

Belgian Laces



Adolph Sax
1844-1894

<http://www.bassax.com/adolphesax.htm>

BELGIAN LACES

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THE BELGIAN RESEARCHERS
Belgian American Heritage Association
Founded in 1976

Our principal objective is:

Keep the Belgian Heritage alive in our hearts and in the hearts of our posterity

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Belgian Laces Vol 16 #61

Dear Members,

As this year draws to an end again (it just seems like only a month ago that I wished you all a good start in the new year 1994!), and winter has arrived way too early in the Far West, we, at The Belgian Researchers can look back at a very good year. Our membership keeps growing at a nice, steady rate, and many people are progressing in their family research because of the assistance and good will from all our members. Thank you to all, you are a fantastic group of human beings!

This issue of Belgian Laces is packed with all kinds of information, lots to read and lots to digest.

The articles, although quite varied, all somehow refer to events in about the same period in history the 18th and 19th centuries: from an article by Micheline Gaudette about Adolphe Sax, the inventor of the Saxophone, over a first installment of an essay by Father Jean Ducat about the economic situation in Brabant which contributed so heavily to the emigrations to the United States, to the city-report about Dendermonde which has such a historically rich past.

René Zabeau has once again contributed a unique report about the role of the Belgian skilled workers in the glass industry in West Virginia. A third list of names represents not only the conclusion of his research, but also the ONLY catalog of its kind and therefore signifies archival value. These lists have not been published anywhere else, but in Belgian Laces.

We thank you René, for this outstanding work and for your faithful collaboration in the fulfillment of the goals of our society: **to document and inform descendants of Belgian immigrants about the beginnings of the Belgian presence in the States.** The list is not alphabetized this time unfortunately. I realized my oversight, when the bulletin was ready to be brought to the printers, and did not have the time to remedy the error.

Some housekeeping information: as announced in the mid-summer issue of BL, we had to raise the membership dues from \$12 to \$15 per year (from \$15 to \$18/year for Belgium and France, add \$ 4.00 for airmail) . Our printing costs have doubled, starting with this issue; office supply costs keep rising as well, and the correspondence, which demands personal replies, keeps growing this last one a good sign, of course, but I hardly know that Pierre is around anymore: he hides behind his computer as soon as he gets up and spends his days there, with hardly time to eat!

May I remind our contributors to Belgian Laces that we should receive the articles, queries and From & To at least 3 weeks before publication date, or by the last week of January, April, July and October. It gets too hectic trying to rearrange the lay-out at the last minute. Thank you for your understanding.

I take this opportunity, to gently but firmly urge you to renew your subscription NOW, before you get too involved and caught up in the whirlwind of the holidays ... we included a handy little form which we ask you to join to your check. This will facilitate the recording of your renewal in our books. THANKS!

Pierre and I wish you all first of all a Happy Thanksgiving, followed by a wonderful Christmas celebration with family and friends and a healthy glide into the New Year. May 1995 bring us all good luck and good health! This we wish you from the bottom of our hearts.

Leen

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

525	Sadie Van Thorpe	Prioria, IL
526	Craig K Sterkx	Arlington, VA
527	Terry Dean Prall	Arcadia, FL
528	Amalia Ladriere Burke	Bel-Air, MD
529	David Ladriere Manion	Jappa, MD
530	John C. Van Den Heede	Niles, MI
531	Tara Van Haelen Smith	East Hartford, CT
532	George & Yvette Villers	Blanmont, Belgium
533	Thomas S Phyllis	Flaherty Superior, WI
534	Linda Gstohl	Olympia, WA
535	JAG. Picavet	Kruikebe, Belgium
536	John H Van Dorpe	Glendale, AZ

Fr. Damien's Beatification scheduled for next May

Pope John Paul is tentatively scheduled to visit Belgium next May to beatify Father Damien De Veuster, the 19th century Belgian "leper-priest".

The pope was originally scheduled to beatify Father Damien, last May during a three day Belgian visit. The trip was postponed indefinitely after the pope fell and broke his thigh bone in April (for more information on Father Damien and the beatification, read the article in **Belgian Laces** 94.2).

BELGIAN GLEANINGS

This issue we feature the **Province of Namur**. The information is sent to us by Mr. Luc Arnould director of Namur-Europe-Wallonie formerly director of the delegation Wallonie-Bruxelles in Quebec, Canada. He was then a member of *The Belgian Researchers*

EDUCATION: Higher Education opportunities in Namur have gained a high reputation in areas which constitute the region's strong suit in terms of its development:

Facultés Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix (FUNDP) with an enrollment of over 4,500 students offers degrees in philosophy and literature; law; economics; computer science and medicine. Over 30 different graduate and doctoral degree courses are offered.

Faculté d'Agronomie: in Gembloux, Belg. (**FSAGX**) trains engineers in the life sciences (chemistry, agronomy, food sciences, and bio-industry) with nearly a third of its students coming from abroad.

The University Hospital in Mont-Godine (Yvoir) administered by *Université Catholique de Louvain UCL*

Université du Troisième Age de Namur – UTAN (Namurs University for the Older Generation) has about 3,500 registrants, with activities in six cities within the province. The UTAN is twinned with Sherbrooke and Laval Universities in Quebec, Can.

Ecology: Namur offers particularly original training courses at the Institut Eco-Conseil. It provides post graduate training in environmental management aimed at industry and urban or rural communities.

TGV (Train a Grande Vitesse - high speed rail) - Namur, Belgium is at the crossroads of the Paris- Berlin and the London-Milan transport corridors. Linkup with the TGV network is planned for the year 2000.

An effective and efficient infrastructure has been set up to welcome and receive new business. The Province of Namur has 28 industrial parks, mostly equipped with relay centers.

For info: **Bureau Economique de La Province de Namur** - Ave. Sergent Vrithoff 2 - B 5000 Namur Belgium Tel.: (81) 73 52 09 -- Fax: (81) 74 29 45

Origin of the Name NAMUR: - Legend has it that Saint Materne appeared during a ceremony honoring the pagan god NAM and left the local population speechless. *Nam Mutun*, in Latin translates as *Mute Nam*. Nowadays though, the people of Namur have plenty to say!

Picking up Speed: In the past people of Namur have had the reputation for being slow. Indeed, the region's mascot is the snail. But....this is changing. Maybe it's time to look to some other, faster, more intelligent animal to represent the region!

Namur is often referred to as Belgium's garden, the daughter of the Meuse or the doorway to the Ardennes. Either way, it is at the heart of a tourist region with a rich, cultural heritage.

VERTIGO: Belgium's Own Car

Destined to scale dizzy heights is the Vertigo, a new Belgian made car, designed and build in Namur. It was born in early 1992, the result of both the dream and the passion of Tony Gillet, a former Belgian motor racing champion.

The Vertigo's lines, semi-futuristic, semi-1920s are the work of the Brussels designer Charles Van Den Boch. A grant from the Walloon Region helped to finance the development program. The car's body work is made entirely of composite materials epoxy and carbon. The car is powered by the four cylinder engine used in the Ford Sierra Cosworth.

Tony Gillet, an expert where cars are concerned, has paid utmost attention to detail. For example, as in single-seater sports cars, the small leather-covered steering wheels does not form a complete circle, thus providing more leg room.

Eleven people work for the small company which, by the end of 1993 had a healthy order book for 37 cars. (There is no mention of the place for this beauty) For more info: Gillet Automobiles St., Chaussée de Waterloo 63 - B 5002 NAMUR Belgium

German President Herzog makes a State Visit to Belgium

President Roman Herzog made his first official state visit since assuming the presidency of Germany this summer with a trip to Belgium and Luxembourg this week. The president told journalists in Bonn Monday (October 10) shortly before his departure, that the choice of Belgium and Luxembourg for his first foreign visit was intended to convey a message. "We want to show, that for Germany there are no big partners and small partners of the European Union, but rather that we maintain entirely entirely relations with them all", said Herzog.

During his three-day stay in Belgium, Herzog met with King Albert and Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene as well as top officials of NATO and the European Commission, both of which are headquartered in Brussels. A major theme recurred throughout the president's public statements in the course of his visit: Germany's commitment to European integration. He spoke in favor of extending EU membership to the reform states of Eastern Europe and of adhering to current plans for currency union.

President Herzog held up Belgium's constitutional provisions for multi-lingualism as a model for the EU. He also became the first German president to address a session of the Belgian parliament.

From Brussels, Herzog traveled to Luxembourg. His itinerary included meetings with Grand Duke Jean and Prime Minister Jacques Senior. The visit was scheduled to close with a special session of the European Court of Auditors in Herzog's honor.

ADOLPHE SAX: The Inventor of the Saxophone (1814-1894)

By Micheline Gaudette



In 1994, the beautiful city of Dinant, Belgium commemorated the 100th anniversary of one of its most illustrious sons: **Antoine Joseph aka Adolphe SAX**, the inventor of the saxophone.

Adolphe SAX was a fascinating man and an unrecognized genius. Born 8 November 1814 in Dinant, Belgium. Adolphe was the oldest child of **Charles Joseph SAX**, a musical instrument-maker, and of **Marie Joseph MASSON**. Though the SAX family had been firmly implanted in Dinant for many generations, Charles Joseph SAX, his wife and son Adolphe left Dinant for Brussels in 1815. Twenty years later, Charles Joseph SAX would be hailed as Europe's premier wind instrument maker and would receive many commendations for the quality of his instruments. Of the eleven children born to Charles and Marie-Joseph SAX-MASSON, (ten were born in Brussels) four would follow in their father's footsteps. None more successfully than Adolphe.

Adolphe SAX had already mastered his father's trade by the age of 16, when ivory clarinets and flutes of his invention were exhibited and attracted attention at the "Exposition de l'Industrie" in Brussels. He was barely 20, when he invented a clarinet with 24 keys. Over the years Adolphe SAX improved and invented many wind instruments. The Sax-Horns were so superior that they were adopted practically by all who was "who is who" in the Belgian musical world. Those who disagreed as to the superiority of the Sax instruments were challenged to a "musical duel" by Adolphe SAX playing his instruments (he was an accomplished musician) against his detractors playing theirs: the public was the judge - it was child's play - Adolphe SAX was always victorious! Later on, in France and Germany he would use the same 'musical duel' tactics to prove his point and generate publicity.

His success incited envies; in 1841, the Exposition Industrielle Belge refused to award Adolphe SAX the gold medal he deserved, because .. he was too young! In turn SAX stated he was too old to accept anything less....

The saxophon (later saxophone) was invented between 1838 and 1840 and was probably heard officially for the first time at the 1841 Exposition. The saxophone was first played in the United States by the Devlin Brothers (ca. 1861?) and the bandmaster Patrick Gilmore used saxophones in his band's performances in Boston and New York ca. 1870.

In 1842, Adolphe SAX accepted the invitation of prominent people, and moved to Paris where he established a musical instrument factory in France, he was awarded 21 patents for his musical instruments, including one in 1846 for the

saxophone which he had invented quite a few years earlier. SAX was well accepted by the French musical world. The famous French composer Berlioz wrote extensively about Sax praising his instruments and especially about the saxophone, whose sound he described as "full, smooth, and vibrant".

Around 1845, Adolphe SAX proposed to reform the French Army Musical Bands and made enemies in the process. Nevertheless his plans and his instruments were adopted by the French Army Musical Bands. Later, the Belgian Military bands adopted the Sax instruments also. To this day, musical bands in many parts of the world are still organized according to Adolphe SAX's plans.

SAX's inventions weren't limited to musical instruments, but were they all successful or practical? He invented a tar fumigation box (tar was thought to have antiseptic properties) which Louis Pasteur investigated. He invented a steam organ, grandiose brass instruments, instruments for pulmonary exercises, varnish for glazing the interior of wind instruments, railroad system signals, he even proposed a concert hall in egg shape for better acoustics, etc

During his life, **Adolphe SAX** received many well-deserved honors from Belgium, France, England, Germany and The Netherlands. He made a fortune, and spent a fortune protecting his patents against infringements. He sued and was sued for other reasons and faced three bankruptcies. SAX was a poor man when he died in Paris in 1894.

Adolphe SAX had 5 children by **Adelaide Josephine MAOR**, whom he never married; she died at the age of 30 in 1880. The children were : **Anna Emilie** born 1853, died ca. 1945; **Adele Marie Amelie** born 1855, died 1858; **Adolphe Charles Antoine** born 1856, died 1858; **Adele Marie** born 1858, died 1938; **Adolphe Edouard** born 1859, died 1945. The children were raised by Adolphe, but he waited until 1886 before legitimating and giving them the SAX name. He seems to have taken care of his parents and his brothers (though he quarreled with one of them) and sisters. Most of them are buried in the SAX family plot in Paris' Montmartre Cemetery.

There was a time when SAX's name was on everyone's lips, it's not the case anymore, the man whose musical instruments brought and still brings so much pleasure to the world is all but forgotten, except in the little city of Dinant, Belgium, where he was born.

Sources: H. Malou, *Adolphe Sax, sa vie son oeuvre et ses instruments de musique*. Brussels, 1988

Kochlntzky L, *Sax and his Saxophone*, New York, 1949.

Schroeder Jean-Pol, *Le Sax(e) des Anches*, In Wallonie/Bruxelles #48 Juin 1994 pg27-29



THE SAX FAMILY

Andre SAX b. ca. 1680 – d 25 Mar 1770, Dinant
 married 30 Nov 1705, Dinant to **Elisabeth FALLAY**



Andre SAXE 12 Dec 1707, Dinant
 married 16 Jul 1731, Dinant to **Anne Catherine WILQUIN**



Charles Joseph SAX
 b. 10 Jul 1713, Dinant
 married 29 May 1766, Dinant to **Marie Joseph LION**



Antoine Joseph SAX
 b. 13 Jul 1767, Dinant
 married 31 Mar 1789, Dinant to **Francoise Elis MARECHAL**



Charles Joseph SAX
 b. 1 Feb 1790, Dinant
 married 17 Nov 1813, Dinant to **Marie Joseph MASSON**



Antoine aka Adolphe SAX
 b. 6 Nov 1814 - died Paris, France 7 Feb 1894.
 Had 5 children from **Adelaide Josephine MAOR**, whom he never married.



Anna Emilie,
 1853-1945

Adele Marie,
 1855-1856

Adolphe Andean,
 1856-1858

Adele Marie,
 1858-1938

Adolphe Edouard.
 1859-1945



Source: Haine Malou. La Famille Sax, in *Adolphe Sax, sa vie son oeuvre, ses instruments de musique*. Brussels, 1980. Graciously provided by M. Alvin, Librarian, Dinant City Library. - <http://saxame.org/images.html>

The Saxophone in the Music of the 20th Century



symbolic charge it conveys - and which advertising executives have used and continue to use to its full extent - but for the central place it now holds in the field of music. Saxophones were first used in military music (an official decree was passed on 10 August 1845 on the subject, which left Sax the task of recreating the dusty brass bands of the French army). After this, civilian bands, village bands and other brass bands also adopted the new instruments. The craze spread to the United States, where the saxophone became increasingly fashionable. In the meantime, some classical composers, **Berlioz, Debussy, Ravel, Milhaud**, and others, wrote a few pieces for the new instrument which, unfortunately did not make the most of its enormously expressive potential. It was the new music born in the United States at the turn of the century, Jazz which was finally able to make best and most consistent use of its potential, the saxophone offering it in return a whole range of sounds never before heard. In particular through the vocalized treatment of the sound, so different from the classical music. Jazz was to make the saxophone purely and simply the predominant instrument of the 20th century, which through its unique expressiveness - from velvety-smooth to piercing howls - through the astonishing diversity of cultural, even ideological concepts it

conveys, will reflect for future generations the most disturbing aspirations and harshness, the doubts and the heartbreaks, the most prominent creative geniuses of the jazz world over the entire century. It is pointless to try to imagine what music in the 20th century would have been, like without the inventions of Adolphe Sax from Dinant! By the same token, the International Year of Adolphe Sax is a major initiative which can only be praised; rarely has such a tribute been so richly deserved!

Nota Bene: Upon his visit to Europe and his speech at the European Union in Brussels, **President Bill Clinton**

was presented a Saxophone by the constables of Dinant. Although the President was visibly pleased and touched by the attention of the Dinantais, unfortunately, and to their disappointment the President did not toot their horn!

Source: Wallonie-Bruxelles (Aug.. 94)



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BELGIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY OF WEST VIRGINIA

by René Zabeau, President Belgian-American Heritage Society of WVA.

In the last few issues of this year's Belgian Laces we submitted the names of the Belgo-Americans who were employed as skilled glass cutters at three of the four window pane factories that were operating after 1950 in West Virginia Libby-Owens Ford Glass Co., in Charleston WVa. Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. and Rolland Glass Co. in Clarksburg, WVa.. The one company of which I did not have a listing of their skilled glass cutters of Belgian descent was the Adamston Glass Co. in Clarksburg. Where the Adamston Glass Co. has been out of operation for at least 20 years, invested several months of research and with the help of a dozen elderly men and women I was able to establish the following list of employees of Belgian descent working at Adamston Glass Co. between 1940 and 1967.

Frank DUEZ	Richard DUEZ	P.J. LOUZY
Frank LOUZY,Sr	Frank LOUZY Jr.	John LOUZY
Rene PHILLIPART	Bud PHILLPART	Tom PHILLIPART
Raymond QUINAUT	Oscar DUBOIS	Earl DUBOIS
Edgar TAMENNE	Marion SUAN	Rene JADIN
Oscar ANTOINE	Martin ANTOINE	August FONTAINE
Charles FONTAINE	Paul FONTAINE	Nestor DOURLET
Rene DOUPLÉT	Emil GRANDBLAISE	Francis REYMOND
James REYMOND	P.J. REYMOND	Raymond THIEBALD
Louis DURY Sr.	Louis DUAY Jr.	Georges PHILLIPPE
Eugene GOISSE	Louis BIEFNES	Ernest DOURLET
Raymond LABENNE	Fred SAYAUX	Louis NOE
Albert NOE	Georges NOE	Henry LEDOUX
Alexandre SWAIN	Alp honse SWAIN	Reginald SUAN
Louis SAVAGE	Joseph PETITGIRARD	Henri PETITGIRARD
Georges LEBRUN	Louis DURY, Sr.	Paul FONTAINE
August FONTAINE	Georges MICHAUX	Louis STENGER
Ernest STENGER	'Toad' STENGER	Richard PHILLIPPART

The aforementioned names of the Belgian men who were skilled glass cutters in West Virginia between 1940 and 1974 along with the names in the preceding issues of Belgian Laces during this calendar year are, no doubt, the only lists available anywhere. No where else will you be able to find this information. All records of these men and their employment no longer exist. This issue of Belgian Laces and the preceding issues should be preserved in the nation's archives.

In subsequent issues we shall try to publish histories of Walloons emigrating to the United States from 1885 until World War I or until 1914.

BELGIUM'S 12 POLITICAL PARTIES

With the latest election storm passing over our nation and the dust seftled by the time this newsletter reaches you, I thought it appropriate to share with you a little blurb I read lately in Le Soir , one of Belgium's dafly newspapers (8.31.94): a listing of the different political parties! If in the United States we have just a two party system and are sometimes overwhelmed with the variety of issues and measures in our elections, just ma4ne what it would be in Belgium. There are so many parties that each receives a number, drawn in a type of lottery to simplify. Therefore, the parties are not listed by name, but by number. Following is the result of the latest drawing, 'dc Ia main innocente' (by the innocent hand")

# 1: FDf - (Francophone Democratic Front)	# 7: CVP - (Christian Folk Party - [Flemish])
# 2: ECOLO - (Francophone Ecological Party)	# 8: PSC - (Parti Socialist Chretien [Walloon])
# 3: PRL - (Parti Réformateur Liberal)	# 9: PS - (Parti Socialiste)
# 4: VU - (Volks Unie - ([Flemish])	# 10: FN - (Front National)
# 5: VLAAMS BLOK - (Flemish Bloc)	# 11: SP - (Socialist Party [Flemish])
# 6: VLD - (Flemish Liberals and Democrats)	# 12: AGALEV - (Flemish Ecological Party)

The drawing for the numbers is always done in the presence of representatives of each party as well as of the Minister of the Interior. It would be interesting for America to have another political party of two, to avoid the gridlock's we are experiencing the last few years in Washington. but 12 parties? Let's count our blessings

DID YOU KNOW...



that 1994 marks the anniversary of another great figure in the musical world, born and raised in Belgium, **Orlando di Lasso**, also known as Orlande de Lassus or **Orlandus Lassus** born 1532 in Mons, Belgium - as **Roland Delattre** died 14 June 1594 in Munich. He was a great composer and one of the most prolific and cosmopolitan musical figures of the Renaissance.

As a child, he was a member of the boys' Choir of St. Nicolas church in his hometown, where he was noticed for his beautiful voice by Ferdinand Gonzaga (Viceroy of Sicily and Imperial General in the Netherlands). At the age of 12 Roland was first taken to Italy and later to Sicily where he received his musical training. By the time he was 20, he was appointed choirmaster at the Basilica of Saint John Lateran in Rome. There he assumed the latinized version of his name: **Orlando di Lasso**.

He traveled to France, England and finally returned to Belgium where he lived in Antwerp from 1554 to 1556. It was from here that he was called to the court of **Duke Albert V of Bavaria** and within a few years became chapel master at the court in Munich. He remained there until his death, except for journeys to the musical and artistic centers of the

Renaissance: Venice, Paris and Rome.

With a contract that guaranteed him a steady income of 400 Guilders a year, and a home free of charge at the Platzl in Munich, his life is from now on closely connected to the court. He marries the chambermaid of the Duchess, who over the years gives him a quite healthy family ten sons and eight daughters!

di Lasso becomes a familiar and well liked figure in Munich, where the local population claims him as their own: the Bavarian Orlando di Lasso!

A much favored and trusted confidante of the Bavarian dukes, he was held in such esteem throughout Europe that he was knighted by both emperor and pope.

who invented roller skates?

The first recorded instance of anyone skating on rollers was in 1760. At that time a Belgian (Huy), who was living in England. demonstrated in an English ballroom a pair of roller skates he had invented . This might not have been remembered, but for the fact that the skates could only go straight ahead. So, the inventor, **Joseph Merlin**, crashed into a mirror at one end of the ballroom where he was skating...

that ... by the time you read this, the famous Chunnel (the tunnel under the Channel, which separates France from England) will finally open to passenger traffic on the *Le Shuttle and the Eurostar* (the consortium of the Belgian, French and British railroads which exploit the connection Brussels/Paris/London per TGV (super speed train). This created a fare-war between Eurostar and the traditional Oostende-London crossing per ferry/train. The latest price for a tour-day ticket for a car + 2 adults + 3 children is 1,500 Bfrs (or about \$30!). The announced fares per Eurostar vary

from 9,980 Bfrs - 1st class and to 4,980 Bfrs. "discovery special" In 2nd class (or from about \$350 - to about \$ 180). The crossing by ferry from Oostende would be slightly less than 4 hours, whereas the train Brussels - London via the Chunnel would only take 3.15 hrs.

EVENTS of INTEREST

submitted by the Belgian Embassy in Washington DC.

Through Jan 8 1995: Los Angeles, CA

Sacred Encounters: Father De Smet and the Indians of the Rocky Mountain West at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Nov. 11-12 Northhampton, MA - Symposium consisting of 7 lectures re. Art patronage and - market in late 16th and 17th centuries Antwerp Smith College (Unfortunately this info reached us too late!)

Nov. 12 Wayne, PA - Dedication of a monument to the Veterans of the *Battle of the Bulge* at Valley Forge Military Academie and College. (Information received too late for August issue).

Nov. 14-18 Las Vegas, NV - Belgian Stand at Comdex Fall 94. Largest fair of its kind for software. For more info contact Marc Bautil, Technology Attaché at the Belgian Consulate General at (213) 857-1244 ext. 21m233

Nov. 17-18: Washington. DC and Baltimore. MD - AWEX (Walloon Agency for Exports) mission, with representatives of Belgian companies in the field of environment, biotechnology and engineering. For info Mr Everarts de Velp at (202) 833-6900 ext. 852

November 19-21 Atlanta. GA - NATCON 94 (building industry trade show) Belgian participation at the Georgia World Congress. For info: Mr. Everarts de yelp at (202) 883- 6900 ext. 852

Dec. 3-11 : Atlanta. GA - Belgium will participate in the *Festival of Trees*, a fundraiser to benefit the Eggleston Children's Hospital. For info: (404) 659-2150

Dec. 14 : Washington. DC - Concert by the Symphonic Band of the Belgian Guides' Regiment at Constitution Hall. For info, please call the Belgian Embassy at (202) 333 - 6900

Dec. 15-18 : St. Louis, MO - Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge in the presence of **H.R.H. Prince Philippe of Belgium:**

Dec. 15: Opening reception

Dec. 16: Veterans' Parade

Battle of the Bulge Plaque Dedication

Economical Service

Belgian Government Tribute to Vets.

Dec. 17: Battle of the Bulge Banquet

Through January 15, 1995 – Liege, Belgium: Paul Gaugin Exhibit - One hundred years after Gaugin's only visit to Belgium, the cultural authorities of Liege present an exhibition of the large diversity of works of Gaugin (1848-1903) paIntings, watercolors, dmwings, sculptures, ceramics and engravings. At the Salle St. Georges, Rue Feron 86, Liege. Vis. hrs. 11 am, to 6pm daily. Admission fee: 250 Bfrs. (about \$7)

**To forget our ancestors is to be
like a river without a source,
like a tree without roots.**
(Chinese Proverb)

INTRODUCTION

A discussion of the migratory movement of a large section of the population of Brabant toward the United States in the middle of the 19th century, has to be preceded by a thorough investigation of the circumstances that were the force behind this phenomenon at that particular time in history. After all, hundreds of families made the decision to leave their homes, their loved ones, their villages and sold all their belongings. It is not our intention to systematically explain all the particulars of the emigration, but rather to outline the special circumstances that proved to be the ultimate reason for this move. Our first objective is to describe the demographic evolution and the socio-economic context of Belgium in general and Brabant Wallon in particular.

The 18th century in Belgium was marked first by Austrian rule, followed by the French Revolution and the Napoleonic wars, which annexed the Belgian Provinces to France, before falling under Dutch dominion in 1815. In 1830, the Belgian Revolution brought independence to our nine Provinces. Brussels became the capital of this new country.

Brabant Wallon, from where most emigrants departed, is situated south of Brussels, a region between Nivelles, Jodoigne, Wavre and Gembloux. The 'Hesbaye Namuroise' is situated south of Brabant Wallon, from Fleurus to Hannut and Gembloux to Namur. Combined, these two regions have a diameter of 25 miles. They still represent the best and richest farming soil of Belgium. Corn, wheat and sugar beets are raised on large rolling landscapes, here and there interrupted by wooded areas and villages where the houses huddle around the church or farms built in a square. These hamlets are old, the houses overgrown with wisteria and grape vines. Its from this country-side, famous for its generous soil and rich pastures, that generations of "Brabançons" left for the United States, taking for only luggage their courage, traditions and know-how, and in their heads the images of their homeland: the humble chapels, safe under the shade of the linden tree; of the modest buildings spread out along the fields and woods; of the paths where during rainy weather the clay would stick solidly to the feet whereas with the warmth of the July sunshine the bright colors of red poppies, blue bachelor buttons and golden, ripe wheat waving under a light warm summer breeze enchant the eyes.

TOWARD an OVERPOPULATION in THE COUNTRYSIDE

The growth of population during the first part of the nineteenth century is shown by the total number of births and the total number of deaths, If births are more numerous than deaths, the population number grows. In reverse, if deaths are more numerous than births, the population number decreases. Until the mid- 18th Century. periods of growth, of stagnation and of decreases had come rapidly one after another. When births became more numerous than deaths, a war or starvation had easily reduced the number.

Death was everywhere; it took on the average one out of four infants before they were one year old and there was a considerable death rate among the youth as well. Besides, it was often seen that one out of two single young men or young women would never marry. Following the laws of nature, woman's fertility could provide under normal circumstances, families of 8 children. If infant mortality, death in child-birth or early widowhood hadn't been so common, the population count would have been more regular. Life depended on nature and its caprices and people couldn't fight against fate.

Beginning in the second part of the 18th century. the population started to increase. Starvation, epidemics, and wars decreased and all positive elements helped the growth of the population to become a real blessing. All numbers and data show it. For the first time, the Belgian population was rapidly growing, particularly in Brabant. In the 1784 records, the number of inhabitants of Grez-Doiceau and surrounding hamlets exceeded 1200!

Population growth, the start of a capitalistic system and the beginnings of the industrial revolution in the Sambre Valley next to Charleroi and in the Meuse Valley around Liège. provoked deep and important changes. Not only in the cities but also in the countryside; rural habits had to be adapted. Long-standing habits such as fallow and common grazing lands were replaced by better ways Green pastures replaced tallow. Potatoes were introduced at that time. This vegetable had two positive effects: potatoes offered a food diversification and heft ered the soil's productivity.

Around Namur, communal lands were sold and worked, in the attempt to increase production in order to feed the growing population.

In the second part of the 18th Century this growing demography resulted in a demographic pressure, which in turn caused an agricultural revolution and an important economical change. The number of births during the last decade of the 18th century was

particularly high, despite both the famine of 1794 and the French occupation.

Twenty five years later, at the establishment of the Dutch Regime in 1815, the total number of marriages was increasing until around 1820. During the following decades, population growth reached its highest level: a rate of 50% between 1820 and 1845. This phenomenon is more important in cities or in industrial communities, but effects were felt in little villages as well.

We ought to explain now the industrial revolution and its effect on farming. Until the end of the Old Regime. Belgian industry was mostly rural: textile production and manufacturing in the Flemish area, especially the flax industry: the iron industry south of the Sambre and the Meuse Valleys. From this proto-industrialization derived all kinds of other activities, for example, there were lace and linen workers in Flanders, nailmakers, gunsmiths and wooden shoemakers in Wallonie.

In Brabant, the rural character of Wavre, Perwez and Jodoigne provided a variety of farm-connected jobs. Linen and cotton weaving was very popular. There were distilleries, sugar refineries, breweries, wheat-mills, paper-mills and even a vinegar plant. In Grez-Doiceau itself, one could either work in the flax spinning-mill, built in 1827 with the bricks of an old nail factory, or in a wheat-mill. There were two breweries, a chicory factory and even a chalk extraction plant. In the first population record of the community in 1846, we find 9 weavers, 15 tailors, 7 seamstresses, 4 paper-mill employees, and 1 chalk-maker. In these country factories and cottage-industry, workers were mainly small farmers, whose work provided a second but substantial salary. The combination of farming and factory work could take four different forms:

- 1 - the factory worker owning both a small piece of land and a few cows
- 2 - the combination of industrial and agricultural activities : the raw material was either bought or produced at the farm and the farmer therefore charges himself with the two aspects of the agricultural product: the growing and the transformation.
- 3 - agricultural labor and construction workers who during the long winter seasons found jobs in the cottage industry (like knife-makers, nail-smiths, wooden shoe makers, basket-weaving).
- 4- the most common combination is the one where part of the family tends the farm and the other works in the factory.

This proto-industrialization, growth of the population, technical progress, motorization systems, metal and chemical procedures coming from neighboring countries combined with a new generation believing in capitalism, were ideal conditions for the development of an enormous industrial revolution, unseen thus far.

After the 1820's and with the support of the Netherlands government the iron industry developed in Liege and Charleroi where there were iron and coal deposits. These industries were located along canals and rivers. Highways were built in 1830. In 1840 railways provided the necessary expansion in the infrastructure to promote this brand new industry.

Thus, a new era starts: that of industrialization, but also of urbanization. The fast-growing industrialization obviously created the need for a greater work force. Nail-smiths were the first to be hired in the new factories, especially around Charleroi. Then came large numbers of laborers from the Meuse and Sambre Valleys in search of jobs similar to those that flourished in their region before. As far as Brabant Wallon and Hesbaye Namuroise are concerned, there is no need yet to leave the farms and rich land for the factories in the cities.

Nevertheless, the population was growing in unseen proportions, so that Grez-Doiceau and surrounding hamlets, showed 2190 inhabitants in 1831 and 1839 in 1846. It was the prolific generation between 1820 and 1830 that caused the growth of the population in Grez-Doiceau area and not an outside immigration as formerly assumed.

Grez-Doiceau soon couldn't feed nor give work to its population. They couldn't increase the yield of the fields, (fertilizers did not become popular until the later part of the 19th century). So the simpler solution was to increase the farming area, Every parcel, every corner or every piece of ground was plowed, worked and sown, so that the landscape, as recorded in the 1846 books, seemed to look like one enormous field. Consequently, this was a temporary answer and solution to the problem given by the fast growing populations of Brabant and Namur. (Parts of these areas have since then changed back to the familiar woods, pastures and housing).

However, saturation approached rapidly and new problems arrived with the events of 1848 and the following years.

(To be continued in the next issue of BL)



DENDERMONDE: A Town with a Legend

by Carol Hazlewood

You have to want to go to Dendermonde to find this fascinating town, for no major highway leads you there. And yet, when you arrive, it is hard to understand why so many people pass it by, for it is a charming place, steeped in history. Despite numerous wars, it has succeeded in preserving not only a number of its medieval buildings but also some time-honored traditions

There is no heavy industry to cloud its skies but a staggering 12,000 children attend its schools - in a town which counts only 10,000 inhabitants. Nor do these children come just from greater Dendermonde (pop 42,500) for the bustling town, as you will discover on a weekday, is the main administrative and judicial center for the whole region.

Dendermonde (literally the "Mouth of the Dender"), has not always been located in an economic backwater. Situated as it is, at the confluence of the Schelde and Dender rivers, it was strategically very important for centuries. Ships used to sail into the heart of the town, passing through the old lock you can still see today on the Sas. In living memory, the Dender was diverted and a much larger lock built to take today's larger ships.

Although all the city archives were destroyed during the first World War, it is known that there was a fortification close by at Zwijvekeouter in the 5th and 6th centuries. Probably the confluence of the two rivers necessitated the creation of a toll-house and castle. Some historians believe the town dates from earlier, Roman times and Roman graves have been found in the region

The original Dendermonde was built around the fortified castle. Walls and canals were constructed in the 11th century by the first known Lord of Dendermonde: Reingout I de Kale (the Bald). The town was enlarged several times and new canals dug. A turning point in its history came when Dendermonde was given a charter of independence in 1283 by Robrecht I of Belhune. The town prospered and vast building projects were undertaken, which included the ramparts and the building of four city gates. The first Meat Hall, built in the late 13th century and rebuilt in 1460, is the present day Archeological and Historical Museum. The weavers, who at first held their meetings in the Meat Hall, built a new and bigger Cloth Hall (the present Town Hall) in 1336. The Belfry was added in the 1370's. The oldest part of the present-day

Church of Our Lady (Onze Lieve Vrouwekerk) was also built during this time.

Dendermonde's prosperity proved to be a hazard. Several inter-city wars were fought, often with the people of nearby Ghent, who saw Dendermonde's successful textile industry as competition to their own. Some of the skirmishes resulted in Dendermonde being conquered!

The 18th century saw many wars, battles and pillaging. The Brabançon Revolution (1789-1790) and the Peasant's Revolt (1798), both directed against foreign occupants (the Austrians and the French respectively), brought more baffles in the town. But the Belgian independence in 1830 heralded a welcome period of peace and prosperity - until the First World War, when a large part of Dendermonde was destroyed.

Dendermonde was fortunately spared in the Second World War. The latest expansion, when seven surrounding villages were merged with the town, took place in the 1970's.

THE LEGEND

You cannot visit Dendermonde without hearing the legend of "Ros Beiaard" (the Bayard Steed).

For years, Aymon Lord of Dendermonde, quarreled with the Emperor Charlemagne (768-814). Hoping for peace, Charlemagne agreed to a marriage between his sister and Aymon. Four sons were



born to the couple Reinout, Adelaert, Ritsaen and Writsaert. They grew to manhood and were knighted by their father Aymon. Reinout was so strong that no horse could carry him, until he found one, said to be dangerous - Ros Beiaard - which he managed to tame.

Reinout greatly angered Charlemagne when he cut off the head of his cousin, Lodewijk, the emperor's son, during a quarrel.

The four knights were forced to flee - on Ros Beiaard. Their mother, Charlemagne's sister, pleaded with her brother, who agreed to a pardon on the condition that Reinout give up Ros Beiaard. Reinout reluctantly conceded to spare his father and brothers.

Three times the horse was led to the Dender, weighed down by heavier and heavier mill stones. Three times he rose to the surface. Twice he saw his master watching helplessly on the bank of the river and each time he leaped out of the water. But the third time, Reinout was too distressed to watch and turned his back, and the horse, thinking his master had forsaken him, cried out and sank back into the river.

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A touching story of animal fidelity and trust that's still remembered in Dendermonde. A great reenactment of the event has taken place several times each century since about 1400. Now it is staged every ten years, the next time being in the year 2000.

WHAT TO SEE

Equipped with this information, you are ready to enjoy your visit of Dendermonde. The obvious place to start is the Grote Markt (main square), dominated by the white stone Town Hall - the old Cloth Hall - which occupies one complete side. Its Belfry houses a carillon of 49 bells. At the end of World War One only the walls remained standing: the inside you see today was rebuilt in 1920. A number of interesting paintings, many of which have strong connections with the history of Dendermonde, are housed there. Two artists' names you may be familiar with: Franz Courtene and Constant Meunier. Both studied at the Dendermonde fine arts academy.

An interesting picture by John Callier, is the reenactment of the Ros Beiaard legend in 1888. It shows a large Union Jack hanging alongside the Belgian flag. The occasion was the return to Dendermonde of one of its famous sons. Sir Polidore De Keyser, then Lord Mayor of London, who is seen watching the event. Born in Dendermonde, he was taken to live in London by his parents who had a large hotel there. The building was later bought by Unilever and the painting given to the city of Dendermonde by the company.

The Onze-Lieve-Vrouwekerk, a collegiate church, is far more interesting inside than its rather unassuming exterior indicates. Outside in Kerkstraat stands a large statue of another famous Dendermonde son, Father Pieter - Jan De Smet. He was a North American missionary greatly respected by the Sioux Indians. An identical statue exists in the United States and the city was named after him.

The font is the most valuable item in the church. Made of Tournai marble it is 12th century, and comes from the first Romanesque church. Also in the baptistery is one of two major works of art by Van Dyck, the Crucifixion, surprising for the seemingly incongruous presence of St Francis of Assisi at the cross. He was included to please the Bishop of Ghent who had ordered the painting - the bishop's brother was a Franciscan monk. The other Van Dyck painting, the Adoration of the Shepherds, is in the north aisle. The 14th century frescoes are the only ones that survived the eight years in the 16th century when it became a Calvinist church.

There is much more to be seen, such as the 17th century bronze balusters each bearing the name of a guild, set into the baptistery door. It is unusual to find children's portraits in a church such as can be seen in the 15th century church added on the north side. They were painted to ask Our Lady's protection for the children. If you climb up to the second floor of the Meat Hall in the Grote Markt, where

the mammoth bones are kept, you will be rewarded with an amazing sight - the original timbers of the roof are still in excellent condition. On the ground floor, a section is devoted entirely to Ros Beiaard and the other Dendermonde legend, the Three Big Men (Giants), who make their appearance each year on the Thursday evening



following the fourth Sunday in August.

Dendermonde has four museums, two of which are located inside the peaceful St. Alexius Begijnhof (beguinage) that dates from the 12th and 13th centuries. Beguinages were lay sisterhoods,

walled-in, self-contained communities, often devoting themselves to charitable work or contemplative duties. The last beguine here died in 1925 but the group of 62 mostly tiny white houses, built around a chapel and green lawns, still retains the special atmosphere.

GASTRONOMIC DELIGHTS

It is inevitable that Ros Beiaard is remembered in one of the Flemings favorite pastimes - food and drink. There is a delicious, wafer-like biscuit, reminiscent of shortbread, cut in the shape of the steed's head. Four types of chocolate figurines are filled with different "centers" and formed to show the horse carrying the four knights.

These make excellent gifts but so would a bottle of Pauwel Kwak beer together with its own hour-glass shaped glass. A word of warning: tip the glass carefully when you drink to the bottom if you don't want a soaking.

The Benedictine monks, whose large abbey you pass on your way to the beguinage make two unusual wines and a liqueur. The wine are apple or cherry-based with a hint of herbs. The sweeter emerald-green liqueur is definitely herb flavored and quite powerful.

Dendermonde is known for its big white rabbits, the Dendermonde Wine, a specialty that you will find served in one or two local restaurants. Out in the peaceful countryside, in the tiny hamlet of Vlassenbroek, an unusual dish can be eaten. Indicated on the menu as "water rabbit" to appease the squeamish, the traditional family recipe has musk rat as the main ingredient.

For those looking for a more sophisticated cuisine, Dendermonde has a number of good restaurants but the star is undoubtedly

Truffeltje "(the little truffle), Paul Marien, the owner-chef, served his apprenticeship in Brussels' finest restaurant - Comme Chez Soi - and is proving a worthy and inventive disciple.

For more information: Culture and Tourist Office - Town Hall, Grote Markt - B 9200 Dendermonde, Belgium
<http://www.dendermonde.be/> - (From Flanders #22 - June 1994)



**LUXEMBURGER or BELGIAN ?
LUXEMBURGER and BELGIAN ?**

by Omer Raveau

This article intends to give an answer to questions that are not always clear for people who are doing research on the origins of their family. The confusion is located in the fact that there is a province of Luxembourg in Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. When we find information that states the origin of an ancestor to be an Luxembourg, one wonders rightly: which Luxembourg ?

The International Treaty signed after the defeat of Napoleon (1815) had assembled all the territory of the Netherlands and the South Provinces - now Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg - in the "Kingdom of The Netherlands". But year after year, the South Provinces began to find themselves "minorized" and, in 1830 revolted against The Netherlands. After a short war, liberated, they established the Kingdom of Belgium. Between 1830 and 1839, the situation can be thus summarized: no open war, but no peace. Belgium was divided into provinces; among them the province of Luxembourg, with as capital city: Luxembourg, that included the territory of what's now the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Belgian province of Luxembourg.

There was a conference held in London in 1839, where the European powers tried to ensure peace between The Netherlands and Belgium. The Netherlands agreed to recognize Belgium, but on one condition: the town and territory of Luxembourg were to be given back to The Netherlands (Luxembourg city was at that time a major military fortress). The Belgians were not easy to convince, but they were compelled to accept. However, they asked that the road joining Longwy (France), to Liege (Belgium) remain entirely Belgian, which was finally accepted. The territory of the dialect-speaking Luxemburgers was split between two nations for the first time in history. The communes and the territories through which the road passed, defined the border between Belgium and the Grand Duchy. Since 1860, the Grand Duchy is independent.

The people on both sides of the border, had always enjoyed close relations, and the establishment of the "official" border did not change much of that, becoming more "symbolic". Belgium and the Grand Duchy are economically bound in the "Union Economique Belgo-Luxembourgeoise" and in many places it is difficult to know if one is standing on Belgian or Luxembourg soil.

What remained in Belgium of the former province of Luxembourg retained its name. It is composed of the French-speaking part of the former province and of the 63 towns and villages, where the inhabitants speak Luxembourgish.

(From the Eastern Washington Genealogical Society)

FROM & TO... FROM & TO... FROM & TO...

To August Inghels - All of us here at The Belgian Researchers present to you and Betty our most sincere condolences for the passing away of your mother Irma Inghels - nee DeBruyne - just after her 97th birthday. She

was born in Antwerp, Belgium 10 October 1894 and died in Mishawaka, IN, 19 October 1994. May you find solace in the knowledge that she is not suffering any more, and that you had the chance of showing her your love and caring until the end.

When Pierre and I visited with Gust just last year, we talked about his mother, and he mentioned that she still spoke Flemish fluently. And so does Gust!

From Jeanne Reince-Koller - 2 My family enjoys the Galettes/Lukken that I make on my gr. grandmothers waffle iron. I use the recipe that you printed several times in Belgian Laces.

From Charlene Lorch Thanks for translating the birth certificate of my gr. grandfather - August Defour. From your translation I realize now that these certificates have a lot more info on them than we thought. I now have the birth certificate from my grandma as well, born in TieD and will send you that one as well. (*has been done and translated since*)

I would like to share with you a trip I took up to Brussels, WI, for that two-day picnic they had there in June or July. I did not know there was a Brussels until I read it in Belgian Laces. About 30 miles from here is Belgium, WI, which apparently does little to play up its ethnicity. You drive into Brussels, WI, and its Van this and Van that, with a French name or two thrown in. In Belgium, WI, there are no Van Anybodies at all that I am aware of.

When I went into the barn in Brussels, that serves as a store (during the festivities) I was amused to see the Walloon Rooster along side the Belgian flag. I asked them where the Flemish Lion was and was told: "Oh, they don't get along. We are the Brussels Belgians". So, there we were ... Walloon and Flamand and oddly, I was acutely aware of the difference... On the way home from Brussels I passed through Namur, WI, a tiny town about a city block long; and further along I passed the sign that went to Luxembourg. It was a truly pleasant drive, as any drive would be that goes up into Door Peninsula in Wisconsin.

From Clara Tweelinckx : Rereading Belgian Laces Vol.16 #58 I noted the request for Nika Hazelton's Belgian Cookbook. A long-sleeping memory prompted me to look in my kitchen library, and there it was! Hallelujah I can send it to me, Clara at our address in La Grande, OR.

From Virginia Denolf Basford - My grandparents came over to the United States and never returned to Belgium, not even for a visit. Some of their relatives also came over, not all of them stayed, not liking it here. We were close to my grandfather Denolf and did enjoy our visits. We did learn to appreciate our Belgian heritage. I have been working on my genealogy for a number of years and I'm trying to advance on the Belgian side, but ... there is the language barrier! Remember Virginia, that's what MO are here for! Thank you for sending us all the documentation in the form of memorial cards (dood zandjes) and family group sheets. They are a valuable addition to our library.

**SWEDISH TELEVISION BOUGHT
RIGHTS TO CLAUS' SORROW!**

The Swedish Television bought the broadcasting rights to **Hugo Claus' The Sorrow of Belgium** for a TV- Mini-series. That the Swedish Television promptly bought these rights, proves ones more that Claus' work scores even, better in the country of the Nobel Academy than in his own homeland. **The Sorrow of Belgium** seems to become a straight best-seller Mini-serial in the whole of Europe. Besides the Swedes, many other countries have bought the broadcasting rights.

Hugo CLAUS was born in Bruges in 1929, and is today the world's preeminent author writing in Dutch. He has written books of poetry, stories, plays, screenplays and novels. He has been a stage and film director, and as a painter, he was a member of the COBRA group. Six times awarded the Belgian Stare Prize for Literature, most recently for **The Sorrow of Belgium**, he has also won a number of other Dutch, Belgian, French and German awards for his writings.

The Sorrow of Belgium was a sensational success in Europe. A runaway bestseller, it won several prestigious literary prizes and received superb reviews everywhere. A major novel in the tradition of *The Tin Drum*, by the German author Gunther Grass, it is a searing, scathingly funny portrait of wartime Belgium and of a young man's coming of age - emotional, sexual, and political:

In 1939, Louis Seynaeve, a ten-year-old Flemish student at a convent boarding school, is chiefly preoccupied with school-boy adventures and lurid adolescent fantasies. Then the Germans invade Belgium, and Louis grows up fast. He goes home to live with his family - a stuffy father who welcomes the occupation and a flirtatious mother who works for (and plays with) the Germans. Caught up in the drama the Nazis bring into his life, even Louis briefly joins the local Nazi youth movement. Though he engages with gusto in a teenager's usual pursuits, from chasing girls to criticizing his elders, most of his experiences are eventually touched by the blight of the occupation. Gradually, as he confronts the horror of the war and its aftermath, the eccentric and often petty behavior of his relatives and neighbors, and his own inner turmoil, he achieves a degree of maturity at the price of deep disillusion.

Het Verdriet van Belgie, by Hugo Claus, 1988, Uitgeverij : De Bezige By, Amsterdam.

The Sorrow of Belgium by Hugo Claus, translated from the Dutch by Arnold J. Pomerans. 1990, Pantheon Books. New York.

EUROPE IN BRUSSELS:

Less "Bruxellois", Less Belgians, More Foreigners

The Belgian Minister of Finances asked the company 'Mens en Ruimte' (People and Space) to survey the socio-economic impact of the presence of European and International Institutions in Brussels, Belgium.

In 1994, the presence of the European Union (formerly called The European Economic Community), headquartered in Brussels, with its myriad of trans-European officials and service personnel, and the other international institutions, like NATO and BENELUX, employed 54,000 people, equal to 8% of the total work force of the capital. This resulted in a financial flux of \$ 5.2 billion, of which \$4 billion stay in Belgium. There are also 2 European, and 13 International schools beside the Belgian educational system. These spend \$150 million and employ 1,700 teachers and support personnel to educate about 13,000 students, mostly dependants of the EU and NATO officials. Of the 16,400 employees of the European Union itself, 28% are Belgians.

Unfortunately, in spite of the apparent financial advantage to Belgium's economy in general and Brussels economy in particular, this situation has caused less positive consequences to the capital, like pressure on housing and increased city traffic. Good many of Brussels' original population fled to the suburbs and the countryside. In 1977, Brussels had a population of 1,030,000 inhabitants this survey noted a reduction of 80,000 "Brusselers" in 1993 to a total of 950,000 inhabitants. In the years 1988 to 1993, the cost of housing rose by a whopping 55% the use of public transportation declined from 40% to 27% and simultaneously there was a 20% increase in the already heavy highway and city traffic.

And there is no hope for a let-off on the pressure: by the year 2005, 84,000 people will be employed directly or indirectly by the European Union and other international institutions in the capital of Belgium. This will generate a financial afflux of more than 188 billion Belgian francs, or about 6 billion US dollars. (From our Belgian correspondent)

From *De Gazette van Detroit*

I was born in Schaarbeek/Brussels in 1952 to a Belgian mother and an Italian Father. I carried Italian citizenship until I became a US citizen, after serving in the US military. I was then 23 years old. So, although of mixed heritage, I claim myself to be Belgian. When in Belgium on a tour lately, I was asked by the tour guide what my nationality was. I answered "Belgian". The tour guide then wondered whether I was Flemish or Walloon. I replied: "I'm Belgian". Since I'm from Brussels, I am both. But think, that "being Belgian" doesn't have anything to do with place of birth, but rather with a wonderful state of mind.

I like to say, that God created the world in 6 days. On the seventh day he created Belgium, so he'd have a place to rest! (Claude Barsotti - Maiden, MA)

Thank you, Claude - We couldn't have said it better! We always claimed: Being Belgian is Beautiful!

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QUERIES ... QUERIES ... QUERIES...

At the office of the Belgian Researchers there is a file for each query submitted. When you respond to a query or when you receive a response send us a copy of the information, so that we can stay informed of the status of the research. When someone answers your query, be sure to acknowledge receipt. This is just common courtesy and lets the members know that their response was received – and their effort appreciated!

94 259 - VANDEN HEEDE-NAESSENS - I'm looking for ancestors of my grandparents John Vanden Heede (Vandenheede) and Maria Naessens-Vanden Heede from Oostrozebeke, Belgium. John, b 13 Oct 1862; son of Felix and Natalie Sabbe. Emigrated to Michigan 1892. Maria Naessens, b 1870; daughter of Cornelius and Sylvia DeRudder. Cornelius' father was Peter Naessens; Sylvia's parents were Peter and RomanieVande Kastele. John Vanden Heede returned to Belgium in 1896, married Maria and brought her to Marshall, Michigan. Any further information on these ancestors or names of additional ancestors would be greatly appreciated John Vanden Heede, 2419 Creek Road, Niles, MI 49120

94.260 - MATHY / MATTHEW / WARICHAÏET / WARICHER Looking for information on Josephine Mathy / Matthew, from Charleroi or Montignies-sur-Sambre, Hainaut, Belgium; daughter of Henry Mathy and Désirée Georghe/ Gerche married to Joseph Warrichaiet / Warichet from Charleroi, Belg. : son of Michel and Amanda _____ ? Michel and Joseph arrived in New York in Oct/Nov 1867. Joseph and Josephine lived in Sugarbush, Twn. of Humboldt, Brown Co. WI. Josephine's 2nd husband was Alphonse Simon son of Henri and Therese Erasard / Evrard (?) also from Belgium. Any information about these persons? Jeanne Reince Koller, 702 Gull Lake Drive, Nisswa, MN 56488

94.261 - RTBF CHARLEROI . In the scope of the program **Jours de Guerre (Days of War)** produced by the Belgian French Speaking Television Channel, Bill Binnemans-director, Bernard Balteau-journalist and Véronique Delhomme-documentalist, are preparing a report on the American soldiers in Belgium at the end of the WWII (after the Liberation and during the Baffle of the Bulge) We are looking for names and addresses of American soldiers who fought in Belgium and Belgo-American couples who met in Belgium and subsequently moved to the United States URGENT! For the Jours de Guerre team: Véronique Delhomme, RTBF Charleroi, Passage de la Bourse, B 6000 Charleroi, Belg. Tel. :32.71/209334 Fax 32.71/31 71 50

94.262 - PRALL/ BILLIOU / DUBOIS My ancestor Aarendt Jansen van Naarden (Praal), b. 1646-47 in Nardy, France; married into the Billiou-DuBois families: came to New Netherlands @ 1660; married Marie Billiou at Wiltwyck (where?) in 1670; the surname of Praal did not appear in records until the birth of their first daughter Maria in 1674 (where?). From research already done on the Billiou and DuBois families, I have noted a strong Walloon and/or Huguenot link. I am interested in any specific information on these surnames! families as well as in any general information on the Walloons. Terry D. Prall, 2692 NE HWY 70 # 121, Arcadia, FL. 33821

94.263 - DESAVEUR/KERKHOVE/VANDE WIELE - I would like birth - and death certificates (or obituaries) from the following ancestors Remy (Remy) De Saveur b 9 Jan 1875 : d. 2 March 1955 in St. Lievens Esse; married 1909 to Rosalie Kerkhove, divorced 1937, came over from Belgium in Jan. 1920 to Edgar, Montana. Returned to Belgium in 1948. Who were the parents, grandparents etc. of these people? Celina Marie De Saveur : b. 19 April 1855 St. Lievens Esse (Belg.), d. 19 Dec. 1955. Pius Van de Wide (no further details submitted). Any info, pictures, would also like a picture of the church in St. Lievens Esse, where most of the requested info probably is to be found. Linda Marie GSTOHL - 3600 Elisabeth Ave. SE - Olympia, WA 98501

94.264 - NEVEJANS - Anyone having this name in his/her ancestry, or can help with information, please send info to Belgian Researchers office.

94.265 - BARETTE/ BARRETTE / ROMDENNE & PARIS - from the province of Brabant, Belg. I have a large database on these families and their accompanying relatives. Will be happy to help anyone interested in info about this group. Please send SASE with your pedigree of type of info requested. Family group sheets are 10 cent per sheet. I can also give you the film number where the information is located. I do my research through the LDS library in Shawanc. Myra Michaletz, 1278 Ridgedale Ct. Green Bay, WI 54304

Recipes - Recipes - Recipes - Recipes

Well, I hope that you will find plenty of suggestions for your Holiday feasts in past Belgian Laces and that some of you will have tried the chocolate desserts we published in the last issue. This time, I'm going to concentrate on seafood. I received two new fish recipes from Pierre's sister in Brussels. Indicating that these are examples of the latest developments in Belgian cooking! However, I'll start with a repeat Croquettes aux Crevettes (Shrimp fritters) which is such a delicious appetizer, so typically Belgian. **Smakelijk! Bon Appetit! Guten Appetit!**

Try also http://users.skynet.be/la_cuisine_belge/croquettesdecrevettes.htm

Croquettes aux Crevettes

aka **Delicieuses**

Ostendaises

½ pound raw medium sized shrimp

5 Tbsps. butter

10 Tbsps flour

2 cups milk

3 egg yolks + 2 eggs

1 ½ tsp salt & ½ tsp white pepper

1 cup finely grated gruyère cheese (1/4 Lb)

4 tpsps. vegy oil

2 cups dry fine bread crumbs

chopped parsley

Vegy oil for deep frying



Shell the shrimp. Devein and wash them under cold running water, pat dry and slice them thin cross-wise. Melt one Tbsp. of the butter in a small skillet and when the foam subsides, add the shrimp, and cook stirring constantly for 2 to 3 minutes, or until the shrimp are firm and pink. Do not overcook! Overcooking makes the shrimp tough. With a slotted spoon, transfer the shrimp to a plate to cool. Boil the liquid remaining in the uncovered skillet over high heat for a minute or two until it is reduced to a thick, syrupy glaze. Set aside off the heat.

In a heavy 2 to 3 quart saucepan, melt the remaining 4 Tbsp of butter over moderate heat. When foam subsides add the flour and mix together thoroughly. Pour in the milk and stirring constantly with a wire whisk, cook over high heat until the sauce comes to a boil and thickens heavily. Reduce the heat to low, and simmer for 10 minutes, stirring with a whisk frequently.

Remove the pan from heat and with a wooden spoon, vigorously beat in the egg yolks, one at a time. Add the salt, the pepper and the chopped parsley, stir in the shrimp, the shrimp glaze and the cheese. When the ingredients are thoroughly combined, pour the mixture into a lightly buttered 8X8 buttered baking dish, spreading it out to all sides of the dish and smoothing the top with a spatula. Cool to room temperature, cover with a plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 6 hours or until firm.

With a pastry wheel or a sharp knife, cut the chilled shrimp mixture into 32 one-by-two-inch rectangles. Beat the eggs lightly with the oil and one at a time, immerse the rectangles in the egg-oil mixture. then dip both sides in the crumbs,

patting them gently all over with the spatula to make the crumbs adhere. Arrange the rectangles on a large baking sheet refrigerate for at least one hour. The coating should be firm.

Pour the oil into a deep fryer or a large heavy saucepan to a depth of about 2-3 inches and heat the oil until it reaches a temp. of 375 degrees. Preheat the oven to its lowest setting. Line a large baking dish with paper towels and place it on the middle shelf of the oven.

Deep-fry the croquettes in the hot oil about 6 at a time, turning them occasionally until they are golden brown on all sides. As they brown, transfer them to the lined dish and keep them warm in the oven while you deep-fry the rest. Arrange them attractively on a heated platter garnish with lemon slices and parsley sprigs. Serve the Croquettes aux Crevettes piping hot as a first course or as an accompaniment to drinks.

Truites à L'Abbaye - "Abbey Trout"

1 trout per person and enough beer to cover 1 lb fresh mushrooms sliced juice of half a lemon buffer for trying; salt & pepper to taste lemon slices and parsley sprigs for Serving. Marinate fresh trout in Belgian Monks beer or if unavailable in a good dark ale for at least three hours: in 3 Tbsp. fresh butter, fry the sliced mushrooms; when they start to take on color sprinkle with lemon juice and salt/pepper and continue cooking until done. Pat the trout dry with paper towels and reserve the marinade. Fry the fish in butter until nicely browned, add the mushrooms and the marinade and simmer 10 minutes. Serve with small young potatoes

Fresh Salmon with Raspberries and Kiwi

(serves 4)

2 small salmon filets - 1 Tbsp. melted butter

4 cup heavy creme - 1 cup fresh raspberries -

2 Kiwi - sugar to taste (1/4 cup?) - 1 Tbsp. Green pepper corns

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees, brush the salmon with the melted butter and bake for 10 to 15 min. Heat the creme in a heavy saucepan, add berries, sugar and pepper corns, and simmer 5 min. Correct seasoning. Peel and chop Kiwi, add to the sauce.

To serve, place the filets on a heated platter, garnish with freshly steamed vegetables (broccoli, green beans etc.) pour the sauce over the fish and serve with mashed or trench fried potatoes.

Belgian Laces Vol 16 #61

PASSENGER LISTS prepared by MICHELINE GAUDETTE & HOWARD THOMAS

File: **Emigrants 1855**

Report: Belgium

Names	From	Left	Ship	On	Arrived
VANDEVELDE Amelie see VANDE WEGE Charles	Watervliet	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep	NY
VADERVERTS Antoine 54 + family	Tourinne/Grosse BT	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr	BO
VANDEVEST ? Joseph 50 + family	Tourinne/Grosse BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY
VANDEZANDE Francois 23	O.Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANDRIES Avel 32	Biez BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VANDRIES Charles 20	Biez BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VANESS Jean Bapt. 25	Bonlez BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar	NY
VANHAF Suzanna 55 travelled with VANDERHEYDEN Johann	O.Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANHOVE Catherine 45 nee UZEE, GJ 13 F 7 L 5 E ½	Brugge	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
VANKLEERE Charles 30 THUYLEN Cath.	Staden WF	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANKLEERE Pierre 22	Staden WF	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANLYDENBORCH Cath.43 see POELS Louis	Wilsele BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANNES Charles 52 VANBILT Maria + family	Valbeek BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANQUIN Felix 50	Schaerbeek BT	AN	Henry Reed	14-Jan	NY
VANVEECKHOVES J.J. 45 + family	Glabbeek BT	AN	Seawall	19-Mar	NO
VANVEECKHOVES Vinc.39	Glabbeek BT	AN	Seawall	19-Mar	NO
VANVRIES Gabriel 52 + family	Greze Doiceau BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VANVRYSE Virg. 33 see LACOURT Jean Jos.	Longueville BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VERBOSCH Jean Gilles 44	Tourinnes BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY
VERBOSCH Jean Jos. 51 + family	Tourinnes BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY
VERBURGGES Bernhard 26	Bruxelles BT	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY
VERCEKEN Willebale 39 Desire 17	Tamise	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
VERLAINE Emile 23	Ottignies	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
VERSCHELDE Louis Aug 45 Pierre 19 Henri 17 coblers	Waterland	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep	NY
VERSTRAETEN Auguste 25	Aarsele WF	AN	Henry Reed	24-Jan	NY
VICTOR Marie Therese 32 + family travelled with THEYS	Greze Doiceau BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VINCENT Jean Bapt. 52, DESCHAMPS Josephine + family	Greze Doiceau BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VINCENT Jos 32+ family	Greze Doiceau BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VOLKIRSS Pierre J. 44	Wilrijkl AN	AN	Fanny	19-Mar	NY
VREUGDE J. Francois 25	Archennes	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
WALSH Laurent 30	Opbrakel WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY
WALTZING Francois 28	Arlon LX	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr	BO
WALTZING J. Pierre 23	Arlon LX	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr	BO
WALTZING Marguerite 25	Arlon LX	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr	BO
WAUTELET Josephine see CHADIN Pierre	Melin	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep	NY
WAUTERS Pierre Jos. 44 DESRON Josephine 36 Pierre 7 ½	Bossut	AN	Telegraph	10-Oct	NY
WEIDES Suzanna 39	O.Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
WENNE Elesie 49	Egem WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY
WERPIN Francois	Meux	3-Sep	NY		
WILLEMS ... 48	Greze Doiceau BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY
WILLEMS Charles 30	S...	AN	Catherine	5-Nov	NY
WILLEMS Jean George 38 + family	Greze Doiceau BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY
WILLIQUET Eugene	Geest Gerompont			27-Jul	
WINNEN Ludwig 39	Antwerpen	AN	Catharine	5-Nov	NY
WITHEM Luzia 42	Murrange? LG	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
WTHEM Nicolas 40	Murrange? LG	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
WITZ Frederic 38	Eupen LG	AN	Henry Reed	24-Jan	NY
WOLTERS Francois 35	Liege	AN	David Hoadl	22-Sep	
WYTTEBROED Jean Baptiste 29	L'Ecluse	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec

Belgian Laces Vol 16 #61

File: **Emigrants 1855**

Report: Belgium

Names	From	Left	Ship	On	Arrived
SIMON Pierre LORENT Felicitee MT FE MJ FE MS	Liernu	AN		22-Jul	
SIMONART Emanuel 44 ROSY Marie J 44 Martin 12 MF 10 F	Ceroux Mousty	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
SINTARDIN Marie see CONARD Jean Jos.	Hammemille	AN	Telegraph	10-Oct	NY
SLOEN? Philipp 51	Gitmam ? WF	AN	Henry Reed	14-Jan	NY
SNAPS Catherina 56	Tourinne/Grosse BT	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr	BO
SPEDHKART Charles 45	Wingene WF	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
TALBOM Emile 22	Antwerpen AN	AN	Georg Hurl	2-Apr	NY
TALBOM Joanna ? 44	Puurs AN	AN	David Hoad	20-Mar	NY
TALLIER see JALLIER Ant	Jodoigne BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar	NY
THEYS Jean Jos. 32 + family	Greze BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
THIBAUT Adolph 28 + family	Pietrebais BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar	NY
THOMAS Jean see NOEL Therese Marie		AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
TILLIEUX J. Guillaume 32 PIERE Jeanne + family	Tourinne/Grosse BT	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr	BO
TORDEUR Henri 35 BOURGUIGNON Seraphine 33	Taviers	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
TOUSSAINT Jean Jos. 23	Sourbrodt?	AN	Emerald Is	22-Sep	NY
TRIBON Charles Lo. 33	Staden WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY
TUYLEN Cath. 59 see VANKLEERE Charles	Staden WF	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
TUYLS Guillaume 23 with Bros. and Sis. travelled with	Wilsele BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
UZEE See VANHOVE		AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
VAN AASTEN Cornelius 28	Antwerpen AN	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VAN CORDEN Albert 30	Bruxelles BT	AN	Henry Reed	14-Jan	NY
VAN DEN VLOET C. 24	Kommelghem?	AN	Vancluse	14-Apr	NO
VAN HECKE Charles 32, ONGLSCHAT Barbara + family	Bovekerke WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY
VAN HECKER Anna 34 see DE VRECKER Charles	Handzame WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY
VAN HUIZE J. 44 BAURY Catherine		AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VAN HUIZE J. 44 BAURY Caroline + family	Langemark WF	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VAN MELLAERT Bernard 33	Antwerpen AN	AN	Georg Hurl	2-Apr	NY
VAN OE Anne see DRAYE Pierre	Rhode	AN	Emerald Is	22-Sep	NY
VAN ORT Florentin 45	Kanegem	AN	Gazelle	10-Oct	
VAN OVERBEKE Leon 4?	Aarsele WF	AN	Henry Reed	14-Jan	NY
VAN ROBAEYS Charles 18	Westrozebeke WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY
VAN RULLERN Eduart 30 lawyer	Gent	AN	Belgique	30-Dec	
VAN VRIES Gabriel 51 BORMANS Therese + family	Greze BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU
VANBILT Maria 53 see VANNES Charles	Valbeek BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANCEULEN Michel 47	Antwerpen	AN		22-Nov	NO
VANDE EYDEN Maria 44 see QUATRESOLS Pierre	O. Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VAN DE WEGE Charles 47 tailor VANDEVELDE Amelie 32 Bene	Watervliet	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep	NY
VANDEN WILDENBERG Modeste 25	La Buissiere	AN	David Hadl	22-Sep	
VANDENBUSSENE Bern. V.30	Roeselare WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY
VANDENDRIESSCHE Pierre	Videne	AN		22-Nov	NO
VANDERELLS Marie Els.56 see FONTAINE Jean Henri	Hanret NR	AN	Lochinvar	24-Mar	NY
VANDEREYDEN Johann 36 + family	O. Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANDERHEYDEN Elis.44 see QUATRESOLS Francois	O. Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANDERHEYDEN Maria 40 see VANDEZANDE Jean	O. Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY
VANDERMISEN Joseph 33 Theresia 34 Jos 7 Ortens 4 Fany	Huppais	AN	Telegraph	3-Oct	
VANDERMISSEN Jean Jos. Marie Therese, JJ HO MS	Huppaye			28-Sep	
VANDERVELDE Jean Francois 24	Bevere	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY14-Dec
VANDERVEST Casimir 27 CHARPANTIER Maria + family	Tourinne/Grosse BT	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr	BO
VANDERVEST Pierre J.36 CHARPANDE Charlotte + family	Tourinne/Grosse BT	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr	BO
VANDERZANDE Jean 51 VANDERHEYDEN Maria + family	O. Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY