

Switzerland and her neighbours

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SWITZERLAND AND HER NEIGHBOURS.

("Economist," 30th Sept., 1939.)

The position of Switzerland is not an easy one, as she depends on her neighbours for revictualling. Italy has put her ports at the disposal of Switzerland for the unshipping of liquid fuel and foodstuffs. France has allowed the forwarding of oil and petrol now stranded in French ports and railway stations. England is ready to supply her with foodstuffs and raw materials on condition that they will not be re-exported to Germany.

Germany, much disturbed by the beginning of the blockade, is now endeavouring to persuade neutral countries to trade with her as if there were no war. If any neutral abides by the rules of the British blockade and adopts an attitude "contrary to neutrality," Germany will be compelled "though with regret, to reconsider the loyal and objective attitude she has adopted in regard to neutrals." This disguised menace leaves the Swiss unmoved. They are neutral, both from the political and military point of view, but they do not accept the German theory of economic neutrality.

No foreign Government, it is said, has the right to interpret according to its own views the character of Swiss neutrality. Switzerland mobilised all her forces to show her will to defend herself against any aggressor. She stopped the export of arms, and submitted all other exports to Government control, thus showing her resolve to remain wholly impartial and not to be a party in any blockade scheme. Switzerland is free to export her home products, but she will not re-export the goods and products she will get from the Allies for her own consumption. The revictualling of the country rests on Swiss probity, and the Federal Government as well as the people are decided to maintain that attitude strictly despite the veiled menaces of Nazi Germany.

F. SEILER †.

We deeply regret to inform our readers of the passing away of Mr. F. Seiler, of 180, Camden Road, N.W.1; he died suddenly, owing to heart-failure, on Friday, September 29th, in his 53rd year.

The deceased was born at Bönigen (Ct. Berne) and came to this country some 30 years ago. He was a well-known personality in the Hotel trade, having occupied the post of Head-porter at the Mayfair Hotel for over eight years, previously he was for many years porter at the Savoy Hotel.

Mr. Seiler was an efficient and painstaking worker, and he enjoyed great popularity amongst his colleagues, unfortunately he was pursued by ill-health during the last few years, which forced him, some time ago to vacate his post.

Mr. Seiler leaves a widow and a son to whom we express our sympathy in their sad bereavement.

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Dimanche 8 octobre 1939 :

11h. Culte M. M. Pradervand.

11h. Ecole du dimanche.

5h. Culte au Foyer Suisse, 15 Bedford Way, W.C.1.
(Ce culte remplace le culte du soir).

Mardi 10 octobre, à 3h. Réunion de couture au Foyer Suisse, 15 Bedford Way, W.C.1.

Samedi 14 octobre, des 3h., réunion de l'Edelweiss, Jeunesse de l'Eglise Suisse, au Foyer Suisse.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE (Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.
(Near General Post Office, St. Paul's and Aldersgate
Street Tube Stations (Central London and Metropolitan).)

Sonntag, den 8. Oktober.

11 Uhr vormittags:

Gottesdienst: Pfarrer E. Bommeli.

Statt des Abendgottesdienstes nachmittags 5 Uhr Gottesdienst im Foyer Suisse, 15, Bedford Way, zusammen mit den Welschschweizern. Jedermann freundlich eingeladen!

Mittwochnachmittag: Zusammenkunft der Schweizertöchter bis 7 Uhr 20. Sprechstunde von 5-6 Uhr. 15, Bedford Way.

Anfragen wegen Religions-bez. Confirmandenunterricht sind erbeten an Pfr. E. Bommeli. Sprechstunden jeden Dienstag in der Kirche von 12-2 Uhr.

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