| Zeitschrift: | The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK |
|--------------|---|
| Herausgeber: | Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom |
| Band: | - (1925) |
| Heft: | 213 |
| | |

Rubrik: Correspondence

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SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

FETE NATIONALE 1925

FETE NATIONALE 1925. In order to celebrate in a fitting manner our forthcoming Swiss National Fête Day, August 1st, which this year falls on a Saturday and thus co-incides with our customary shooting practice, the Committee has decided to arrange a special com-petition at the 100-yards automatic ranges, to take place in the afternoon of August 1st next (starting at 3 p.m.) for a handsome "Bundesfeier" Cup, suitably engraved. The said competition will be open to the mem-bers and any friends of Swiss nationality. The entrance fee for all participants is 2s.; applications will be accepted on the ground by any of the range officers in charge of the compe-tition, from whom all further particulars can be obtained. Competition shooting to terminate by 6.30 p.m.

obtained. Competition and any figure of the set of the

distribution is timed for (O CIOCS ON COLOR ground. An informal social gathering of members and friends of the S.R.A. London will take place from 9 p.m. onwards that evening at the Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1. In view of the patriotic character, not only of our Swiss National Day, but also of our Rifle Asso-ciation, we sincerely trust that a record attendance of members and friends will make the occasion a memorable one in the annals of our society. <u>THE</u> COMMITTEE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CORRESPONDENCE. The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Corres-pondents and cannot publish automymous articles, unless accompanied by the writer's name and address, as evidence of yood fath. THE SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS AND THE TOURISTS. Sir,—Whilst reading *The Swiss Observer*, which I never miss, my eyes alighted upon the advertise-ment of the Swiss Federal Railways, of Carlton House, Regent Street, W.1. To my mind, it is more than a mere advertisement; it is a patriotic call to all the Swiss Colony to come forward and do their best for the mother country, its institutions call to all the Swiss Colony to come forward and do their best for the mother country, its institutions and its industries, at home and abroad. In short, tell your English friends to visit Switzerland and buy their tickets from the Swiss Federal Railways. We should, one and all, do our best towards that end, especially during the present holiday season. By so doing we would be rendering a service to our mother country

end, especially during the present holiday season. By so doing we would be refidering a service to our mother country. In trying to do my share, I took a friend of mine, who has never seen Switzerland, to the offices of the Swiss Federal Railways and shewed him pictures of the various imposing panoramas which are to be seen there. I tell you, he was greatly impressed by them, and became so enthusiastic that he expressed his intention to visit Switzerland as soon as circumstances would permit. This is one example. If everyone did this, it would not take long to fill Switzerland with holiday makers. I may say that there was a big crowd collected there, looking at the wonderful views and buying tickets for Switzerland, so that it appears that the appeal has gained some response. I must say that it gave me, a Ticinese, great pleasure to notice that many people were admiring the beautiful picture of the Adula Chain in the Blenio Valley (S.A.C. Ticino Section), with its perfect newly-built hut, at 6,000 feet above sea-level. It is really a fine panorama. This hut has recently been mentioned in *The Swiss Observer*, and now, thanks to the kind per-mission of the manager, the enlarged photograph has found a place in that prominent position in Regent Street. I and sure that by degrees it will draw visitors

has found a place in that prominent position in Regent Street. I am sure that by degrees it will draw visitors and in time become a popular summer touring station. The hut itself ofters the comforts almost of a small hotel, containing kitchen, 35 beds, spring water, etc. During the summer months an Eng-lish-speaking waiter is in attendance, thus increas-ing the comfort of the visitors. It is reached from Olivone and from Dangio, where multer, days be obtained.

where guides can always be obtained. Yours faithfully, G. Cusi.

COUNTER-REFORMATION.

COUNTER-REFORMATION. Sir,—Under the heading "Counter-reformation" in your issue of July 18th a most interesting event is recorded. It would appear that there recently took place in the city of Berne, for the first time since the Protestant Reformation, a procession of the Biessed Sacrament, and that over 2,000 people, including the President and the Foreign Minister of the Swiss Confederation, took part in it. Had you contented yourself with that, all would have been well, and all your Catholic readers, and most of your non-Catholic readers, would have been quite happy to learn of this unique event. You, however, allow the sting of bigotry and the flush of malice to besmirch your fair columns, and against this I protest. Your correspondent asks: "Why on earth do Catholics wish to have processions?", and then immediately proceeds to answer his own question,

but attributing an unworthy motive: he says: "If it is not to advertise their faith?" Now, Sir, had he gone to the local priest, he would have been told that Catholics have processions:-----(1) To express their gratitude to God; (2) To besech God's mercy; (3) To do howar to God or to the living or

(3) To do honour to God, or to the living, or to the dead.

to the dead. Your correspondent must be aware of the fact that all peoples, in all ages, in all climes, and in all times, have formed themselves into proces-sional order to carry out, one or other, or all of these. Would he consider that those who follow the remains of a dearly loved one to the cemetery are so doing to advertise the undertaker? Has he no respect for the religious expressions of his fellow-men? He goes on to say: "Protestants do not carry out processions," and he must know that such a statement is not only absurd, but is not true. He is so blinded by bigotry that he can see no good in the actions of any but himself. He very probably thinks himself a most broad-

can see no good in the actions of any but himself. He very probably thinks himself a most broad-minded man, yet I do not hesitate to state that his outlook is narrow and his prejudice is colossal. You would do well to carefully censor his writings to your journal in the future, for he has not taken the trouble to find out the reason for things in this instance, and he has given us his own petty and personal views, which impress no-body, but irritate many, especially, Yours truly, ERNEST D. HANIFIN. Saint Charles' Presbytery,

Saint Charles' Presbytery, 8, Ogle Street, London, W.1.

The above letter refers to an article under "Notes and Gleanings" of our issue of July 18th, headed "Counter-Reformation." We regret that the com-ments made by our contributor "Kyburg" should have wounded any religious susceptibilities, and in fairness to our readers we are publishing the abovo rejoinder.—ED. "S.O."]



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AUGUST 1, 1925.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, P. F. BORHRINGER, by THR FREDERICK PRINTING CO. LTD., at 25, LEONARD ST., LONDON, E.C. 2