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The first course Karl Barth gave in Switzerland after his activity in Germany had come to an end was at the International Theological Seminar at Geneva, which is under the patronage of the Universal Christian Council for Life and Work. He lectured there on "The Church and the Churches," excluding all kinds of an easy theological synthesis with other Churches. He has certainly not the genius of compromise which the Church of England claims for herself in her com-

prehensiveness, but the genius of those radical decisions which made the Church of the Reformation. Much more inexorable and terrible than Barth himself were the Barthians. A group of them could not imagine that a Protestant could pray the Lord's Prayer with a Catholic, but another group was much more in doubt whether Karl Barth could pray it with his friend Emil Brunner.

After his speech at St. Gall and his opening lesson in Basle, everybody in Switzerland feels a fresh and rather rough breeze blowing through the whole Church, which became suddenly aware by his presence that the time of the Church idyll is over and great decisions have to be taken.

#### SWISS RAILWAYS DEFICIT.

A deficit of about £4,630,000 is estimated by the board of the Swiss Federal Railways for the year 1936.

#### Mlle. PAYOT.

Really bad injuries from lawn tennis, amongst women players, are rare, and we are sorry to hear that Mlle. Payot, the Swiss star, who has been out of the game for some time, seems to be making little progress. She injured herself while playing in an international match, and was unable to play at Wimbledon. The latest report is that her doctors have decided that an operation will be necessary. Ranked No. 1 in Switzerland, Mlle. Payot has won the championship of her own country, and that of Germany in 1932, and has twice reached the last eight at Wimbledon where she was beaten by Fraülein Aussem and Mrs. Moody. It is a coincidence that on each occasion her conqueror won the singles event. She reached the semi-finals of the French championship two years ago.

#### MORE SWISS QUOTA RESTRICTIONS.

As from 5th November the Swiss Government has decided to extend existing quota restrictions to:—

- Dried preserved beans in open containers;
- Cow and horse hide leather;
- Men's ready-made clothing of cotton and silk (this refers particularly to waterproofs);
- Lifting gear, including revolving cranes;
- Classes of plastic material and copper and brass tubes.

#### LOCAL.

##### ZURICH.

The death has occurred in Zurich of Dr. Wilhelm Müller, a noted Lung Specialist, at the age of 48.

M. J. Leemann, until recently Manager of the Municipal Power Station in Winterthur, has died at the age of 68. M. Leemann was for nearly 40 years in the service of the Municipality of Winterthur.

#### A JOURNEY TO SOUTH AFRICA.

By VICTOR AND RUDY SCHAEFERER.

(Continued).

The next day we called at Pointe Noire, French Equatorial Africa, the country is very flat and green with a few trees and reminded one of the banks of the Thames. A terrific wind storm with only a little rain sprang up and forced us to make a run for it over the bar before the sea became too rough.

We next called at Luanda, Portuguese West Africa. This is a very beautiful place viewed from the lagoon-like harbour with forbidding brown-coloured hills behind it. On landing from our small motor boat we found an old boy from our school, King's College, to greet us, and with great glee he proceeded to take us round the town. Once on land the whole place has a parched and sleepy appearance, the great point of interest being the prison. Anyone can just walk in and we were taken round by a discharged German who was staying on until he could collect enough money to go home. We all paid him a shilling each for showing us round the Fort and to enable him to collect his fare home. There being no hinterland to the town the prisoners have no desire to escape and die of thirst. The officer on duty as a matter of fact was being shaved in the main archway by one of his charges.

That night there was a fine dance on board ship, all the officials including the Governor General of Angola coming on board in full ceremonial uniform and actually dancing in it. These men must have terrific powers of endurance in spite of their somewhat bulky figures.

Two days later we were in Lobito. It was from Lobito our father and mother started their trip through Africa to the Belgium Congo, the copper mines of Rhodesia right down to Capetown 4 years ago. This place consists almost entirely of the harbour which is extremely good being equipped with modern machinery and large warehouses. It was, however, very hot and sandy and in spite of the sea breezes did not en-

#### BASLE.

Dr. Franz Zinkernagel, Professor of German Literature at the University of Basle has died at the age of 57.

#### ST. GALL.

M. August Schelling, from 1912 to 1930 General Manager of the Fire Insurance Company "Helvetia" in St. Gall has died at the age of 67. M. Schelling was previously Manager of the Export firm "Gebrüder Volkart" in India.

#### BERNE.

Dr. Karl Moser, a former member of the cantonal Government has sent in his resignation as a member of the States Council, for reasons of age, he is 68. Dr. Moser is Chairman of the Board of the "Kantonalbank" in Berne.

#### SCHAFFHAUSEN.

Dr. Fritz Sturzenegger, a member of the cantonal government since 1907, has resigned from his post for reasons of age. Dr. Sturzenegger is a Liberal.

#### VAUD.

The death is reported from Lausanne, of M. Ch. A. Koella at the age of 81. M. Koella was a member of the teaching staff of the Girls High School in Lausanne from 1891-1923, he was also the Music critic of the "Gazette de Lausanne" for many years.

#### QUELQUES LEÇONS DU SCRUTIN.

Tout bien considéré, le nouveau Conseil national ressemblera beaucoup à l'ancien, par sa composition politique. L'avance socialiste, qu'à la faveur des événements on supposait considérable, est en réalité minime. Si elle suffit à faire du parti socialiste le groupe le plus important du National, il ne faut pas oublier que le Conseil fédéral est élu par l'Assemblée fédérale, et que le Conseil des Etats, où les socialistes n'enregistrent qu'un seul et unique gain, celui de Bâle-Ville, garde une majorité nationale très compacte.

La question de la participation socialiste au gouvernement central ne pourrait se poser en décembre, d'une manière vraiment impérieuse, que si les élections législatives avaient indiqué une orientation marquée du peuple suisse vers l'extrême-gauche. Or cette conclusion ne se dégage pas du tout du scrutin de dimanche dernier. L'effort du côté des patriotes, eût pu et du être beaucoup plus grand; en revanche, il ne devient nullement manifeste que l'ensemble des électeurs souhaitent un renforcement de cet étatisme socialisant, qui est notre véritable régime depuis plusieurs années. Au contraire, le succès de M. Duttweiler, adversaire déclaré de l'étatisme — et c'est sa principale qualité — et c'est sa principale qualité — traduit des aspirations nettement opposées.

Les séductions du plan du travail n'ont guère semblé irrésistibles. Cela ne revient pas à dire

que, parmi les partisans de l'ordre démocratique traditionnel, on fasse preuve d'une inaltérable sagesse. Les pertes éprouvées sur divers points par les partis historiques attestent bien plutôt que l'expérience ne les a pas encore suffisamment instruits et qu'ils persistent dans certains de leurs errements funestes.

C'est ainsi que là où les bourgeois sont en recul, on en peut découvrir la cause dans leurs querelles intestines. Qui niera, par exemple, que les divergences de vues des radicaux bernois, dont les uns sont franchement socialistes, tandis que les autres demeurent fidèles à l'orthodoxie, n'expliquent leur affaiblissement? Même phénomène chez les agrariens, dont un schisme divise les effectifs, et rend la politique incertaine. Nous avons déjà signalé le cas du Valais, où les mêmes causes produisent les mêmes effets. Les commentaires de la presse régionale confirment du reste cette interprétation. Il y a là une leçon que l'on devrait s'empresse de tirer des faits, une fois de plus, car la chose n'est pas nouvelle: en face du marxisme conquérant, les mésintelligence, souvent fort mesquines, des bourgeois, font le jeu de l'adversaire.

C'est peut-être un des motifs pour lesquels nombre d'électeurs accueillent avec enthousiasme les groupements à étiquette réformatrice, qui se tarquent, à tort ou à raison, de rompre avec ces mauvaises habitudes. N'oublions pas, cependant, que l'atmosphère parlementaire fait fondre parfois les meilleures résolutions comme neige au soleil: rappelons-nous simplement le cas de l'Union de défense économique à Genève, à laquelle il ne fallut pas deux ans pour devenir plus fâcheusement "politicienne" que n'importe quel parti.

Un autre fait qui frappe l'observateur, et que le directeur de notre journal a judicieusement commenté, en ce qui concerne Genève, c'est l'abstentionnisme. Certes, il y a quelques cantons où l'on a beaucoup voté, et non sans discipline. Mais, dans la plupart, l'effort des citoyens est loin de correspondre à leurs possibilités et aux graves nécessités de l'heure. L'indifférence est sans doute une explication pertinente. Mais n'y a-t-il pas autre chose? Un véritable dégoût du suffrage universel, dont la proportionnelle accentue les défauts? Il est difficile de ne pas attribuer en partie du moins, à cet élément, le refus de tant d'électeurs d'exprimer une opinion et d'opérer un choix. Sans méconnaître ce qu'il peut y avoir de justifié dans leur répugnance, nous ne saurions approuver leur attitude, qui équivaut à la politique du pire et laisse toute liberté d'action aux ennemis de la patrie. La claire notion du devoir civique est une des bases de notre Etat; elle ne peut être amoindrie sans préjudice sérieux pour le pays.

Léon Savary.

(Tribune de Genève).

Rudy that if he does not pass his matric., he will put him on a Guano boat. A nice thing to look forward to!! The only exports from the interior of S.W.Africa is empty beer bottles.

Our next port was Luderitzbucht. It was very hot and Victor was the only one to go ashore being taken round by the local Doctor, Dr. Blumers. This gentleman has succeeded in growing a few cacti in earth brought from Capetown which were the pride of the town. All drinking water is brought by sea from Capetown and at one time they had to rely on a sea water distilling plant. The area behind the town is a prohibited diamond area and has a big barbed wire fence round it for miles and miles. The town itself is on a hill and is thus a little more interesting to look at than Swakopmund, but there is very little to say about either.

A few days later we were in Capetown, with its beautiful Table Mountain and cloudy "table cloth," saying goodbye to all those with whom we had spent such an interesting and pleasant voyage, and getting ready for yet another adventure, that of Johannesburg.

When in Capetown we went for an excursion to Cape Point or the Cape of Good Hope.

There is a beautiful view from the Light House and it is a strange sensation to see both the Atlantic and the Indian Ocean at the same time.

Whilst here, a very heavy South Easter wind was blowing and we had to be careful not to be blown off our feet into the Atlantic.

A good many rocks appear to be pretty far out at sea, one can only locate them by the Great waves and the spray they send up into the air.

We contemplated in our mind the visions of many ships which came to grief at this point.

It is possible that in Cape town it is fairly quiet and no wind whilst when coming round to the point there is an infernal wind and for those which are bad sailors the "GOOD HOPE" is gone.

The End.