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“The Times” devotes a feature on Switzerland

The Times of Monday, 29th March had a four-page survey on Switzerland. Among the contributors were Alan McGregor, The Times correspondent in Geneva, Dr. Willy Linder, Financial Editor of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Harold Meyer-Smith, Economics Editor of the Swiss News Agency and Ernst Horat, of the Swiss Association of Machinery Manufacturers.

The feature contained topics usually associated with Switzerland. Dr. Linder wrote of the two-fold way which had been the proven path to stability and prosperity: democracy and liberalism. The latter had somewhat been sacrificed in recent years in the interest of social and economic peace by special measures clamping on the inflow of foreign workers. The problem of Japanese competition in the watch business was raised in a separate article.

Its conclusions were very optimistic and the writer gave an insight into the degree of rationalisation now obtaining in the factories mass-producing cheap watches.

The reasons of Swiss prosperity were analysed by Mr. Meyer-Smith, who found that their origin could be traced to three main factors. They were location, education and landscape. Location originally favoured the freight forwarding industry, and as an offshoot of its financial requirements, the banks.

Education played a vital role in the welfare of the Swiss and surveys undertaken in Europe showed that

there was a direct link between personal income and the national level of education.

These articles were useful and well informed. Perhaps the only reservation one could venture to make was the slenderness of this special feature. After all, if countries like Zambia and the Trucial States get the honour of 12-page features in the revered Times, Switzerland should well deserve a less modest coverage!

(PMB)

“Missiology” taught in Birmingham by a Swiss

The Swiss News Agency reports that the Rev. Walter Hollenweger, Secretary of the Evangelical Commission of the World Council of Churches, has been appointed as Professor of missionary sciences at the University of Birmingham. The term used was “missiology” and the Rev. Hollenweger will be first to hold a chair in this discipline in Great Britain. He had worked in the Zurich Stock Exchange before studying theology and obtaining a doctorate of theology at Zurich University.

Win a free fortnight for two in the Valais

The Swiss National Tourist Office and the “Union Valaisane du Tourisme” have organised an exhibition on the Valais at the Swiss Centre. The exhibits consist of beautiful posters on Valais sceneries. Customers at the Swiss Centre Restaurant can fill a quiz-form obtainable from the cashier. Its questions are on the Valais and the winners get two free weeks for two in that sunny canton.

SWISS RACING CHAMPION WINS AT BRANDS HATCH

Clay Regazzoni, the rising Ticino ace driver, was the easy winner of the Race of Champions at Brands Hatch on 21st March. This was the first Formula 1 event to be held in Europe this season. Regazzoni beat peers like World Champion Jackie Stuart, John Surtees and Graham Hill. He was driving a Ferrari and competing with Fords, Surtees and Lotuses, including the new turbine engine Lotus 56B, which never finished the race.



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