

Our next issue

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first set of furniture has been so efficiently worked out. Having myself, during some years of the war, had the great privilege of being a Red Cross worker on the International Committee of Geneva, I had the opportunity of witnessing part of the wonderful efforts of the Women's Voluntary Services, and I should like, respectfully, to ask Lady Hillingdon to convey, once again, my sincere gratitude to her president, the Marchioness of Reading.

This small offering on behalf of the Swiss Colony will be followed shortly by another, somewhat larger one, of five-hundred sets of furniture. This latter offering comes from Switzerland herself, or rather from the organisation of the "Don Suisse" which sprung up spontaneously in my country towards the end of the war and which, with the help of our Parliament and the people themselves, readily absorbed about 2% of our national income.

But, as Mr. Key has kindly mentioned, the Swiss people hope to show their feelings of solidarity in other fields and perhaps more usefully. I take it

that the already realised scheme of inviting 250 delicate children to the mountain air of Adelboden during six months will be followed by others. From the childrens Section of the Swiss Red Cross, I have received the suggestion that, during the period of say, one year, about two hundred children and more might be taken over in turn, for periods of two months, to be placed with Swiss families; I venture to hope that, thereby, say one thousand English children might, by and by, be invited, as welcome guests, to my country. May I say, in this connection, how grateful I am to the Rt. Hon. Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Minister of Education, for her unfailing help and wise suggestions in helping to realise what corresponds to the sincere wishes not only of the Swiss organisations of the Red Cross and others, but of all classes of the Swiss people. During recent trips to my country, I was happy to see how spontaneously these feelings spring up everywhere.

As to the help we may have the privilege, in virtue of our climate, to give to the treatment of tubercular diseases, I may mention the decision of the above-named organisation of the "Don Suisse" to offer our hospitality during one year, to one-hundred tubercular invalids. We hope that, thereby, health may be restored to one hundred gallant ex-service men who have made to their country the sacrifice of their physical well-being. Furthermore, we are inviting a score of English students, suffering from tuberculosis, to our "Sanatorium universitaire" at Leysin. In the carrying out of these plans, I am most beholden to the unfailing help of the Rt. Hon. Aneurin Bevan and his able assistants at the Health Ministry.

We full well realise that all these efforts put together are yet on a small scale. And we shall never forget that the efforts of the English people to help others everywhere are proportionally so much greater. All the more do we appreciate your readiness to accept, as a token of our feelings of solidarity, that what we can offer to do. Two feelings are akin, I believe, in your great country and in mine: steadfastness and fundamental loyalties. And, deeply attached as we are to our traditions of liberty and solidarity, we will not forget what the world owes to England.

Madame Ruegger was requested by the Chairman to draw the names from a box, of those who were lucky enough to receive the present.


In conclusion, Lord Latham, Lady Hillingdon, Vice-Chairman, W.V.S., and Dame Beryl Oliver, British Red Cross, expressed their deep gratitude, on behalf of their respective organisations for all the help the Swiss Colony and our country has so generously given.

The simple but impressive ceremony left a deep impression on all those who were privileged to be present, and we feel sure, that the contributions both by the Swiss Colony and by Switzerland have been highly appreciated, and will still further cement the friendship between the two countries. *ST.*

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will, *D.V.*, be published on Friday, July 26th. We regret that owing to shortage of paper several articles have had to be cut and some held over for a future issue, and we wish to apologise to the contributors concerned.

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