



The Long Silence: Civilian Life under the German Occupation of Northern France, 1914-1918

By Helen McPhail

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This account, based on original sources including diaries, memoirs, family records, secret diaries written during the war, vivid memories, and official records, shows how the rich agricultural and industrial areas of northern France were invaded, occupied, and exploited between the summer of 1914 and the Armistice in November 1918. Factories were stripped, household furniture and fittings requisitioned, food supplies taken, the population maltreated and malnourished, and even taken to forced labor camps: The population lived in terror. Starvation loomed and contact with the outside world vanished until Herbert Hoover set up his scheme of aid that kept the population alive during the war.

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Review

“Revealing on both historical and domestic levels; it is full of odd insights and careful thought, and it is moving, too, in its recollection of a tragic and often forgotten experience of the French people.” —*The Daily Telegraph*

“This richly documented account is to be highly commended and deserves to be widely read.” —*European Business Review*

About the Author

Helen McPhail has worked as a translator for the Historial de la Grande Guerre, Péronne.

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