

Swiss National Exhibition of Nyon porcelain

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Unemployment in Switzerland is virtually non-existent, and the demand for skilled labour is acute. It is estimated that there are over 480,000 factory workers in Switzerland at present, or 45,000 more than in 1945. Greatest labor increases were recorded in 1946 by the machine industry (10,000), watchmaking (6,500), metallurgy (3,100), textiles (3,100) and chemicals (3,000).

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SWISS VILLAGE FOR WAR ORPHANS.

HOMES FOR EACH NATION.

(From our Geneva Correspondent).

Since 1941 the "Secours aux enfants" branch of the Swiss Red Cross, strongly backed by private initiative, has welcomed nearly 300,000 sick and underfed children from war-stricken countries. The children have been mostly French, but Dutch, Greek, Yugoslav, Italian, Polish, Belgian, British, Hungarian and Austrian children have also benefited from free medical attendance, good food, and a healthy climate.

About one-third of the children were the guests of the Red Cross in special camps and hostels; the others were welcomed by Swiss families, with whom they stayed for three months. This useful and charitable action did not stop with the end of the war. It is being continued, though on a smaller scale, in other ways, and generally by private initiative. Swiss doctors, for instance, have raised some £3,000 among themselves, and have invited for a three months' stay with families of Swiss medical men 100 children, sons and daughters of some of the 600 British doctors who died or were killed during the war.

An interesting feature of this help for the children is the Pestalozzi Village - named after the Swiss educationist of the last century. It was built last year near Trogen, in the hills of Canton Appenzell, and is really a "children's village" welcoming war orphans of every nationality. Priority is given to those whose health is unsound. Its peculiarity is that children of the same country live in the same house under the care of a couple of teachers of their own country. They are thus educated in their own language and according to their national customs and standards. Apart from general education courses, every child is undergoing some training in an art or craft he or she has chosen. The aim is to make of these orphans useful men and women, who, once back in their own fatherland, may play a valuable part in its rehabilitation.

This experiment seems to be successful, and the Pestalozzi Village organization's object is to set up other villages of the same type in Switzerland, and to foster their creation in other countries.

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SWISS NATIONAL EXHIBITION

of

NYON PORCELAIN.

Of the two porcelain manufactures to be found in Switzerland specimens of Nyon are the most sought after and the most valuable. But so few people really know it well, and in one's mind it is so often associated with an eternal decoration of a garland of flowers. But this is quite an error. Between 1781-1813 the manufacturers invented so many wonderful designs, constantly renewed, that today all collectors and museums can proudly produce some curiosity or rare specimen.

The object of this national exhibition is to show the public the

WELLINGTON SWISS ENJOY CONSUL'S HOSPITALITY
FOR THE 1st OF AUGUST CELEBRATIONS.

The Swiss Residents of Wellington were the guests of the Swiss Consul and Mrs. Theiler to commemorate the 656th anniversary of the Swiss Confederation on August 9th last.

Swiss songs and jodels reproduced on Mr. Theiler's magnificent Swiss Radio-Gram were a feature of the evening and were greatly appreciated by all present.

As a true "Centralschwyzer," Mr. Theiler regaled the men with many an excellent Swiss story told in an inimitable style.

In a more serious vein the Consul spoke of recent developments in Switzerland and gave many items and news about the old country.

Ted Steffen added to the success of the evening by entertaining with his accordion.

A delicious supper was served and the salads and cakes were attractively decorated in the Swiss national colours; the Host, his kindly wife and their son, John, saw to it that all enjoyed themselves immensely.

H.S.

greatest number possible of shapes and designs found in Swiss collections. Thanks to the kindness of private collectors, some hundreds of pieces of an unequalled value will be present, and numerous very fine services. Many famous collections are contributing to this exhibition as well as various museums which can boast of the richest collections of "Old Nyon," for example "Ariana" at Geneva and Nyon.

All the rarest vases will be on show, as will also unusual pieces decorated with comic scenes. Ornamented bowls, almost modern, painted with large designs, and very rare Nyon statuettes. There will also be modern pieces baked in old moulds, always up-to-date.

Such an exhibition has never before been attempted in Switzerland, and everything is there to make it a great success.

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CHARLES F. RAMUZ, 69,

SWISS NOVELIST, DIES.

Charles Ferdinand Ramuz, one of Switzerland's best known contemporary novelists, died March 23rd after an operation, the Swiss Radio reports.

Born in Lausanne, Charles Ferdinand Ramuz wrote in French a succession of novels which were acclaimed by a number of other writers and artists, but never caught the popular fancy. Only two of them were translated into English, and only one "Presence de la Mort," written in 1922 and introduced in the United States in 1944, under the title "The End of All Men" had any marked success. (Continued on Page 4).