

The Grey Dawn

*WHAT cries the grey dawn to
my sudden waking,
What cries the grey dawn to my
heart close-lying,
Here in this room by years of lov-
ing hallowed,
Here with my lover old, and tried
and faithful?*

*WHAT cries the grey dawn? Ah,
my heart affrighted
In your estranging sleeps sees that
to be,
When you, or I, shall wake alone
and weeping,
And I, or you, sleep on, to wake
no more.*

—N.F.H.M.

(continued from previous page)

there in January of last year he joined the Air Force, and after a course lasting eight months, volunteered for Netherlands East Indies service. He is married to an English girl, who has also joined the Dutch women's Auxiliary Corps.

Escape from Germany

Pieter, the third member of the trio, was a press photographer in Amsterdam, expecting to go to London to represent his firm, when the Germans occupied Holland in 1940. He refused to work in accordance with Nazi doctrines and resigned. He explained that the only way for anyone to escape being sent to Germany for forced labour was to disappear completely by changing one's name and working on a farm. He said that there had been a strong underground movement in Holland but, since there were no hills which would serve as hiding places, it had been different in character from the partisan armies in some other countries, and had found its strength chiefly in sabotage and the transmission of information to the Allies.

Accordingly, Pieter worked on a farm in the south of Holland for a year under an assumed name. However, the Germans then captured him and he was taken to the south of Germany to a prison-camp, where he stayed for ten days. It was then mid-winter, January of 1944, with stormy weather, which enabled Pieter and some companions to escape one night on a raft across the Rhine. The raft was anchored with steel cables, which they cut, and then used boards taken from their beds as oars. With the current against them and the fierce storm, it took them three-quarters of an hour to cross the Rhine into Switzerland. Even then they were not safe, because unless they managed to reach a locality four miles from the border, the Swiss police would have arrested them and handed them back to the Germans. By crawling past the police, then walking along the roads as though they had every right as Swiss citizens to do so, Pieter and his companions reached a place called Aarau, where they reported to the police. They were then despatched to England with the help of the Dutch Government.

Nazi Brutality

All three were emphatic that the British people had no real knowledge of the German character because they did not realise what living in an occupied country meant. They were united in

their loathing of the Nazi regime and were convinced that democracy was the right form of government. In Spain, said Carmen, the people were anti-Russian, but supporters of Great Britain and the United States in spite of the Fascist rule. Pieter estimated that the pro-German Fascist movement in Holland never included more than one per cent of the population. All their national interests, said he and Hans, were tied up with those of Great Britain and the United States.

Before they left, the trio were once more insistent that the full extent of Germans' bestiality had not been understood by the British. The experience of all three had proved that although the Germans began their occupation of conquered countries with an attempt to ingratiate themselves, they soon revealed themselves as completely brutal. All three hastened to give instances of what they had seen the Germans do to show their arrogant might. Yet their spirits were high in spite of all that they had suffered, and indicated why the Germans failed in the occupied countries.

Items From The ZB's

THE first repayments of National Savings will be available on June 30 when investors will be able to apply for withdrawals of investments made up to June 30, 1943. On June 27 T. N. Smallwood, chairman of the National Savings Committee, broadcast from the main YA and ZB stations, at 7.0 p.m., explaining the advantages of letting the money remain in the account, of adding to it, or the methods of withdrawal.

TO encourage children who are talented as entertainers, 3ZB has instituted a monthly "star parade" which brings to the microphone children who have proved themselves as performers. It is heard on Saturday evenings.



EDGAR J. THOMSON has been appointed acting Station Director of 2ZB. Formerly he was advertising manager of 3ZB. During five years' war service he became staff officer controlling A Branch, Headquarters, New Zealand troops in Egypt and reached the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Originally he was with the 26th (N.Z.) Battalion and went overseas at the outbreak of war.

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