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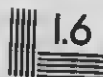
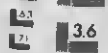
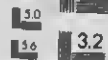
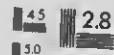
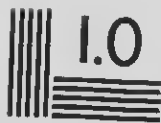
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OF THE

# Belgian Belfry

Swastika Carnival



Montreal, November, 1907



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SWASTIKA CARNIVAL

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**Articles de Fantaisie**, and curios of many kinds, from Brussels, are offered for sale at the Belgian Belfry.

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H. M. Leopold II., King of the Belgians.

attained by many countries of greater area.

It is divided into the nine Provinces of East and West Flanders,



H. R. H. Crown-Prince Albert, of Belgium



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Antwerp, Brabant, Hainault, Namur, Limbourg, Liège and Luxembourg. The population, which numbers seven millions, is made up of two races,—the Flemings, of Teutonic stock, and the Walloons, of Celtic extraction.

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The former, whose language differs but slightly from that of the Dutch, inhabit mainly the northern provinces, while the latter, whose tongue is a form of early French Romanic, dwell chiefly in the valley of the Meuse. But French is the language



Hotel de Ville, at Louvain.

generally spoken by the educated classes, and is employed by the Government, and in commerce, literature and most of the newspapers. The official use of Flemish, however, is also recognized.



On or about the 1st of January, 1908, we will open a ladies hair dressing establishment at No. 441 St. Catherine St. West. It will not only be the most handsome and comfortable store of the kind on the continent, but will also be conducted under the most perfect hygienic system.

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Public signs and announcements frequently appear in the two languages, side by side, similar to the dual employment of English and French in the Province of Quebec.

The present form of Government, which dates from the Revolution of 1830, is a Constitutional Monarchy. The legislative power is vested in the King, Senate, and Chamber of Representatives. The King, who is one of the most able and most energetic of sovereigns, takes a keen interest in everything that advances the well-being of his people. The laws are based upon the broadest principles of freedom; universal suffrage prevails, and voting is obligatory.

The thorough system of Belgium's secondary, higher and technical education, the broad comprehensive lines upon which its charities are conducted, its excellent police protection, its rigid administration of justice, its well-managed reformatories for the reclamation of violators of social law and order, are all worthy of serious attention, as models of efficient and intelligent organization. Many of the railways and other public utilities are under the direction of the Government, while the numerous roads and highways are among the best kept in the world.

In its architecture, Belgium is specially rich in fine old monuments, sumptuous hôtels de ville, magnificent guildhalls, handsome cathedrals, and superb belfries. Their beautiful proportions and exquisite details arrest the eye of the traveller and excite his admiration. The belfries of Bruges, Ghent, Mons and Tournai; the *halles* of Bruges and Ypres, and the hôtels de ville of Brussels, Oudenarde, Ghent and Louvain, are but a few examples of the many that deserve special study.

While the larger cities have numerous broad boulevards with exceedingly handsome modern structures, one may, at the

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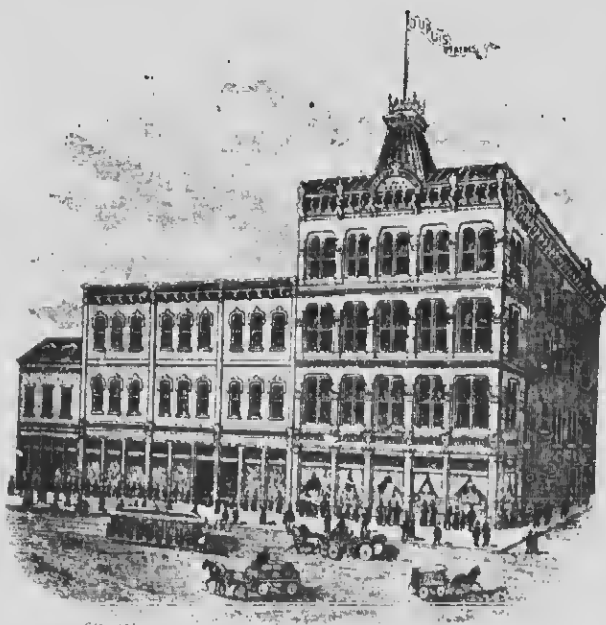
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same time, see in these cities extensive quarters which have retained many interesting buildings of mediæval days. This is specially true of the *Grandes Places* of some of the cities, where one not infrequently finds the handsome *hôtels de ville* and attractive guildhouses of earlier periods. In Brussels, the quaint and beautiful *Grand' Place* is unquestionably one of the most magnificent mediæval squares in the world, and presents a striking contrast to the adjacent modern streets. A mediæval atmosphere so pervades towns

likes Bruges, Ypres, Furnes, and parts of Ghent, that, with but little stretch of the imagination, one can fancy himself carried back to the days of the Burgundian rulers, when the substantial wealth of the burghers and the splendor of the court gave abundant employment to both artist and artisan, and helped to foster that taste for art which made Belgium the birthplace of one of the most famous schools of painting,—the Flemish School. It was the home

of the brothers Van Eyck and Roger Van der Weyden, Hans Memling, Rubens, Van Dyck, Jordaens, Teniers, and a host of others, whose genius made the art of Belgium renowned. In no other country, except Italy, has one the advantage of seeing so many old works of art in the actual places for which their creators designed them.



The Belfry at Mous,

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Est réputée pour la sûreté de ses informations et donne toutes les nouvelles importantes de la Belgique et du monde entier

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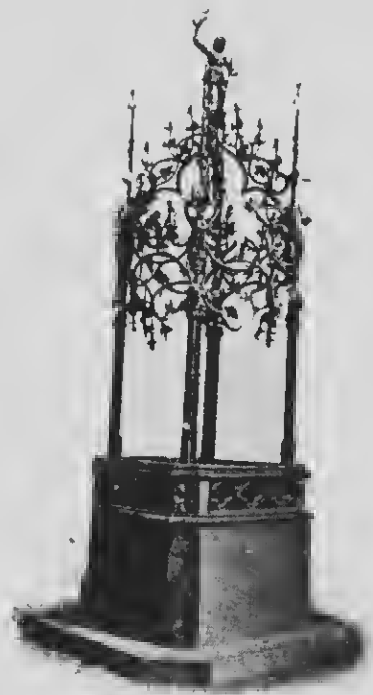
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It was natural that a people who excelled in painting and architecture, also produced skilful workers in other branches of art. The exquisitely delicate stone and wood carvings that embellish so many buildings; the fine wrought iron work, so frequently used, and of which the famous well of Quinten Matsys might be cited as an example; the beautiful products of the typographers and engravers art, of which good specimens may be seen at the Musée Plantin-Moretus, all attest to the many-sided genius of the Belgian people.

In its devotion to the cultivation of music, Belgium occupies a foremost position. The conservatories of Brussels and Liège enrol students from all parts of the world, while "La Monnaie," the Grand Opera House of Brussels, is noted for the number of famous singers, who first gained public recognition within its walls.

Even those who visit Europe for but a brief period, with little time for serious things, will find the gaiety and beauty of the chief Belgian cities exceedingly attractive. Brussels, Antwerp and Liège, are famous for their splendid, broad boulevards, adorned with trees, statues and fountains. In the upper quarters



Well of Quinten Matsys, at Antwerp.

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are the fine residences of the wealthy ; and here and there are beautiful parks and gardens, where, in the afternoons, the people promenade or listen to the music of military bands. The enticing window displays of the shops, and the rows of handsome



A Residential Boulevard, Brussels.

cafés in the business districts are striking features. Indeed, in the attractiveness of its cafés, and the gaiety of the life and movement which surge round them, Brussels vies with the greatest cities of the Continent. Especially is this so during the time of the annual Carnival. Mingling with the crowd of well-dressed men and women on the boulevards, are to be seen certain types of the working classes, in the national costumes, which are very often picturesque. Here we see the vendors of bread; the *marchande de beurre* with her basket on her head ;

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the botteresse, with her sabots and with tall pannier strapped to her back ; the Flemish *laitière*, who vends milk in a little cart filled with brass or tin cans, which is drawn by one, two, three or more dogs. These dogs, of a large and hardy breed, have for generations been trained to draw light burdens. One of these carts is to be seen at the *Belgian Beljry*.



Flemish Dog-Cart.

Belgian watering places, notably Ostend, Blankenberghe and Spa, attract throngs from every part of Europe.

The cultivation of the soil of Belgium is carried on with such care that some of the agricultural districts present the appearance of large gardens. Cereals, fruit, hops, chicory, hemp

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and flax are grown in abundance. Beetroots are also very extensively cultivated, for the extraction of sugar. Cattle and horse breeding occupy the attention of a considerable class.

But it is due to its extensive commerce and huge industries, that Belgium has gained much of its importance. Antwerp ranks as one of the greatest and best-equipped ports in the world, and its busy docks, crowded with shipping, give ample indication of the vast trade of which it is the entrepôt. Besides a very fine railway service, transportation in the interior of the country



In the Park at Brussels.

has been much facilitated by an elaborate system of canals and canalized rivers, which have been constructed at immense cost.

Belgium is rich in minerals, particularly in coal, which is found principally in the Provinces of Hainault, Namur and Liège, and in iron, which is abundant in the Provinces of Liège, Namur and Luxembourg, and in the district of Charleroi. Zinc, lead, copper, calamine and alum are among its other minerals, and give employment to many in their preparation. The

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The Bourse at Brussels.

The resources of Belgium have been assiduously developed, and have given rise to numerous industries, which rival in importance those of the leading manufacturing countries of the world. Its vast steel, iron, and other metal manufactories are situated mainly in the environs of Liège, Namur, Charleroi, and Mons. At Seraing, near Liège, are the great steel works of the

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PETE

Société Cockerill, one of the most gigantic establishments of the kind in the world, employing literally an army of workers. The zinc works of Vieille Montagne, the busy forges and collieries at Mariemont of Mr. Valère Mabille, the rolling mills of Monceau, the bridge works of Braine-le-Comte, the tube works of Éscant et Meuse, and the iron works of La Providence, are among the



The Palais de Justice at Brussels.

hundreds of other great industrial establishments in the steel and iron producing districts which suggest themselves for passing notice. Belgium excels in the manufacture of railway material and machinery, and in the production of many lines of structural material, notably in the manufacture of cement. The "Josson" Portland cement, made at Niel-on-Rupell, is admittedly unexcelled in quality by any in the world, and is employed enormously

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THE accompanying sketch was drawn expressly for us by a famous Belgian Artist, to remind you of the fact that possibly the most wonderful lace in the world comes from BELGIUM

**Brussels  
Lace,  
Rose Point  
and  
Duchesse,**

a lace so fine that one can hardly credit it to human ingenuity.

Our stock of it is famous, not only throughout Canada, but is attractive enough to draw customers to us even from the United States.

*The John Murphy Company Limited*



in every part of the globe in the building of those reinforced concrete structures where only the highest grade of cement will serve. In the neighborhood of Tournai, cheaper grades and natural cements are produced in abundance.

Flemish pottery, artistic in form and varied in coloring, is to-day one of the most popular of ceramics, while Belgian terracotta is also highly valued. There are also many establishments engaged in making fireclay products and floor and mural tiles, with rich graceful designs.



Old Square in Bruges.

The manufacture of both plate and window glass is carried on very extensively in the Charleroi district, while at Val-St. Lambert, and other places, are produced that fine crystal tableware which is so highly prized.

The textile industries of Belgium are very important, and its woollens, linens, cottons, and silks find an extensive market. The cultivation of flax and the manufacture of its products

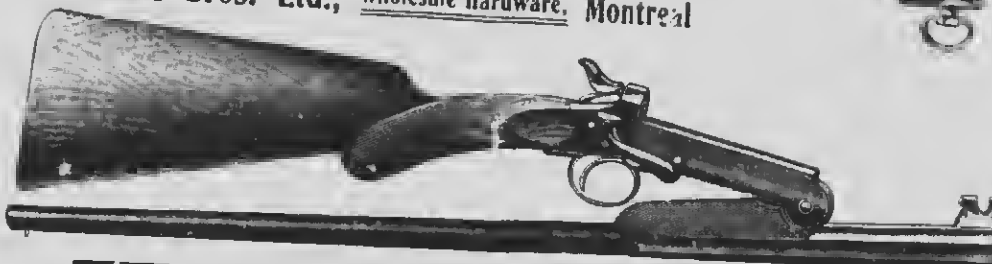
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employ hundreds of thousands of workers. The cloths of Flanders, are renowned for their very high quality.

The exquisite lace, made at Brussels, is world-famous, and the work of the lace-makers of Flanders is scarcely less renowned. Indeed, the making of lace is an industry truly national in Belgium, and has been practiced there for fully five centuries. In Flanders, it is not uncommon to find this art hereditary in families, where



Chamber with Ancient Tapestries, Hotel de Ville, Brussels.

the workers have acquired, through generations of practice, a wonderful skill in this industry. In certain districts, all the members of the gentler sex, young and old, are occupied with the needle and bobbin: and nearly fifty thousand women are thus employed in Belgium. The Brussels point lace, the Duchesse, the Appliqué, the Mechlin, the Bruges and the various kinds of

Flemish lace, find their way to every part of the globe. Lace curtains of rich design are also manufactured here.

Brussels has also long been famous for its carpet manufactures. This industry is also extensively carried on at Tournai



A Flemish Milk Vendor.

Belgium excels in so many lines of manufacture that their mere enumeration would far exceed the limits of this little sketch; but mention must be made of its manufactures of leather and of its decorated leather art-goods, of the gold, silver and bronze goods of Brussels and Ghent, of the fire-arms made in Liège, of

globe. Lace the brass-work and cutlery of Namur, and of the exceedingly fine quality of gloves made in the Belgian Capital.

pet manu- Numerous articles of Belgian manufacture are sold in Canada, and the names of many of the firms that import Belgian products appear in the pages of this booklet.



"La Rabot"—Old Fort and City Gate—Ghent.

at their  
sketch;  
er and  
bronze  
ége. of





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