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From 1935 to 1940 and again from 1943 to 1949 Duttweiler was a member of the National Council, and from 1949 to 1951 he represented the Canton of Zurich in the Council of States. From 1951 until his death he was again a member of the National Council, this time representing the Canton of Berne. During the 27 years of his parliamentary career he sat on many important commissions, e.g., foreign policy, customs tariffs, etc.

But Duttweiler was not only interested in commerce and politics. He also founded a number of educational and cultural institutions. He started schools and classes for adult education in large towns as well as in smaller places. His “Club House Concerts” were a great success, as were his other ventures of a similar nature.

One of the organisations he created was in the interests of the Swiss abroad who had lost their livelihood during the war. Having lived so much outside Switzerland himself, he always remembered his compatriots abroad and identified himself with their concerns again and again.

To say that Gottlieb Duttweiler was a most enterprising and hard-working man is somewhat an understatement. He was full of tremendous vitality and energy and a real fighter. He fought antiquated commercialism on one hand, and on the other he was antagonistic to big monopolies and trusts. The competition which his business ventures created certainly contributed to maintaining lower prices. It stirred up the Swiss retail trade, unfortunately sometimes at the expense of the small retailer. His political views, too, were often unorthodox and controversial, and I have heard him called the “infant terrible” of the Swiss political arena. He had many adversaries and fighting certainly was the spice of life to him.

Now “Dutti”, as he was affectionately called by his friends and admirers — and disparagingly by his opponents — has gone to rest. It is said that Zurich has never seen such a funeral as that of Gottlieb Duttweiler on 13th June. The late National Councillor was an outstanding personality, and friends and foes alike agree that he was one of the great Swiss of our times. The fact that there was a remarkable absence of hatred or bitter feelings in the many obituaries that appeared all over the country speaks well both for him and his adversaries, who gave him credit and even, if reluctantly, admiration.

Mariann.

ERRATUM

We regret that a mistake occurred in the last issue when it was said that the Swiss Bank Corporation celebrated a double anniversary. This should have been the Union Bank of Switzerland (Schweizerische Bankgesellschaft), which celebrated the centenary jubilee of the foundation of the two banks (Bank of Winterthur and Toggenburger Bank) whose merger created the Union Bank of Switzerland in 1912, with head office in Zurich.

The Swiss Bank Corporation (Schweizerischer Bankverein) was established in 1872. Its head office is in Basle and the London office at 99 Gresham Street, E.C.2.

The error in translation was not ours, as we received the news in English from the Swiss Office for the Development of Trade (OSEC, Office Suisse pour l'Expansion Commerciale) in Lausanne. But we apologise for any inconvenience caused.