary-General of the Department of Home Affairs. In other cities the Burgomaster will be responsible to the Provincial Commissioner.

In the administration of a province, the Commissioner nominates from two to six councillors.

"The Netherlands people later will be given the opportunity to decide if this decree, carried out by the occupation authorities as a purely administrative measure in accordance with international law to maintain order and public safety, is suitable as a base for a new Dutch constitution in the future," the official said. "We must remember that this reinforcement of authority in the organization of cities and provinces has been demanded by the ablest Netherlands specialists in the theory and practice of administration."

This statement, in the view of Dutch observers in London, is an indication that the German authorities realize full well that this entire measure violates the Dutch laws.

The semi-official Dienst aus Deutschland reported as early as August 15 that Seyss-Inquart had established this authoritarian government to maintain public order. The action of the Reichs Commissioner admittedly meant to cope with mounting unrest and is designed to centralize all power in the hands of the German autocratic administration.

Thus the municipal councils and provincial assemblies are virtually dissolved as independent ruling bodies. These provincial assemblies are somewhat similar to state legislatures in the United States and present a typical embodiment of the democratic spirit of the Dutch. In the time of the Dutch Republic, centuries ago, the provincial assemblies, known as the "Provincial States", were practically sovereign bodies, just as the original 13 Sovereign States of America. In modern times, however, the powers of the provincial assemblies in the Netherlands have been considerably lessened. The town councils, on the other hand, have always retained far-reaching autonomy in the Dutch administrative set-up. While the National Parliament at The Hague was sent packing immediately after the Germans took over in May 1940, the municipal councils still exercised far-reaching powers in governing the cities of Holland.

Germans prohibit song
commemorative of Grebbe
Line fight in May, 1940.

"De Grebbeberg," a popular song commemorating the fight put up by Dutch troops along the Grebbe Line during

the invasion of May, 1940, has been banned in Holland, according to De Telegraaf of July 28.

The newspaper said it had been forbidden because the memory of fallen soldiers should not be "desecrated" by singing songs in pubs and restaurants.

The "Grebbeberg" song, composed by a well-known conferencier, had become the most popular war-song. It evidently "got on the nerves" of the Germans.

Marching in columns or in uniform by civilians banned.

issued by the General Commissioner for Public Safety and Head of Police, S.S. Gruppenfuehrer Rauter, in the Dutch press of July 16. Penalties will be six months in prison and a 1000-guilder fine.

A decree forbidding civilians to march in columns or in uniform under threat of severe penalties has been

Observers in London pointed out that virtually no hiking club outing in Holland took place without the accompaniment of anti-Nazi songs. All participants in such marches have worn forbidden uniforms or badges, or otherwise transformed their hikes into anti-German demonstrations.

Severe punishment for "un-authorized" traveling into or out of the occupied Netherlands.

Commissioner Seyss-Inquart, published in the Amsterdam Telegraaf of August 16. The maximum fine is 20,000 guilders. In particularly flagrant cases a life sentence may be imposed.

Persons traveling into or out of the Netherlands without official permission will be imprisoned or fined, according to a decree of Reichs

Violent action against German Army or Dutch Nazis to be severely punished.

police in occupied territory will be punished with penalties ranging from one to fifty years' imprisonment and, in the more serious cases, with the death penalty, the N.S.B.-daily Volk en Vaderland reported on July 29.

A decree has been issued warning the population of Holland that acts of violence against the German Army, Dutch Nazi Storm Troopers and German

The decree, issued by Reichs Commissioner Seyss-Inquart, also stated that punishment will be inflicted on anyone found in possession of weapons, political propaganda material of dissolved parties, or anyone participating in strikes and lockouts.

Nazi edition of "V" campaign under police protection, Amsterdam police rules.

the newspaper Het Vaderland of August 3 reported.

A series of new regulations, one of them involving the Nazi "V" campaign, has been issued by the Dutch Nazi Police Chief Tulp of Amsterdam,

These regulations, which, the newspaper said, were the outgrowth of recent events and were taken to avoid further "misunderstanding", are the following:

- (1) - The "V"-action is being carried out by the authorities and is placed under police protection.
- (2) - N.S.B. Storm Troopers are protected by the government.
- (3) - N.S.B. Storm Troopers do not have police authority.

Laws and decrees of Germans
summarized in Official Gazette.

A list of all the rules and regulations issued thus far by the Germans regarding the maintenance of public

order in Holland, was published in the Official Gazette of July 30.

The rules which cover many pages, are a simplification of various verbose orders dealing with matters affecting public peace: such as forbidden propaganda, spreading of false news, the closing time of cafes, etc.

The list -- which is a decree -- adds several amendments to existing orders. The ruling regarding distribution of false news was accompanied with a warning that persons operating secret radio transmitters would be severely punished.

The Netherlands press, commenting on the list on August 3, drew attention to the exceptional powers invested in the Commissioner-General of Public Security. It was pointed out that he can ask in writing for "contributions" in money or goods, as a punishment for action directed against the public interest, or likely to disturb the public peace. Such demands in writing have the same force as a court sentence, the decree stipulates.

Schools will be closed,
teachers dismissed, if
"trouble" continues.

Revealing that unrest was continuing in Dutch schools, Prof. J. van Dam, Nazi Secretary-General of Education, announced over the

Netherlands Radio around the middle of August that German authorities had empowered him to close denominational schools and dismiss or suspend their teachers if conditions necessitated such action. He also can annul the power of school boards.

"A spirit of resistance, which sometimes can be ascribed to teachers who do not understand the new times, has been noticeable among Netherlands youth. This cannot be tolerated," he said. Seyss-Inquart had

given him the authority to crack down on the religious schools "in case of proved unwillingness," he added.

He indicated that the Reichs Commissioner had authorized him to enforce the new Nazi-sponsored curriculum in these schools and reiterated a previous announcement that German would be taught more extensively in Dutch schools in order to "promote contact and friendly intercourse between the Dutch and their German brothers." Van Dam declared that it was his task "to propel education in such a direction that the younger generation could obtain a sound knowledge of the ideals of the new times and determine which attitude to take towards new developments."

Prior to this action, he pointed out, the Netherlands Government did not have the authority to dismiss or appoint teachers of denominational schools. "The political situation, however, demanded that this be changed," he said.

He announced that lower schools would consist of eight forms, the teaching of German starting in the sixth form. Van Dam also disclosed that "interesting experiments" were being made in connection with the creation of a Dutch duplicate of the German Nazi Political Institute where selected youths are trained to become "fuehrers."

Dr. D. J. Noordijk has been appointed Inspector-General of services "maintaining order and quiet" in Dutch schools. New teachers experiencing difficulties have been urged to get in touch with him immediately.

Women sought for agricultural and domestic work in Germany.

age and for domestic servants between the ages of 18 and 40, was published in the July 23 issue of the Utrechtsch Dagblad.

A notice that Germany has plenty of work in agriculture for Dutch women between 15 and 40 years of

Registration of horses ordered in Holland.

to the Dagelijksche Beurscourant of July 28.

The German military command in Holland has decreed the immediate registration of horses, according

Registration is to be followed at once by examination of the animals by the German army veterinaries.

Restriction of carrier pigeon ownership.

Fears of the Nazi authorities over the use of pigeons in espionage work are mirrored in Dutch press reports of July 19.

Authorities have ruled that carrier pigeons can only be kept by members of officially recognized pigeon societies; no transfer of ownership is permitted. The birds are not allowed to fly freely and cannot be kept aboard ships. Jews and foreigners are forbidden to own birds. Burgomasters are responsible for pigeons without specific owners; they have been instructed to kill such birds off.

Motion picture houses are forced to show officially-sanctioned pictures.

A decree ordering motion picture house managers to feature all officially-recommended films was issued in the Verordeningenblad

(Official Gazette) of July 19. The decree, signed by Dr. J. van Dam, Secretary-General of Education and Arts, warned managers who balked the command that they would face severe penalties.

"Go sight-seeing ... in Rotterdam!" Nazis say.

The Nazis have begun boosting Rotterdam as a holiday sight-seeing center with the admonition,

however, that visitors let "bygones be bygones" in regard to the terrific bombing in May 1940.

The "campaign" started in an article on the travel page of the Nazi-controlled weekly Haagsche Post of July 12, the first time since the invasion that the Nazis discussed the possibilities of Rotterdam as a sight-seeing center.

Carefully avoiding any direct mention of the bombing last year which razed the center of the big port and snuffed out some 23,000 lives, the paper said:

"After a year of understandable reticence, the Maasstad (Rotterdam) deserves mention. The visitor must know his way about, however, so as to include all the interesting sights in a short visit. Rotterdam never was particularly rich in architectural detail and very little is left indeed."

Obviously a trifle nervous over the unabated fury of the Dutch regarding the wanton Nazi bombing of the city, the Haagsche Post concluded:

"We suggest to the Rotterdam visitor that if he wishes to enjoy himself, he must not only be receptive to illusions, but should also practice forgetfulness."

Rotterdam Burgomaster repeats warning against "demonstrations" during British air raids.

The Burgomaster of Rotterdam, in the July 19 issue of Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant, repeated his in-

structions forbidding the public to be out in the streets during air attacks. He declared the public must abstain from all forms of "demonstrations," as these might have serious consequences for the town and for the residents.

The stirring welcome given RAF planes by the Hollanders when the airmen passed over Dutch territory to raid Cologne is described by one of the pilots of the planes in an article in the London Daily Express.

"We flew extremely close to the ground over Holland to avoid anti-aircraft fire," he said. "This was great fun. We were so low sometimes that we were able to wave to each other. These Dutch people are friendly all right. Most of them made the 'V' sign or stuck up their thumbs. Others strewed their clotheslines with red, white and blue garments hung in 'V' fashion. We even saw cabbages planted in 'V' formation. I would not have missed this sight, or the marvelous raid for a million pounds."

Sports "clean-up" urged
by Nationale Dagblad.

An angry demand that sports in Holland be cleansed of political demonstrations against the Dutch

Nazis and the Germans was contained in the July 22 issue of the Nationale Dagblad. Among other things, the newspaper urged that Dutch sports be "Aryanized."

"Political demonstrations in the sports sphere occur daily," the Amsterdam sports reporter of the newspaper said. "We recall that participants in the four-day walking marathon transformed part of the event into veritable Unie marches to the accompaniment of songs. We also recall the hostile behavior of the public on the occasion of the swimming matches in which Jopie Waalberg and Cor Kint participated.* Also the attitude of onlookers and players during the Amsterdam tennis championships. These examples show clearly the necessity for a thorough cleansing of the sports ranks."

Dutch observers in London said that the reporter's fulminations were a clear indication that all sportsmen and women who are Dutch Nazis or who, in one way or another, are tinged with Nazism, are detested by the population. The article in the newspaper said that "such undesirable conditions must be stopped in order that sports can resume their rightful place without political intrigue." It said it would be the task of the Dutch Nazi Party of Anton Mussert to "free" sports of this kind of politics.

The newspaper warned that there should be no complaints if things "began to fly about" while this cleansing process takes place.

* Both of these women are engaged to Germans.

"The stage must be freed of
English influence"....!

The Dutch stage must be freed of
the "dominating English influence

and the public must become acquainted with the authors of the brother nation, Germany," Van Kersbergen, member of the Department of Education and Arts, declared in an interview published in the Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant of July 18. Many Hollanders, he said, are still convinced that beyond their eastern frontier "only barbarians" are to be found!

Seyss-Inquart presents an Old Master to a Vienna art gallery.

"Figure of a Reading Man" which, it disclosed, Reichs Commissioner Seyss-Inquart had presented to a Vienna Museum. The newspaper did not reveal how this Dutch Old Master came into the Commissioner's possession.

On May 27 the Essener National Zeitung published the photograph of a painting by Vermeer entitled

Private English collection sold.

lection included a photograph of a "Portrait of a Man" by Rembrandt, and a description of 35 old masters, including Frans Hals, Vermeer, Rembrandt, Jan van Goyen, and also two eighteenth century Gobelins, all of which were to be auctioned at The Hague on July 1st.

De Telegraaf of Amsterdam reported on June 27 that the catalogue for the sale of an English private col-

Jews forbidden to attend cattle markets during business hours.

hours was reported by the D.Z. i/d N. of August 1. The particular ruling applied to the town of Zwolle, but it was deemed likely that this action would be followed by similar measures in other towns.

The first instance in which Jews were forbidden to attend cattle markets in Holland during business

Zwolle is the capital of the province of Overijssel. In this neighborhood, as well as in other northern provinces, many Jews have, for generations, been engaged in the cattle trade.

Rationing.

light is adequate, Netherlands newspapers of July 23 said in publishing a number of suggestions on how to implement regulations to lessen consumption of gas and electricity.

Electricity. Hotels and restaurants must not burn lights when day-

"Good lighting doubtlessly makes things cosier, but today more important things are at stake," the newspapers said.

Gas. Many private individuals and industrial concerns in Holland have had their gas and electricity current cut off by the Nazis for not practicing sufficient economy, the D.Z. i/d N. of August 1st reported.

Grease to be saved to cope with fat shortage.

margarine, oil, milk, cheese, soap, and candle factories and in hotels and restaurants capable of serving over 300 meals daily, according to an official order of the Agricultural Department, published in the trade-paper "Handelsbelangen" ("Commercial Interests") of August 6. The move is designed to cope with the increasing fat shortage in the Netherlands.

Special containers for saving excess grease will be installed in all slaughter houses, meat-packing,

Potato ration slashed again, owing to tardy crop.

as a result of a tardy crop and adverse weather.

The Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant of August 9 reported that potato rations in Holland had been cut again

The ration has been reduced to 1500 grams weekly per person. German authorities have promised that they will compensate for this cut later on, when extra rations will be provided.

Textile and electro-technical workers may get coupon-free meals.

discussed at a conference at Hengelo (the center of Holland's textile and electro-technical industries) between manufacturers and a food official, according to a report of August 9 in the Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant.

Plans to provide factory-workers with extra coupon-free meals to prevent a decrease in production provoked by malnutrition were dis-

The plans provide for building factory-canteens or for supplying extra meals from local communal kitchens.

Grave shortages of food and other commodities reported by newly-arrived refugee.

neutral country around August 15. The Netherlander, declaring "Dutch dust is still on my shoes," asserted he was genuinely surprised over the food situation in England, as compared to that in Holland.

An ominous picture of the food shortage and other aspects of the situation in Holland today was drawn by a Hollander who arrived in a

"There is too little of everything in Holland, even though on paper rations appear sufficient," he said.

Tomatoes are now six cents each, as against the normal price of 14 to 15 cents Dutch per pound. Seasonal strawberries cost 80 cents the box while in pre-occupation days this fruit cost no more than 25 to 30 cents Dutch per pound. Onions are not to be had. Bicycles without tires cost 100 guilders (normally 30-50 guilders). Second-hand motorcar tires cost 120 guilders.