Switzerland during the last war [end]

Autor(en): **[s.n.]**

Objekttyp: **Article**

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

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

Heft 940

PDF erstellt am: **19.03.2024**

Persistenter Link: https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-696038

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

more. Signor Mussolini was surprised at the large number of Italians who wanted to go into Switzerland so that they could gamble at Campione. As you probably know, the Italians are not allowed to take much money out of the country with them. But there could be no objection to them taking any amount of money across the border if they were going to spend it in a part of Italy.

The strange thing was, however, that the sums taken into Switzerland grew larger and larger, but the money drawn at Campione didn't seem to vary much.

Then Signor Mussolini discovered the duplicity which was being practised. Lots of these people who were taking money out of the country weren't gambling at Campione at all. They were banking it in Lugano! Thus good Italian money was going to Switzerland. Hurt by this revelation of the depths of human nature, Signor Mussolini took the only step he could take. He closed Campione.

Well, I don't suppose the Swiss are caring about it. The good people of Lugano will no longer have to worry about the gambling den. They are probably worrying about quite different things now. But I like to look back on that moonlight night, the sweep of steps, the Rhumba on the dance floor, the air of pleasant vice — yes, even the lost pound. Farewell, Campione!

Jack House.

AN ANNIVERSARY.

(" *The Aeroplane* " 16.11.39.)

Swissair has published an excellent booklet to commemorate twenty years of aerial traffic in Switzerland. The book is well printed and is profusely illustrated with pictures which trace the history of civil flying in Switzerland since 1919. Traffic figures, diagrams of the aerial services, both internal and to destinations outside Switzerland, and photographs of the machines in use, as well as the outstanding events, are given for each year.

The latter half of the book deals mainly with Swissair, the company which has built an international reputation for itself since 1931, when it was founded by the amalgamation of the companies Ad Astra, the original Swiss aerial transport company, and Balair.

Tourist flying in Switzerland was started in 1910 by Aero-Gesellschaft at Lucerne, which operated dirigibles, seaplanes and landplanes, and carried 883 passengers on 506 flights without an accident. The enterprise was liquidated in 1914.

The first air-mail service in Switzerland was operated between Zurich-Berne-Lausanne-Geneva. It was flown from April 30th to October 30th by military pilots and machines, and carried 23,530 letters.

Traffic figures show just how transport flying in Switzerland has progressed. In 1922, when figures were first available, there were 122 paying passengers; in 1938 there were 66,852. Mails in 1922 amounted to 198 lb. and in 1938 to 1,384,133 lb.; and the distance flown in 1922 was 59,216 miles and in 1938 2,153,422 miles.

Swissair, like other transport companies, had to suspend its services at the outbreak of War.

SWITZERLAND DURING THE LAST WAR.

(*Continued from the last issue.*)

These neutrals by duty like the Swiss have their troubles and their humiliations; they are surrounded by unjust suspicions. The belligerent blames them for everything, for the language they speak, the sympathies they express, their associations, their words, their silence. There were many amongst these neutrals in French-speaking Switzerland particularly who were grieved that their army should have no part in deciding, not as has been said, the fate of the world — no war has ever decided the fate of the world — but the fate of the country they loved and admired.

Again it was said: Neutrals profit by the war. Doubtless there are amongst neutrals, as amongst belligerents, individuals whom the war does not impoverish, who, on the contrary, draw a profit from it. They have to be reckoned with. The mass of the people suffer, above all in a country like ours, which does not produce enough to feed itself. Switzerland also fought. She fought in order not to fall into economic subjection to the bigger states; she fought to remain united and independent. She shouldered ruinous sacrifices to guard her frontier, and consequently also that of her neighbour; it was an effort made without display, but intense and devoted because the very existence of our country was at stake.

The nations fought because they were, or believed they were, forced to go to war. They fought for their immediate interests or for their safety. None of them went into the conflict for the love of fighting or for a simple desire for justice. Happy those whose cause is at one with justice.

If Switzerland did not share in all the sufferings of the belligerents, neither did she share in their enthusiasms or their pride. She fought to live.

The continuous reproaches addressed to neutrals by the belligerents, and even by an unbalanced section in Switzerland, were absurd and unjust. Switzerland is neutral by virtue of a treaty. But every state can be neutral in its turn if its interests demand it. In 1912, when the little Balkan States were fighting against Turkey, where were the armies of the great powers which were fighting now? And if one goes back into the history of the European War the same question can be asked of each nation in turn. The belligerents of to-day were the neutrals of yesterday. They will be the neutrals of to-morrow. In 1921, just

SWISS MINISTER'S FAREWELL DINNER

(WITH PRESENTATION)

at the

MONICO RESTAURANT,

Piccadilly Circus, W.1

on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th, at 6 p.m.

(Day Dress)

Tickets at **7/6** each (excl. of refreshments) may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Organising Committee, Mr. H. Bingguely, 187a, Tottenham Court Rd., London, W.1.

after the Great War, when Greece went to war with Turkey, which refused to recognise the Treaty of Sevres, signed by the allied Powers, these latter offered Greece their mediation, but that was all. And the Greek Army was wiped out without any help. The great Powers remained neutral in that tragic conflict. Should we say to them with Suares: "It is right that the neutrals should suffer?"

And when the Red Sultan, at the end of the last century, had 600,000 Christian Armenians massacred the great Powers of Europe contented themselves with sending him diplomatic notes. None of them thought of emerging from neutrality to defend the Cross of Christ. And shortly after the massacres the Emperor William went to parade in his white cloak before the Holy Sepulchre beneath the guard of the Sultan.

END.

SWISS MINISTER'S RETIREMENT.

I take it that all those of our compatriots who will be available in December have made a note of the most important date of the month for the Swiss Colony, namely Friday, the 15th December, for on that date, we shall have the last opportunity before his retirement of paying homage to our esteemed Minister, M. C. R. Paravicini.

The previous announcement in the paper, and the circulars sent to members of the Swiss Clubs, have already brought considerable numbers of subscriptions and requests for tickets. It is the earnest hope of the Committee that every member of the Colony will participate in the presentation which is to be made to M. Paravicini as a small token of the very high esteem in which he is held. For this purpose, you know that the maximum amount of the contribution has been fixed at 2/6d.

Now remember we want to make a tremendous success of both the Presentation and the Dinner, so all those who have not yet returned their forms please do so at once.

Further forms are available from the different Swiss Societies, the Swiss Church, the Swiss Bank, or members of the Committee, etc.

Please write now to H. Bingguely, Bulle House. 187a, Tottenham Court Coad, or those who prefer can pay their subscription money and also book their dinner tickets (price 7/6d. each) through their Clubs.

Please do it now.

Bee.

Telephone Numbers:
MUSEUM 4302 (*Visitors*)
MUSEUM 7055 (*Office*)
Telegrams: SOUFFLE WESDO, LONDON

Established over 50 Years.

"Ben faranno i Pagani"
Purgatorio C. xiv. Dante
"Venir se ne dee giu tra' miei Meschini."
Dante. Inferno. C. xxvii.

PAGANI'S
RESTAURANT
GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W. 1.

:: LINDA MESCHINI / ARTHUR MESCHINI Sole Proprietors. ::

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

F. Eggar, C. A. Aeschimann, J. Sermier, A. F. Frikart, F. Kung, O. Siegenthaler, A. Dressler, T. Lunghi-Rezzonico, M. A. Kloetzlo, E. Hentsch, J. A. Seiffert, M. Moreau, J. de Rham, H. Joss, A. Kern, A. Kenyon, E. C. Frefel, J. Bouverat, H. Bingguely, E. Widmer, A. Bolliger, F. Haegler, C. Donati, R. Heusser, T. Becker, E. Bachofen.

LETTER BOX.

H. M. O. — Back copies of the S. O., if not out of print, are supplied at the pre-paid rate of 3d. each; if they date back beyond the current year, an additional search fee of one penny per year should be included.

A. S. — Sorry we cannot oblige; we would be committing an offence if we were to publish the winning numbers of the National Exhibition Lottery.

M. de P. — The fact that the S. O. wrappers have been re-addressed and posted in the usual way would explain their non-delivery in Switzerland. Under the "Control of Communications Order (No. 3)" no printed matter can be sent to neutral countries in Europe except by firms holding a licence from the Chief Censor. If you will let us have a list of the Xmas magazines you wish to despatch we shall be happy to include them with the other publications which we regularly post to Switzerland under our general licence.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, December 5th, at 5.30 p.m. — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting, at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.1.

Saturday, December 9th, at 2.30 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Monthly Meeting — at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Friday, December 15th, at 6 p.m. — Farewell Dinner to the Swiss Minister — at the Monico Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, W.1. (See adv.).

Saturday, December 16th, at 1.30 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting — at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Divine Services.

Dimanche 26 novembre 1939: à **Eglise Suisse,** 79, Endell Street, W.C.2.

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.)

BAPTEME.

Le 18 novembre, Jean-Pierre-Florian Golay, fils de Maurice et d'Anne-Marie née Lengacher.

Sonntag den 26. November 1939: in der **Schweizerkirche,** 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Gottesdienst um 11 morgens. B. Segal.

Pour tout ce qui concerne le ministère pastoral, prière de s'adresser à Monsieur le pasteur Marcel Pradervand, 65, Mount View Road, N.4. (Téléphone Mountview 5003). Heure de réception à l'église le mercredi de 11-12h.30.

Printed and Published by THE FREDERICK PRINTING CO., LTD., at 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.