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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

The German Minister in Berne has expressed his regrets to the Federal Council for the violation of the Swiss frontier recently committed by German aircraft near Schaffhausen.

* * *

As the whole of the parish council of Mellingen (Aargau) has been called to the colours, retired and former councillors are attending to the local administration.

* * *

The export and import restrictions imposed upon Switzerland by the belligerent powers are seriously interfering with our economic life. Negotiations are proceeding with a view of obtaining some relief. The embroidery and watch industries are the greatest sufferers as England has stopped the import of these "luxury" articles.

* * *

The central committee of the Swiss Socialist party has now definitely expelled the Geneva communist Leon Nicole by 44 votes against five. The local papers "Travail" and "Droit du Peuple" are repudiated as long as Nicole exercises any influence on their policy and any socialist section, whether urban or cantonal, which favours or advocates the views of Nicole will be ostracised.

* * *

Don Francesco Alberti died suddenly in Bellinzona at the age of 67. After devoting the early years of his career to the church he drifted into journalism and earned wide-spread popularity as editor of the Ticinese paper "Popolo e Libertà."

* * *

The Swiss contingent called to the colours from Tunis have addressed to the French authorities a memorandum expressing their thanks and appreciation for the hospitality which they enjoyed during their stay in the French Colony.

* * *

Further legacies made by the recently deceased Oberstdivisionär Wilhelm Schmid are published; they are: Frs. 50,000 to the Benevolent Society in Berne; Frs. 50,000 to an existing fund for assisting necessitous soldiers of the fourth division and Frs. 30,000 to the travel fund of the Bernese high school.

The post-office staff of Lausanne have collected an amount of Frs. 800 amongst themselves to alleviate the lot of needy Swiss returned from abroad.

* * *

The calling up of the recruits has been advanced by one year which means that the 1920 class may have to join this year.

* * *

The pending elections for a new National Council are unlikely to evoke any great controversy. In most districts the political parties have agreed to a truce thus maintaining the *status quo*.

* * *

At the opening session of the National Council last Monday week a special tribute was paid to the Swiss from abroad by President Valloton. He said when Mobilisation was decreed the Swiss from all corners of the world hastened to answer the call of the country; some of them had not done any military service for twenty years. He was sure that the local and cantonal authorities would offer them the welcome that was due to them. He proceeded by pointing out that a large number had left behind them family and hard-earned position and that their ultimate well-being demanded the utmost sympathy and co-operation by everyone in Switzerland. The blunders of the 1914 mobilisation would not be repeated.

* * *

"Fusilier Wipf" has now quitted the studio and taken his place in the Solothurn battalion; he is the Swiss film star Paul Hubschmid.

* * *

About ninety Swiss residents have taken refuge in the Swiss Legation in Warsaw; no harm has so far overtaken them and the same applies to a smaller number in the Lodz district. A few of our compatriots from the open country have managed to find a sanctuary with the Swiss Consul in Kaunas.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Mardi le 3 Octobre à 6h. précises au Restaurant PAGANI 42, Great Portland Street, W.1.

ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.

Démissions.

Admissions.

Activité du Club pendant la Guerre.

Divers.

Le souper est facultatif et les participants sont priés de bien vouloir s'inscrire au plus tôt auprès de Monsieur P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 2321/2).

Le Comité