

be tried. . . . They will answer in full. . . . Their crimes have been documentarily established. The account will be clear. Words will be few. Death to the German criminals!" On the 28th June the paper returned to the charge with an article by Zaslavsky, which said that it was difficult to know who would be the first to explore the mysteries of the other world—Hitler or his hound, Rosenberg. The first report of the State Commission was issued on the 6th April (see *Summary* No. 184), when the same note was struck, and it was followed a very short time afterwards by the Katin wood "discoveries." The German comment on this latest report is that it was designed to divert attention from the subject of Katin. Meanwhile *D.N.B.* announced on the 26th June that examination of the papers of the chief administrator for State Security in Smolensk had revealed that among those liquidated by the G.P.U. had been a Turk, who was serving as an officer in the Polish Army! It would appear that, as the tide of their military success ebbs, the Germans themselves are becoming uncomfortably conscious of what their forces have been doing in the occupied territories, and particularly in Russia. The *Völkische Beobachter* recently admitted that "the Germans had never claimed to be past masters in the treatment of human beings. . . . German shock methods, which had always shocked the world, were used because the Germans had learned that they could defend their rights and their future only by accomplished facts. . . . The German methods in this terrible war are the result of the inhuman methods used by Stalin and his Jewish Commissars in the war against the German army—German methods in occupied countries are results of sabotage, murder, terrorism and secret service agents."

The President of the United States has conferred a number of military orders and medals on officers and men of the Red Army for distinguished service in the field, and on the 22nd June these were handed to M. Molotov by the United States Ambassador in Moscow, in the presence of M. Litvinov, M. Lozovski, Admiral Kuznetsov, People's Commissar for the Navy, Colonel General Golikov and others, when speeches were exchanged. M. Molotov, in addressing Admiral Standley, seized the occasion to dig the second front spur in: "Let us then remember that millions of people, who have made innumerable sacrifices, firmly believe that the time is not far distant when the enemy will experience to the full the crushing weight of a joint Allied offensive."

Sir Walter Citrine and other representatives of the Trade Union Council arrived in Moscow on the night of the 22nd June for a visit which will probably cover several weeks, and will enable the party to visit a number of Soviet factories, as well as to carry on discussions on matters of mutual interest.

Moscow radio on the 26th June broadcast Mr. Brendan Bracken's latest statement on the activities of foreign language newspapers in this country. On the 22nd June it had transmitted long extracts from Sir Stafford Cripps's speech in Manchester on the 20th June, and a whole column was devoted to the speech in the Moscow press. It is not yet possible to say whether the important passage at the end, which expressed the hope that Russian students, professors and research workers will come in large numbers to British universities and ours go to theirs, and speculated as to the possibility of a great foundation similar to the Rhodes Trust being endowed at the end of the war to finance such exchanges, was included.

A further relaxation from siege austerity at Leningrad was announced by Moscow radio on the 27th June; the Leningrad ice-cream factory, which stopped operations for the duration of the siege, has just reopened, and the children of Leningrad are eating ice-cream again.

SCANDINAVIA.

The Germans and their Quisling subordinates have recently embarked on a new line of propaganda, which consists in stressing the horrors of war, in the event of an Allied invasion of Norway. The controlled press has been adopting this line in a chorus of similar articles which clearly indicate a response to a general directive. Apart from this, posters are being put up, showing Allied planes bombing Norway, with the legend: "A wishful dream that may be a nightmare."

This development has two points of interest. The first is its obvious inconsistency with the claim, hitherto loudly advertised, that the Norwegian coastal defences are impregnable. The second is the implied—or even expressed—admission that an invasion of their country is eagerly awaited by the bulk of the

Norwegian population. It does not seem likely that the propaganda will be successful in causing alarm or despondency. An underground Norwegian paper probably expresses the general view, when it frankly agrees that invasion in Norway will be a nightmare, "but none the less the Norwegian people demand it. Invasion will help us to throw off the Nazi yoke as soon as possible, and the people's interests are not served by prolonging the war more than is necessary." The same paper calls attention to the demoralising effects of a long period of waiting, and for this reason would welcome the prospect of a speedy invasion.

The Knaben molybdenum mines in Norway, which were wrecked by a British air raid in March, are now reported to have resumed operations with the help of machinery supplied by Sweden.

The Copenhagen Nazi paper *National Socialisten* has been complaining of the activities of the patriotic youth organisation called "Dansk Ungdomskorps," which is said to have been recently appearing in the streets in uniform, and is alleged to contemplate as its primary task support to the invading forces in the event of an Allied attack. The same paper also frankly admits the disintegration prevailing in the Danish Nazi Party, of which it tries to make the best by comparing it to "a storm separating the chaff from the grain." There seems indeed no doubt that National Socialism is almost completely discredited in Denmark, the real issue in the country being between the advocates of sabotage and other positive contributions to the Allied cause, and those, probably a considerable majority, who, while eagerly hoping for the defeat of Germany, believe that a Danish contribution to that end is neither expected nor desired by the Allies, and that Denmark will receive the same treatment in the peace settlement, whether she has or has not done anything towards her own liberation. It is suggested by the activists that such an attitude plays into the hands of collaborators with Germany, such as Scavenius, and is being sedulously fostered by the German authorities, as represented by Dr. Best. The latter, indeed, seems so wedded to a policy of appeasement that he may be relied on to put up with a great deal rather than modify the present quasi-constitutional régime.

The Swedish Government has lately been showing welcome signs of a desire for a better understanding with the Soviet Union. There is certainly plenty of room for this; Russian propaganda has hitherto been extremely critical of Swedish policy, and a recent article by Professor Krylov in a Soviet periodical has specially served to draw the attention of the Swedish authorities to the fact. The anxiety, however, of the Government to improve relations with the Soviet Union is an additional symptom of its firm conviction that the victory of the Allies is now assured.

A similar conviction appears to be dawning in the minds of the Finns, to judge from an article in *Suomen Sosialidemokraatti* on the 22nd June, which goes so far as to say that "the second anniversary of the Russo-German war has no comforting prospects to offer, and these will not appear until the hopes of peace have been realised." The article also refers to many peace rumours having been current lately, and asserts not only that the nation is tired of war, but that prominent persons are concerning themselves with the problems of peace. This statement is to some extent confirmed by remarks reported to have been made by an officer of the Finnish General Staff, who, however, emphasised the difficulty of doing anything without American guarantees of any settlement which might be reached.

The German troops in Finland are growing increasingly unpopular and are often subject to abuse, and even to serious assault, involving risk to life and limb, in parts of the Finnish capital. On the other hand, the Germans have become annoyed by the Finnish refusal to collaborate more actively in the war, and are adopting a less friendly attitude. They are reported to be restricting the quantity, of their supplies to Finland with the object of retaining a firmer control.

THE LOW COUNTRIES.

Vrij Nederland, the Dutch weekly published in London, has devoted a leading article to post-war international relationships. The paper sharply attacks the suggestion that a kind of supremacy should be exercised over the rest of the United Nations by Great Britain, the U.S.S.R., and the United States. What is needed, according to *Vrij Nederland*, is the constitution of a world community of democratic States, within which all members have equal rights and the smaller Powers can exercise a due influence upon the greater. It is also pointed out that little is known about the future policy of the Soviet Union and