

A reminder!

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At a meeting in Lausanne on November 11th, the Socialist party decided to organise public meetings in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. Questions to be settled will be: Rise in prices, Unemployment, etc. The Socialist party affirmed its confidence in the fate of Switzerland.

The Farmer's party in the Waadt has declared its willingness to co-operate with any party whose aims are on a national footing. At the same time it is stressed that the creation of new parties tends rather to harm than to further national unity.

Zurich celebrated the entry of 4500 young citizens into civil life on November 10th. The Town Hall was decorated with the colours of Switzerland and of the Town of Zürich for this occasion.

A Swiss Delegation was sent to Belgrade to negotiate a new trade agreement with Yugoslavia. Discussions started on October 31st.

The Army Command announced that three trains bearing sick and wounded French prisoners of war crossed Switzerland. The trains reached Geneva via Berne or Neuchâtel. Provisions were supplied through the generosity of the Red Cross in Berne, Neuchâtel and Zürich.

The "Raeto-Romanische Gesellschaft" assembled in Berne. At this meeting Professor Fuort read a report in connection with the translation of the Federal laws into Romansch.

A draft decree urging the construction of bicycle paths has been drawn up in view of the fact that the number of bicycles on the road has augmented from 90,000 in 1924 to 270,000 for the years 1938/39. The funds required for this will be obtained by taxing bicycles and cars.

The foreign trade of Switzerland is reported as satisfactory. The import during October 1940 increased from 91 millions to 119 mill. The export was even more favourable, rising by 32 millions frs. to the total of 129 mill. These figures, however, are approximately 20% lower than those of October 1939.

Bombs dropped over Switzerland: Four people were killed and very considerable damage to property caused, through un-identified planes dropping ten bombs over Basel at midnight December 17th. One bomb exploded at the railway station, another landed at the Winkelried Platz, but the suburbs of Hunningen suffered most. Basel, which was "blackened-out" at the time, was completely surprised at the unexpected attack and the actual alarm was given only several minutes later. The "all-clear" signal followed an hour after.

On December 22nd our territory was again violated and a bomb damaged Hoengg, 5 miles from Zurich. A second bomb dropped near an automobile factory in Zurich. The Swiss High Command reported violation of Swiss territory from Schaffhausen to Berne right through to the Italian border. Swiss anti-aircraft batteries were in action and Swiss fighting planes rose into the darkness to pursue the invaders, who, the High Command, said, crossed in south-easterly direction.

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A R E M I N D E R !

We regret that so far a considerable number of our members have not come to light yet with their subscription for 1940/41. Defaulters will find enclosed with this number a gentle reminder for a settlement. Collecting outstanding subscriptions is our biggest handicap, and we ask our members to assist us in the matter.

Please also help us to increase our membership. If you know of any non-member compatriots, invite them to join up or send us their address. During the present year we intend to break all records and enrol more members than ever before. With your help we can do it!

Perhaps you may consider that our Society does not live up to its name, but we can assure you that is not the case. Naturally with our moderate funds we cannot do much, but there are many occasions where we are able to lend a helping hand. We have already experienced many such cases, but for obvious reasons we cannot publish them. To our greatest satisfaction we are receiving every now and again letters from members expressing appreciation of our work.

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