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Der Gesamteindruck der Studienmission war ein guter. England und Schottland stehen wie kein anderes Land in Europa im Vollbesitz ihrer wirtschaftlichen Produktionsmittel. . . . Vielleicht kommt auch bald eine Zeit, in welcher sich der britische Kaufmann und Industrielle mehr als bisher Mühe geben, Produkte, welche wir jetzt von unseren Grenznachbarn beziehen, durch ihre Erzeugnisse in vorteilhaftem Sinne zu ersetzen. Der Gesamteindruck wäre unvollständig, würde man nicht der Dankesbezeugungen gedenken, welche der Studiengesellschaft offiziell und privat zugedacht worden sind für die Samariterdienste der Schweiz zugunsten der englischen und schottischen Soldaten. Die Mitglieder halten es als eine ihrer ersten Pflichten, diesen Dank an unsere ganze Nation weiter zu geben.

## NOTES & GLEANINGS.

### SAVOY FREE ZONES.

The deep disappointment and keen resentment caused by the peremptory Note, addressed by the French Government to the Swiss Federal Council on this question, is voiced by the following Swiss newspapers:—

*Journal de Geneve*: "It is a very bitter disappointment to see France, intoxicated, as it were, by victory, threaten Switzerland with the worst acts of the Imperialists of all times and all countries."

*La Suisse*: "French prestige will suffer by this attack on right. France, which is the great champion of justice, may bully the pigmy Switzerland, who wishes to safeguard her rights, but what will the signatories of the Treaty of Versailles say to this violence? Pontius Pilate's day is past."

*La Liberté*: "It will appear to all unbiassed minds that the sister Republic, under the pretext of breaking all fetters and shaking all treaties hampering its movements, is, in a sense, committing an act as blameworthy in reality as that on account of which she has heaped such reproaches on her German adversary."

*Berner Tageblatt*: "It is with profound grief that we are compelled to state that a great Power and the real founder of the League of Nations is trampling in a shameless and unscrupulous manner on rights consecrated by the Treaty. We hope that the Federal Council will not fail in the face of the French declaration to bring the Swiss case before the League of Nations."

*Der Bund*: "The French Government is acting like a dictator. The worst factor is not the actual settlement of question of the zones by France, but her violent attitude towards the Treaty of Versailles and towards the rights of a small nation."

The *Luzerner Tageblatt* declares that the scrap of paper theory has won a new victory. The Swiss nation, it goes on, will expect the Federal Council to maintain a firm attitude for the protection of Swiss interests.

The *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* declares that the attitude of the French Government towards the subject of the zones is governed by financial considerations.

The London as well as the provincial Press are reporting on the resultant tension between the two republics, and the short leader which appeared in *The Glasgow Herald* of March 31st is well worth noting for its welcome proof of sympathy in this particular cause:—

"The proposal of the French Government to abolish the 'free zones' of Haute Savoie and Gex by extending the Customs barrier to the political frontiers of the Canton of Geneva has aroused very natural indignation throughout the Swiss Confederation. The 'free zones' were instituted a century ago in order to secure for the city of Geneva its natural market: it is only necessary to look at the map to realise that, even allowing for the changed conditions which it is claimed a century has wrought, the extinction of these zones would very adversely affect Genevan trade by confining its free local market to the 108 square miles of the Canton. On that ground alone the French proposal, in its entirety, stands condemned. Some modification of the present boundaries of the zones may be justified; that is admitted by Swiss opinion. But instead of entering on negotiations, France has bluntly announced her intention of abolishing the zones altogether and has left Switzerland no choice except submission or defiance. Such a policy, in the light of the relative strength of France and Switzerland, is suspiciously like the bullying of a small nation by its powerful neighbour. The past history of the 'free zones' question shows up the conduct of the French Government in an even more unfavourable light. Previous to the Treaty of Versailles their maintenance was a matter of international guarantee. The Treaty, which was primarily concerned with peace with Germany, not with the position of Switzerland, changed their status and made their maintenance, modification or abolition a matter for France and Switzerland alone. The presence of such a provision in the Treaty can hardly be explained except on the assumption of French predominance at Versailles and of the determination of her statesmen to secure French interests at all costs. We have no doubt that as the facts of the situation become known public opinion throughout Europe will rally to the side of Switzerland in her opposition to what is simply an attempt of dictation. For the sake of her prestige and good name, it would be well for France to withdraw the offending proposal and effect the reasonable compromise which is obviously intended by the Treaty."

*The Daily News* correspondent in Geneva reports:—

"After prolonged and animated discussion, the Synod of the Reformed Church at Zurich has decided by 78 votes against 57 to admit women to the ministry. In doing so, however, it has excluded married women, and women pastors who marry will be required to renounce their ministry."

"At the time when Miss Maude Royden preached in Geneva Cathedral last June a local pastor wrote: 'If this is a revolution, God grant that there may never be a more dangerous one for the cause of Christ.'"

*The Lancet*, in its issue of March 19th last, published an exhaustive and highly interesting article on "HELIO-