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REPATRIATION OF SWISS.

Arrangements have now been completed with reference to the special convoy which our Legation has been endeavouring to fix up.

The party will leave Euston to-night and arrive early on Sunday morning at a West Coast port where after the usual formalities have been gone through the participants will board two steamers belonging to the Swiss Shipping Agency. The two boats — "Calanda" and "Maloja" — will sail under the Panama flag with the name "Switzerland" prominently painted on the sides; they will be lit up during night time and their safe passage is guaranteed by the belligerent parties. The passengers will disembark at Bilbao and travel by train to Geneva via Cerberes.

The party will probably consist of about 250, and all those who have definitely booked have been asked last Thursday by wire to assemble at Swiss House to-day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

August 12, 1940.

The Editor,
The Swiss Observer,
23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

Dear Sir,

I herewith send you a postal order for 12/- in payment of a subscription for 12 months.

When my previous subscription expired last Autumn, I omitted to renew it, for reasons due to war-time and black-out conditions, although a sufficiently strong reminder would probably have roused me to action. — I have been, or should have been, deprived of the mental nourishment provided by the S.O. but for the kind offices of a friend who lent me a copy frequently, but as I do not wish the S.O. to be penalised by my omission, I suggest that the present subscription should run until, say 15th November next.

Yours faithfully,

A. S.

(We certainly accept your compromise as in these times we cannot afford to fall out with our patrons though we should not dream to go as far as another weekly publication which forbids its subscribers to pass the paper on to friends for perusal. — Ed. S.O.)

August 12th, 1940.

The Editor,
The Swiss Observer,
23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

Dear Sir,

Allow me to congratulate you on your last issue, it is obvious that despite the tremendous difficulties you still manage to give us news from Home which, I am confident, most of us are eager to read. As regards mails from Switzerland, I am delighted to say that at long last it seems as if things are improving and I hope that other readers are making a similar experience. My firm received this morning a letter posted on the 5th instant and it would appear that one of our letters dated the 23rd July reached them on the 2nd August.

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES FER.

13th August, 1940.

The Editor,
The Swiss Observer,
E.C.2.

Dear Mr. Editor,

But for the news contained in the last number of the S.O., I am afraid that very few of us would have had any idea as to how the folks at home spent the 1st of August this year.

I for one was glad of the reassuring account and am grateful to you.

On comparing notes with what happened last year (when I was in Switzerland) and considering all that has happened within these last twelve months, I thought it might be appropriate to put a few of those thoughts on paper.

I venture to enclose the fruits of this effort accordingly and, if you can find space for same in your next issue, I shall appreciate your courtesy.

Believe me, with compliments,

Ever sincerely yours,

GALLUS.

* * *

RUECKBLICK auf den 1. AUGUST 1939-1940.

"Rufst Du mein Vaterland,"

So klang's vor Jahresfrist

Von Berg zu Tal an diesem hehren Tag.

Noch hielt der Friede stand,

Obgleich der Hader zischt'

Und man "sich rüsten" Friede nennen mag.

Die Stimmung war geweiht,

Das Volk vereint, gestärkt;

Sein Spiegelbild in Zürich war kein Trug.

Ein jedes Haupt bereit

Zur Pflicht, die es bewerkt,

Mit blanker Waffe, falls die Stunde schlug.

Lang blieb der Ruf nicht aus...

Das Horn von Uri schallt',

Rings sind die Grenzen übernacht bemannt.

Leer wird ein manches Haus,

Karg oft der Unterhalt;

Das Loos des Landes bleibt bedroht, gespannt.

Der Krieg nimmt seinen Lauf...

Wild, rasend, wie ein Fluss

Schwemmt Tod und Elend er von Ost nach West.

Hört wohl sein Stürmen auf

Eh's auch uns treffen muss?

Verzaget nicht und hält am Glauben fest!

"Rufst Du mein Vaterland"

Klingt's wiederum an's Ohr;

Gedämpft, in Dankbarkeit, der Inbrunst voll.

Bewahrt der Treue Band

Zu IHM, der uns erkor,

Dess' Hand die Schweiz auch künftig leiten soll.

*Drink delicious "Ovaltine"
at every meal—for Health!*