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**Autor:** Béguin, Pierre  
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The picturesque lake of Leman. The "Vaud Vineyards" along the entire length of the lake are famous and rise from the shores in tiers, separated by old walls which were built centuries ago. The delicate vine plant, demanding almost daily attention, found particularly favourable conditions to its cultivation in these sunny regions. Every foot of the mountain sides is utilised to grow the precious golden grape and as many of you will recall, these white wines have remarkable flavour, comparing well with any French products. The labour in growing wine is very extensive and often the struggle against the elements, such as hail or wet seasons, must be heartrending. But the reward is often rich in great bunches of grapes, producing the sparkling "Waadtlander."

The City of Geneva, often called "Little Paris" is very attractively laid out at the western tip of the lake. The many well kept parks are famous, and to walk along the fine embankments with the Mont Blanc as a great background, is a treat indeed. Principal attraction is the fine new Mont-Blanc Bridge with the joining Rousseau Isle. In the centre of this Isle is the bronze statue of the famous philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau, the whole surrounded by large shady trees. On the other side of the Rhone river is the business quarter with the fine shops of watches and jewellery; Geneva enamels; embroideries and silk, etc. Further on, reaching Place Neuve, is the imposing Opera House, built in the same style as the Paris Opera, and around this handsome public square is the Conservatory of Music, the largest and best in Switzerland, the City Museum, and a park giving access to the splendid Monument of the Reformation. The monument with the three large statues depicting the great Reformer Calvin in the centre, has numerous other figures of famous men and various inscriptions of the long history of the Reformation. The Art and History Museum near by has many striking objects of art, paintings, sculpture, etc., and is well worth visiting.

Back on the other side of the lake, we walked along the beautiful Quay Gustave Ador, through the Parc Grange, past the large International Labour Office to the imposing League of Nations Palace. For some reasons the buildings were closed, but we had a good view of the extensive Palace from the outside, surrounded by gardens and parks. There are plenty of opportunities for amusements in Geneva; the opera, theatres, casino or concerts in the many restaurants. The city is also a great educational centre; the old university, the many colleges, private and boarding schools all enjoy world-wide reputation.

We had an introduction to visit one of the great factories in Geneva; the TAVARO LTD., producing the famous Electric "ELNA" Sewing-machine. This establishment employs 2,500 hands and is probably the most modern I have seen, as the buildings were erected just before the war. After producing ammunition during the European conflict, the manufacture of the now World renown machine commenced on a large scale and Tavaro is now represented in 26 countries. We were certainly impressed by the amazing efficiency and organisation of this factory. The Elna machine is a revolutionary invention; it can sew light or heavy material, can embroider, darn socks and stockings etc. Made of light metal, its weight is only 6.5 kg., and can be put into its handy metal case, which at the same time serves as a sewing-table. The Elna has built-in illumination, and the new streamlined shape expresses smartness. Some months ago the first delivery of this machine reached New Zealand and is now sold in Queen Street, Auckland. I hear that the supplies are already sold for months in advance, and many households wish to sell their new Singer machines to be replaced by the Elna. So - Switzerland has added another milestone to the long and honoured record of inventions and industrial progress.

We parted from Geneva with many delightful memories.....

(To be continued).

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X THE RED CROSS AND SWITZERLAND.

X By: Pierre Béguin

X (Short Wave Swiss Service).

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At the moment Switzerland has the honour of receiving the Diplomatic Conference which is revising the International conventions of the Red Cross in Geneva. President is the leading delegate of the Swiss group, Mr. Max Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister. Moreover, our Government it was which sent out the invitations to the others, something which it has already done.

The Conference is extremely important. It will, of course, not re-establish Peace on Earth nor will it do away with the antagonisms separating the east and west, for it has very different aims. It must take measures which will protect the greatest possible number of human lives in the tragic event of another war. Certain measures already exist, but did not go far enough, as was shown during the last war, mainly because fighting methods had changed so much, had become more brutal, and touched many more people than before. You have only to think of the terrible fate of the partisans who, after capture had no protection, to become convinced of the need for the revision of the previous Geneva conventions. The hideous fate of the civilians who spent years in concentration camps, is also a convincing argument. We must prevent horrors like these from ever happening again, and that is what the Geneva conference, called and presided over by Switzerland, is trying to do. One fine thing about it is that all countries are represented at this Conference, including the nations of eastern Europe and Asia. That shows a wish to establish and maintain once again, the rights of the human being, apart entirely from questions of ideology. Even during the war it used to be said that however fierce the warfare and the conflicts, there are certain minimum relations between the people which cannot be broken down, which must be maintained against all obstacles. Victims of war are always innocent. They must be protected, they must be able to contact their families, be properly treated, even in prisoner-of-war camps. On that point, the whole world must agree, however great their antagonisms.

Switzerland has always had an important role to play in this respect. Because Switzerland is a neutral country, because the International Red Cross Committee is made up entirely of Swiss citizens and sits in Geneva, it has a better chance of looking after war victims in other countries.

Sometimes a suggestion has been made that this work should be handed over to an International Organisation, say, along the lines of the United Nations. The idea seems attractive to some, but it seems hardly likely that it will take on. However powerful an international organisation may be, it always shows tendencies to belong to one group, or bloc, or another, if it must judge one of its members guilty of aggression. In such a case, it would have no means of intervening in the affairs of a country which had been banned by the whole world and against which all were struggling by common agreement. To carry out a suggestion like this would compromise the protection of prisoners-of-war, which we want on the contrary, to strengthen.

In this way, a neutral country, without any interest in the affairs of the big and powerful countries, can play an important and irreplaceable part. Its neutrality marks it out, and the task justifies its neutrality.

FREEDOM OF TRADE.  
(By: Then. Chopard).  
(Short Wave Swiss Service).

A number of Swiss papers have been talking lately about international agreements and trade relations. In the National News, Hermann Boschenstein says that Switzerland is more and more being faced with schemes that are not at all compatible with declarations of mutual assistance and collaboration made in various speeches. The old principles are no longer applied. Although France, like Switzerland, is struggling with the Eastern countries for the rights of her citizens who lived in the countries now nationalising their industries, yet France refuses to indemnify Swiss citizens whose possessions are affected by