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mockery. What a tragedy, what madness and stupidity!

* * *

But amid all this terror, convulsion and upheaval, Great Britain, aided by her loyal Dominions, still stands upright and serene. Hitler's time-table has been upset and the oracle has become a delusion and a snare. Hitler's boastful plans and vile machinations will be frustrated. British pugnacity and genius will overcome all difficulties. John Bull's proverbial vigour and dogged tenacity will see this thing through.

If Neutrals, drenched by German propaganda, could come to England they would be amazed to find how erect Britain still stands, how undaunted her purpose and how formidable the quality of her amphibian fighting power.

As usual, the British have been slow to tackle their job and to realise the full magnitude of their task. In consequence, the hearts of many friends abroad were filled with misgivings and despair.

But the hammer-blows of Norway and Dunkirk, the desertion of King Leopold, the lamentable fall of France and the entry of Italy in the war have roused the spirit of the nation, which is now wide awake and ready for the fray. Since Mr. Churchill said that he could offer nothing but "blood and toil, tears and sweat" the people have responded by giving him of their best and are willing to give more. The heart of the nation is sound and under providence of God and the Premier's inspired leadership, the successful issue of this gigantic struggle cannot be in doubt. But eternal vigilance is not only the price of liberty but also of victory.

The present phase of the war is critical. Mighty battles on land, sea and in the air are pending. The armed forces have already shown their mettle:— the Army in France and Belgium, the Navy at the River Plate, Narvik and throughout the Seven Seas, whilst the glorious Air Force "has gone from well to better, daily self-surpassed."

The middle East may prove the pivot of the war and Hitler and Mussolini should reflect that the desert and the sea have been the grave of many ambitious plans.

Whilst Great Britain has received some hard knocks, nothing decisive has so far been lost. On the other hand, some miracles have happened, such as the evacuation of the B.E.F. from Dunkirk, the frustration of Hitler's design to secure the French battle fleet and the great defeat of Germany's massed air attacks, which may well prove to be one of the decisive events of the war. We shudder to think what might have happened if Goering had used his Luftwaffe to similar purpose and in equal strength twelve months ago.

All things considered Great Britain has much to be thankful for and we derive real satisfaction and confidence from Mr. Churchill's proud words, when he said:—

"We see Britain erect, sure of herself, master of her fate, and with the conviction of final victory burning unquenchable in her heart."

F. I.

CORRESPONDENCE.

August 27th, 1940.

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

Dear Mr. Editor,

Re article: REPATRIATION OF SWISS, 29.6.40.

To avoid any misunderstanding in the minds of some readers, it might be an advantage if you were to publish an addendum to this article to the effect that "permanently resident aliens, who have qualified for this status, do not have to report at the local labour exchange when changing their employment or occupation."

On account of repeated queries on this point, I have had the above information confirmed by the Swiss Legation a few days ago.

Yours truly,
J. Pfaendler.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, September 3rd, — City Swiss Club — No Meeting.

Wednesday, September 11th, at 7.30 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Monthly Meeting, at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Friday, September 20th, 1940, at 6.30 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting to be followed by a talk by Mr. G. J. Keller on: "Three days' Tour in the Southern Defence Areas," at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Divine Services.

Dimanche 1er septembre 1940: à l'Eglise Suisse, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2.

11h. Culte. M. M. Pradervand.

SERVICE FUNEBRE.

Le 26 août 1940, Henri-Albert SANDOZ, âgé de 50 ans.

Pour tout ce qui concerne le ministère pastoral, prière de s'adresser à Monsieur le pasteur Marcel Pradervand, 65, Mount View Road, N.4. (Téléphone Mountview 5003). Heure de réception à l'église le mercredi de 11-12h.30.

Sonntag, den 1. September 1940: in der Schweizerkirche, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

11 Uhr. Gottesdienst. Mr. W. Fischer.

There will be no Nähverein meetings during September.

Für alle Amtshandlungen wende man sich z.Z. an Pfr. M. Pradervand, 65, Mount View Road, N.4. (MOU 5003)

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