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The Lynmouth and Lynton Catastrophe

In our last issue, of August 29th, we published a letter, addressed to the Rt. Honourable Winston Churchill, Her Majesty's Prime Minister, by Monsieur E. Bernath, Swiss Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., expressing, on behalf of the Federal Council and the Swiss people, deep sympathy for this National Tragedy.

Monsieur Bernath has received the following reply from the Prime Minister:

PRIME MINISTER

10, Downing Street,
Whitehall.
August 26, 1952.

Monsieur le Chargé d'Affaires,

I was greatly touched by the message of sympathy from the Swiss Federal Council on the terrible flood disasters in this country, conveyed to me in your letter of August 19.

May I ask you, Monsieur le Chargé d'Affaires, to inform the Federal Council how much Her Majesty's Government value their message and of my intention to bring it at once to the notice of those families who have suffered.

Yours sincerely,
Winston S. Churchill.

Monsieur Erwin Bernath.

Swiss Chargé d'Affaires,
Swiss Legation,
18, Montagu Place,
London, W.1.

at the same time we published an Appeal to the Colony, in full agreement with the Swiss Legation, for financial help.

As many of our readers were still on holiday, when this Appeal was launched, we herewith reproduce same again:

AN APPEAL TO THE COLONY.

When early last year the news reached us of the terrible avalanche disaster which occurred in the alpine regions of our country causing great damage and loss of life, our English friends at once showed their sympathy in the tragedy which had befallen our brethren at home. A great many letters were received by the Legation and by our office expressing sympathy with the victims.

As will be remembered an Appeal to the Swiss Colony was made through our paper for help and a considerable amount was collected. Amongst the donations to this Relief Fund were many small and some quite large contributions from our English friends, although no help was invited from them.

Now a terrible disaster has befallen this nation, with loss of many lives and causing serious material damage, and on behalf of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain, we express our deepest sympathy to the population of Lynmouth and Lynton.

Sorrow knows no boundaries, the misfortune of one member of the human family is the concern of all and to show our solidarity in a more tangible way, we have decided to launch an Appeal for financial help for those who have lost their homes and their bread winners. This Appeal has the full support of the Legation and donations can be sent to the Swiss Legation, 18, Montagu Place, London, W.1. (Cheques should be made out to the following order: Swiss Legation, "Flood's Fund"). Each contribution will be acknowledged.

We, therefore, invite the members of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain to generously support this Appeal, remembering that on a similar occasion, our English friends so kindly came to the aid of our people.

And, please, do not forget, who gives quickly, gives twice!

The Editor.

Donations should reach the Swiss Legation not later than Thursday, September 25th, 1952, when the list will be closed.

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