Église suisse de Londres

Autor(en): **Pradervand, Marcel**

Objekttyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): **- (1939)**

Heft 929

PDF erstellt am: **19.03.2024**

Persistenter Link: https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-695397

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Inhalten der Zeitschriften. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern.
Die auf der Plattform e-periodica veröffentlichten Dokumente stehen für nicht-kommerzielle Zwecke in Lehre und Forschung sowie für die private Nutzung frei zur Verfügung. Einzelne Dateien oder Ausdrucke aus diesem Angebot können zusammen mit diesen Nutzungsbedingungen und den korrekten Herkunftsbezeichnungen weitergegeben werden.
Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Die systematische Speicherung von Teilen des elektronischen Angebots auf anderen Servern bedarf ebenfalls des schriftlichen Einverständnisses der Rechteinhaber.

Haftungsausschluss

Alle Angaben erfolgen ohne Gewähr für Vollständigkeit oder Richtigkeit. Es wird keine Haftung übernommen für Schäden durch die Verwendung von Informationen aus diesem Online-Angebot oder durch das Fehlen von Informationen. Dies gilt auch für Inhalte Dritter, die über dieses Angebot zugänglich sind.

Ein Dienst der *ETH-Bibliothek*
ETH Zürich, Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zürich, Schweiz, www.library.ethz.ch

http://www.e-periodica.ch

WAR.

WAR — has not this word been in our minds and on our lips for months and months?

Time after time, we have clung with tenacity to any slender hope that this terrible calamity might yet be averted, a calamity which is sure to bring untold misery to mankind.

No efforts have been neglected by this country to stop a world-wide conflagration; one thing, however, is certain, namely, that whatever the outcome of this tremendous clash of arms will be, it will never atone for the millions of young lives lost, in a quarrel, which, with goodwill and common sense might have been settled at a Conference table, where wrongs, if they really existed, might have been put right, and where a better and happier world might have been created.

It was not to be, sound reason on the other side did not prevail, with an almost diabolic ruthlessness the rulers of the German Reich, who for years had treated every international treaty as a "scrap of paper," decided that the only voice which should be heard, should be the roaring of the guns.

A country, which in the past, they have continuously insulted on every possible occasion, and against which they have concluded treaties, they have, at the last moment hailed as an Ally. Nobody within their proper senses will get alarmed about this, it is what one would expect from a dictatorship which does not know the meaning of the word of HONOUR. Switzerland has, ever since the last war came to an end, refused to have anything to do with Russia, a fact which honours our country.

There is, thank God, still a certain standard of Honour existing in Democratic countries, where solemnly concluded treaties are kept and honoured, and we can today be proud to belong to one of these countries.

Our neutrality precludes us from taking part in any international quarrel, from whichever side it might emanate. We have no aspirations to add to our territory nor to deprive other countries of their rights to live in peace, all we ask is to be left in peace, and to be of service to mankind in trying to alleviate the sufferings of all those countless ones, who have been made the victims of a reckless adventurer.

The day may come when a certain country, which we hardly need to name, might in a desperate moment, try to break their frequently given assurances of respecting our neutrality.

If this should happen, they will not find us unprepared, to the last man we shall defend what we hold most sacred, namely, our independence and our liberty, which have been handed down to us from generation to generation unsullied.

The spirit of Sempach and Morgarten would once more celebrate its resurrection, to the last drop of blood we would defend our glorious country, and one thing would be certain, that we would not be left alone to fight the battle for our existence, by those countries, which have thrown in their lot, so that smaller nations can live in peace and quietness.

For the time being we shall have to watch this giant struggle, according to the status of our country, which demands a strict neutrality, but nevertheless there is no doubt on which side our sympathies are. It is a fight between Democracies and Dictatorship, and as one of the oldest Democracies we break no rules in sympathising with a country which has, at all times, been a trusted and sincere friend of Switzerland.

In this sad hour when the fury of war sweeps over the world, it behoves us, who are enjoying the hospitality of this great nation, to show our loyalty. Let us abide strictly to all rules and regulations, however inconvenient they might seem to us, not forgetting that this country is fighting *our* battle, in fact the battle of all those who still believe in Freedom and Liberty, and yet us hope that once again Right will conquer Might.

Many sons and relations of our compatriots are fighting with H.M. forces, let us hope that they will see the day when their efforts and sacrifices will herald in the dawn of a better and happier world.

ST.

EGLISE SUISSE DE LONDRES.

Chers compatriotes,

En cette heure si sérieuse, je tiens à vous rappeler que l'Eglise Suisse continue à se tenir à votre disposition comme par le passé. Les circonstances nous obligent à modifier notre activité, mais je n'en reste pas mois à la disposition de tous les compatriotes.

Jusqu'à nouvel avis, les cultes du matin continuent à avoir lieu à 11h, tant à Endell Street qu'à Gresham Street. Par contre, les cultes du soir sont supprimés momentanément. Ils sont remplacés par une réunion à 5h, au Foyer Suisse, 15 Bedford Way, W.C.1.

Malgré les événements, nous ne voulons pas oublier la date du 17 septembre (Jeûne Fédéral). Beaucoup d'entre vous sont peut-être loin de Londres. Nous n'en unirons pas moins nos prières en cette solennelle journée.

Je serais reconnaissant à tous ceux qui ont quitté Londres par suite des événements de me communiquer leur nouvelle adresse, afin que nous puissions rester en contact.

Que Dieu vous bénisse et vous garde!

Votre bien dévoué,

Marcel Pradervand, Pasteur.