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NOTES & GLEANINGS.

The variegated reports from the Genoa Conference having monopolized English newspapers, very little comment on matters of Swiss interest has appeared.

Nestlé's unfavourable report has naturally come in for some criticism, but it is generally recognised that the present position has been brought about by circumstances beyond the control of the management; more so, the courageous statement seems to have been accepted as a sign of internal strength, which will facilitate the re-establishment of a sound basis. This feeling is reflected in the comparatively small drop of about 10 per cent. in the London quotation of the Preference Shares on the day of publication.

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The *Statist* (April 15th) deals with the trade depression in Switzerland, which, with a currency of high value, has been severely hit by competition from surrounding countries favoured by a low exchange. However, "looking at the quarterly trade returns for the first nine months of 1921, it is noticeable that imports show a progressive diminution, while exports are steadily expanding. This would seem to indicate that there has been a revival in the activity of the export industries."

* * *

In the *Record* (April 13th) Dame Katherine Furse, K.B.E., dwells on the great attraction and educational value of a holiday spent in a foreign country, and recommends British visitors to Switzerland, who have little time to devote to their holiday or the study of foreign languages, to travel with a party of congenial people, in the care of a conductor who is well acquainted with the journey and who can ensure their safety and comfort.

* * *

While the question of the "Freedom of the Rhine" remains still unsettled, particulars are reappearing in the English press of an elaborate scheme for connecting the Rhine with the Rhone by a navigable waterway. Starting from Bellegarde, the canal would run through or under Geneva into the Lake, to be continued from near Lausanne to the Lakes of Neuchâtel and Bienne and then along the Aar to enter the Rhine near Felsenau. The costs of construction are estimated to be in the neighbourhood of 400 million Swiss francs.

* * *

The following appeal appears in the *Church Family Newspaper* (April 13th):—

"Sir,—May I venture to interest the friends of the late British Interned in Switzerland, officers and men, in the little Church at Mont Pélerin, above Vevey? The Church adjoins and overlooks the cemetery, to which the bodies of seventy-eight British soldiers have been removed from the various Prisoners of War camps in Switzerland, thanks to the kindly efforts of that true friend of the interned, Major de la Harpe, of the Swiss Army Medical Service. It is proposed to make this little church a memorial for them. There is a sum of about £250 required to complete the fittings, etc., of the church. I feel confident that this small sum will soon be subscribed, to make what should be a suitable memorial to these our fellow-countrymen (mostly "contemptibles") who suffered such untold horrors in the early days of the war as prisoners in Germany. I understand that General Sir John Hanbury-Williams, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., C.M.G., is much interested in this little church, and the scheme has the hearty support of Bishop Bury.

Donations should be sent to the Rev. D. Cooper Hunt, Moatfield, Glen-road, Boscombe, Hants.—I am, yours, etc., Trevor Griffiths, O.B.E., C.F. at the P.W. Camp, Leysin, Switzerland."

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The *Bulletin Consulaire* (April) prescribes the formalities to be observed by Swiss abroad in case of marriage, divorce, adoption and illegitimacy of children, etc.—The principal points regulating the collection of the recently enacted coupon-tax are dealt with in another article.—The development and the present position of, and the war-influences on, the embroidery industry are illustrated by statistics; the survey concludes with the following sentence, which merits being advertised broadcast:—"Il est d'ailleurs de notoriété publique que, malgré les grandes difficultés des temps actuels, les fabricants suisses de broderies ne négligent aucun effort pour continuer, comme précédemment à créer des nouveautés. Les broderies suisses, précisément à cause de leurs modèles sans cesse renouvelés, font le ravissement du monde féminin dans son ensemble, sans distinction de race ni de couleur. Elles répondent à tous les besoins et donnent satisfaction, notamment, aux acheteuses qui visent un effet brillant, sans être astreintes à une grande dépense. On peut absolument tout obtenir à St-Gall, depuis l'épais madapolam avec sa solide broderie jusqu'aux étoffes légères, ajourées en coton et les tulles, spécialement les dentelles brodées aujourd'hui tant recherchées ainsi que les broderies séductrices en soie et en fils métalliques."—A 24-page supplement in Italian, by Dr. R. Rossi, of Bellinzona, is devoted to emigration from the canton of Ticino.



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