Advice to Swiss citizens resident in the United Kingdom

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The Danzig *coup* and the bombardment of Polish towns are making a deep impression in all quarters of the population, which is unanimous in condemning the German recourse to force. General mobilization of the Army began on September 2nd. Broadcasting services have been placed under State authority, and railways have been militarized, with the consequence that ordinary traffic is restricted.

In consequence of the general mobilization the Swiss National Exhibition at Zürich has been temporarily closed, after having received nearly 8,000,000 visitors.

The Federal Government issued new orders regarding restrictions of the sale of several classes of foodstuffs and coal, so as to prevent hoarding and profiteering. Prices cannot be raised above the level of August 31st without Government permission. Another decree deals with the strict maintenance of neutrality, and among other things prohibits the export of arms, ammunition, or explosives to a belligerent. As from to-day telephoning and telegraphing in the country is allowed only in one of the four national languages — German, French, Italian, and Romansch — or in English. The same rule applies to international telephone and telegraph communications.

ITALIAN PLEDGE TO SWISS.

The Swiss Federal Government informed the European Powers that in case of armed conflict Switzerland will remain strictly neutral.

The Italian Minister in Berne called on Signor Motta, Chief of the Federal Political Department, and informed him that Italy would scrupulously respect the neutrality of Switzerland and the integrity of her territory. He further stated that in case of war Italy would put her ports at the disposal of Switzerland so as to assure the normal revictualling of the country, particularly in regard to foodstuffs.

SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Passenger receipts in July on the Swiss Federal Railways totalled £653,000 and showed a decrease of £47,000 compared with July, 1938, and the number of passengers carried decreased by 716,000, being 9,390,000. Goods traffic receipts were £834,000 and showed an increase of £82,000 compared with the same period of last year. Total operating earnings were £1,565,000, while operating expenses amounted to £917,000. Operating surplus for the first seven months of 1939 was £3,229,000, an increase of £459,000 compared with the same period of 1938.

LOCAL.

BERNE.

Dr. Franz von Ernst, Director of the International " Telegraphenbüros " has celebrated his 60th birthday.

ADVICE TO SWISS CITIZENS RESIDENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

I. For Mobilised Swiss.

Mobilised Swiss will receive fresh, individual orders from the Legation regarding date, time and place of departure from London by special train.

This train *will not be available* for non-mobilised persons, not even for family members of the Swiss called up.

II. For Swiss who are not Mobilised.

The traffic conditions and communications with the Continent are such that *under no circumstances* should the Swiss undertake the journey from England to Switzerland at present.

Even if some of them should succeed in reaching France, it is more than doubtful that they might get to Paris, and the communications between Paris and Switzerland are extremely uncertain.

The Legation's definite advice to all Swiss is : to remain in their present place of residence in the United Kingdom and to take the normal, officially specified precautions for their safety, in the same way as everyone else is doing.

As soon as circumstances permit, all enquirers who have given their addresses to the Legation will be notified concerning the possibility of returning to Switzerland at a later date.

Telephone : MUSeum 2982
Telegrams : Foysuisse London

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