

# What other people think about us

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## HOME NEWS

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### FEDERAL.

#### TWO JUBILEES AT THE SWISSAIR.

Mr. Chr. SchAAF, chief wireless operator at the Swissair has just flown his one million kilometres and thus joins the distinguished circle of "Swissair millionaires." Mlle Erna Nickles, one of the charming stewardesses of the Swissair has half a million kilometres to her credit. The management of the Swissair has duly acknowledged the services of these two members of the staff.

#### PROFESSOR ULRICH STUTZ †.

Dr. Ulrich Stutz, late Professor of "Privatrecht und Kirchenrecht" at the University of Berlin, has died at the age of 71.

Professor Stutz was born in Zurich, and was at one time a teacher at the University of Basle. In 1896 he was Professor at the University of Freiburg i. Br., in 1904 he joined the University in Bonn, and from 1917-1936 he was Professor at the University of Berlin. The deceased was an authority on "Kirchenrecht" and has written various books on this subject. Numerous Swiss and Foreign Universities have honoured him with academic degrees.

#### LARGE SWISS LOCOMOTIVE.

An electric locomotive which is being built for the St. Gotthard route of the Swiss Federal Railways will be, when it is completed next year, the most powerful of its kind in Europe. It is to have a one-hour rating of 11,250 h.p. at 46 m.p.h. and a tractive effort at this speed of 88,000lb. Its weight is estimated at 244 tons.

#### CHILDREN "ADOPTED" AT SWISS VILLAGE.

The party of 25 children from the homes of unemployed persons in the Special Areas of South Wales, County Durham, Tyneside, and Cumberland who went to Switzerland last month as the guests of the village of Adelboden, are now nearing the end of a wonderful holiday. Reports received by the National Council of Social Service, which, at the request of Sir George Gillet, made the necessary arrangements for the visit, show that the young tourists are enjoying Alpine scenery at its best and a pleasant round of picnics, excursions, and games.

An official of the council said that the basic principles followed in selecting the children was that they should come either from homes where the father was out of work or where the mother was a widow. Consideration was also given to the health of the children likely to benefit from such a holiday. In Durham the school children selected their contingent by vote among themselves. Villages with the highest percentage of unemployment were first chosen, and the children in the schools of those villages were then asked to vote for the child they would most like to go to Switzerland. The Mayor of Adelboden had little difficulty in finding willing hosts for the young visitors among the *hôtelières* and shopkeepers of the village. In every case the children had been "adopted" by the Adelboden families for their stay, and at least one member of each family spoke English.

One of the two teachers who were in general charge of the children had written a letter in which he reported that the people were very kind to the party, that the weather for the early part of the holiday had been perfect, and that the meadows offered a profusion of wild flowers. After a meeting with the "parents" it was arranged that there should be walks in the morning, dinner at noon, organized games in the early evening, and supper at 7. On Sundays the children stayed with the families, as many of them

went for excursions and liked to take their guests with them. In case of wet weather two rooms at the village school had been placed at the disposal of the party, and the proprietor of one of the hotels had agreed to hold indoor sports and show films for the entertainment of the children. A programme of all-day excursions included a free ride on the Alpine railway to the Enstigenalp, and free car rides to Blau Lake. The children had attended a concert and a fancy dress party held by the English visitors at Adelboden.

### LOCAL.

#### ZURICH.

Mr. J. H. Pfeiffer has been appointed Manager of the Leu & Co.'s Bank Ltd., in Zurich. Mr. Pfeiffer has held for the last twenty years responsible positions in English and American Banks.

#### BERNE.

The death is reported from Muri, near Berne, of M. W. Held, a well-known advocate. In the army he reached the rank of colonel of Brigade. He was at one time in command of the 7 and 9th mountain brigade.

#### LUCERNE.

The well-known Swiss sculptor, Hugo Stegwart, has died in Lucerne, at the age of 73. Amongst his many monuments are the Albrecht von Haller statue in Berne, the Pestalozzi monument in Zurich and the wrestling group in Lucerne.

#### FRIBOURG.

The death has occurred, owing to an accident, of Mgr. Jean Quartenoud, "Dompropst" of St. Nikolaus in Fribourg, and editor-in-chief of the "Liberté," at the age of 80.

### ST. MORITZ — CALLING.

If the Pamir-Highlands of the Himalaya claim to be the roof of the world, the Upper-Engadine may with equal justification call itself the Roof of Europe. Up here, at an altitude of almost 6,000 feet above sea-level, under a dark-blue sky and exposed to the invigorating breeze of resin-saturated Mountain-forests, lowland-trodden mankind soon begins to realize their so much closer proximity to heaven, when lungs inhale the dry, light, purified glacier-air, and muscles regain their long-missed elasticity. Then comes back to you that joy of living, which finds its enhancement through the multifarious attractions of sportive recreations: Golf, Tennis, Swimming in romantic mountain-lakes, mountaineering to satisfy even the most extravagant ambitions, and so on. And all this within a setting of gorgeous natural beauty never to be forgotten. Ice-capped peaks glittering under the radiant rays of a never-fading sun and bathing their silhouettes in the pine-bordered waters of gemlike forest-lakes, could anyone imagine a more reposeful atmosphere for those, who prefer the quieter side of an all the same, rattling good holiday-time. For please remember, and no doubt you have heard of it already, *St. Moritz* the capital of the Upper-Engadine, is full of mundane attractions in which the numerous Luxury palaces, with their Promenade-concerts and Tea-dancings, have for years on end enjoyed a world-famous reputation. As the "turntable" of the Grisons for motorists and, lying as it does, on the high-road between the Italian lakes and the Dolomites, with innumerable diversities of day-tours over splendid alpine-pass-routes, is it to be wondered at, that it is up here, where during the summer season (to leave the wintersports for now entirely out of the game) you not only meet the fashionable society-people of the world, but also all those others who either for sports, recreations or rest, have become aware of the invigorating effects on body and soul, long after the weary round of lowland-toils has swallowed them up again.

By the way: Have you ever heard of the great physician and man of learning *Theophrastus Paracelsus*? It was he who already as far back as 1537 wrote that:

a mineral spring which I rate above all others I have found in Europe is in the Engadine at *St. Moritz*. This same spring is richer in minerals during the month of August and he who partakes of its waters which are truly a medicine, can speak of his good health." — Ever since then, *St. Moritz-Spa* has won world-fame in the cure of *Diseases of the Blood* (iron-springs), troubles of the *Heart* and circulatory

system (carbonic acid baths), *nervous complaints*, *overstrain convalescence*, *woman's disorders* (alpine-turf treatment) *rheumatism*, *gout*, *asthma*, *hay-fever*, *diabetes*, *obesity*, *malaria* and *tropical complaints*.

About the turn of last century, the *St. Moritz Sun* drew the attention of certain scientific pioneers to the value of *heliotherapy*, and sunlight treatment has now achieved world-wide recognition. Its value finds supplementary enhancement by the *St. Moritz Alpine-climate* combined with its local peat-baths.

Much more could and ought to be said on the advantages and attractions of *St. Moritz* and its immediate neighbourhood as a health as well as pleasure resort for your summer-holidays, but space forbids to do so. All further and fullest informations are, however, gladly furnished upon application to the *St. Moritz Information Bureau*, 29-31, Regent Street, London S.W.1.



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### WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK ABOUT US.

German Swiss Oppose Nazi Pressure Policy.

By DEMAREE BESS,

Staff Correspondent of *The Christian Monitor*.

The Germanic population of Switzerland, German in racial origin and language has never been more enthusiastically Swiss than it is today. That is the unanimous testimony of Swiss and foreign observers consulted for this series of articles in the three largest cities of German Switzerland — Bern, Basel and Zurich.

German National Socialism, with its avowed object of uniting the German racial elements of all countries, has not only failed to win the confidence of the overwhelming majority of German Swiss, but has alienated those who were previously drawn toward Germany. German Swiss to-day admit that most of them favoured the cause of Germany in the war of 1914-18, although Switzerland remained neutral. If war came today, it seems clear that Swiss neutrality would be much more genuine in spirit than it was 20 years ago.

National Socialist activity, especially during recent months, has set up a sharp reaction in

German Switzerland. The manner of Austria's absorption had a profound impression upon all who were previously in doubt about National Socialism.

Two straws indicate which way the wind is blowing. A municipal election occurred in Zurich soon after the occupation of Austria. For seven years, since 1931, a pro-German group called the National Front had held 10 seats in the municipal council. This group completely disappeared as a result of the March election.

Here is a second indication of sentiment. A movement has been started in Zurich, with considerable support, to convert the Swiss German dialect into a separate written language. Supporters of the movement argue that the breach between Germany and German Switzerland has become so great that the latter should have its own language. The movement is not taken seriously by a majority of practical Swiss, but it suggests a common Swiss feeling.

I asked several German Swiss to estimate what proportion of their people have even slight sympathy for the ideas of National Socialism. The highest estimate was one half of one per cent. One editor replied: "In fundamentals, not a single Swiss citizen." To a young man in Bern I put the question differently: "Do you, as a German Swiss, feel closer to French and Italian Swiss than to Germans in Germany?" He replied promptly: "Infinitely closer. Between us and the Germans of to-day there is a deep and wide abyss."

#### Capital Lost in Germany.

A Swiss banker, confirming this analysis, added: "Many of us also have a crassly material reason for not liking National Socialism; it has caused us to lose money. The total of Swiss investments in Germany and Austria was large; Nazi finance impounded our capital and withheld our interest."

A Swiss professor explained: "National Socialism is an exaggerated and perverted expression of German centralism, which at best has not attracted many thoughtful Swiss. Unlike German Austrians, German Swiss have been drifting away from Germanism for generations. Even our language has become so different that we and the Germans across the border can hardly understand each other. And our traditions differ even more widely."

"The Swiss Confederation was built and has survived for centuries on a foundation of principles which are the very antithesis of German racialism and centralism. We German Swiss have always been a majority in our Confederation, so we may properly claim that these Swiss principles are just as authentically 'German' as those of the Third Reich. At any rate, they are our ideas and we still believe in them and are prepared to fight for them, if necessary."

If my impressions are correct, the rise of National Socialism in Germany has intensified the sense of national unity and patriotism among German Swiss. But it has also created a new problem, that of the 150,000 German citizens living and working in German Switzerland. In recent months, particularly, German colonies at Basel, Zurich, and other Swiss cities have given occasion for concern to the Swiss authorities.

#### Provocative Speeches Made.

Most of these Germans have worked in Switzerland for many years. Some of them represent German firms, others are teachers of German, many are in domestic service, which does not appeal to Swiss girls. Until recently, relationships between Swiss and German residents have been very friendly.

But the Nazi "forward policy" has also had effects in Switzerland. The present situation at Basel is an example. A few months ago the German Government replaced its popular Consul General at Basel with a Nazi organiser "on special mission." This official ostentatiously set about organizing the large German colony at Basel, arranged frequent Nazi demonstrations, made provocative political speeches.

Basel is a stronghold of Swiss socialism (of a moderate variety comparable to the British Labour Party). The Nazi demonstrations provoked so much hostility among Swiss Socialists that a few minor clashes occurred. The German official thereupon ostentatiously barricaded his consulate with heavy iron bars, a strange sight in peaceful and law-abiding Basel.

Other German consular officials have been more tactful. But they, too, are enrolling all resident Germans in political organizations, and the latter are encouraged to preach National Socialist doctrines to their Swiss acquaintances. The German colony, which once served as a bridge between the two peoples, is definitely becoming one additional barrier.

### SCHWEIZERISCHES BUNDESFEIER-KOMITEE.

Zürich, im Juni 1938.

An die  
Schweizervereine im Ausland!  
Sehr geehrter Herr Präsident!  
Sehr geehrte Herren!

Wieder einmal mehr haben wir erfahren dürfen, dass die Schweizer im Auslande nicht zurück stehen, wenn es gilt, den Gedenktag der Gründung unserer Eidgenossenschaft zu einem Anlass echt vaterländischer Hilfsbereitschaft zu machen. Tatkräftig haben sie sich auch im vergangenen Jahre an unserer Bundesfeier-Sammlung beteiligt, Fr. 14735.— Gegenwerte für Abzeichen, und Fr. 2862.45 an Spenden sind uns von Schweizern im Auslande zugekommen. Dafür sprechen wir auch an dieser Stelle allen Beteiligten unsern besten Dank aus; insbesondere auch den zahlreichen Gesandtschaften und Konsulaten, die sich in gewohnter Weise wiederum bereitwillig in den Dienst der Sache gestellt haben.

Die kommende Sammlung ist für die Schweizer im Ausland bestimmt.

Es erübrigt sich, über die volle Berechtigung dieser Zweckbestimmung an dieser Stelle viele Worte zu verlieren; Sie alle stehen der Sache viel näher, und wissen aus eigener Beobachtung, wie gross und mannigfaltig die Notlage bei vielen unserer Landsleute heute ist. Diesen, materiellen und geistigen Nöten, will die Sammlung steuern, und so zum Ausdruck bringen, dass die Schweizer "daheim" ihre Landsleute "draussen" nicht vergessen, auch wenn der eigenen Sorgen immer noch mehr als genug sind.

Die Verteilung der gesammelten Gelder wird zu gegebener Zeit in engster Fühlungnahme mit dem Eidgenössischen Politischen Departement und der Auslandschweizer-Kommission, resp. dem Auslandschweizer-Sekretariat der NIG erfolgen. Diese Stellen sind mit den Verhältnissen wohlvertraut, so dass alle Gewähr für eine gerechte Behandlung geboten ist.

Wir betrachten es als selbstverständlich, dass wir bei dieser Aktion auf eine ganz besonders rege Beteiligung aller Schweizer im Ausland zählen können. In der Beilage übermachen wir Ihnen ein Musterabzeichen und eine Bestellkarte. Der Preis beträgt, wie gewohnt, 1 Schweizerfranken. Sie wollen uns Ihren Bedarf an solchen Abzeichen möglichst bald bekannt geben, damit Sie rechtzeitig in den Besitz derselben gelangen.

Die Abzeichen haben für die Zweckbestimmung der Aktion eine ganz besondere Bedeutung. Sie stammen aus dem Osoneronetal im Tessin und sind in Handarbeit angefertigt, von einer Bevölkerung, die chedem Auswanderer waren, durch die Ungunst der Verhältnisse aber zur Rückkehr in die Heimat gezwungen worden sind.

Die Fertigstellung der Abzeichen schafft den Bewohnern dieser Talschaft nun eine bescheidene, aber sehr willkommene Verdienstmöglichkeit. Also ein Stück praktischer Fürsorge für Auslandschweizer. Das würde ein weiterer Grund für Sie sein, unserm Appell ein gute Aufnahme zu sichern.

In gleicher Weise werden auch die Schweizer in der Heimat für die Sache einstehen und so zum Ausdruck bringen, dass sie mit ihren Landsleuten in der Fremde schicksalsverbunden sind in guten und bösen Zeiten.

So sehen wir Ihren weitem Nachrichten gerne entgegen und zeichnen mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung.

Schweizerisches Bundesfeier-Komitee

Für den Geschäftsausschuss:

Der Präsident: Der Sekretär:

Mario Musso Dr. J. Brandenberger.



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