15,941 sq mi
pop. 6,230,000

UNIVERSAL EDUCATION
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Teacher's Manual

SWITZERLAND

UNIVERSAL EDUCATION
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SWITZERLAND

3. SWITZERLAND'S NATIONAL FLAG

The world-fame that Switzerland justly deserves is closely related to two important factors: first is the beauty of the country and the exquisite sense of hospitality which is characteristic of the Swiss people, themselves; and next, is the wise manner in which they have succeeded in solving the problem of coexistence among people who speak different languages and practice different religious faiths.

4. GENEVA

Because of its geographical position, Switzerland has always followed a policy of strict political neutrality, never compromising its own freedom, while yet always maintaining friendly relations with every European nation. In fact, because it would not renounce this precious neutrality, Switzerland has many times declined to accept membership in the United Nations.

It is precisely because of these prerogatives that diplomats from every corner of the earth have selected Switzerland as the seat in which to discuss the ways and means of achieving peaceful coexistence among the nations of the world. This is truly a country of peace, where peace is practiced! And this is only one of the reasons why Switzerland is universally so well respected.

5. HERE IS A MAP OF THE 22 SWISS CANTONS

The name of the country is derived from the Schwytz Canton which, together with two others, Uri and Unterwalden, were the nucleus around which the Halvetic Confederation was originally united. In fact, Switzerland used to be called Halvetia, a name which it inherited from its ancient inhabitants, the Helvetii.

From a political and administrative point of view, Switzerland is a republican confederation made up of 22 small states, called "cantons", each of which enjoys a more or less autonomous government.

Legislative and executive powers are exercised by the central government whose seat is at Berne, the national capital.

6. THE COIRA CATHEDRAL: A GOTHIC SOUVENIR OF THE PAST

Christianity is practiced almost universally in Switzerland: 56% of the people are Protestant, 42% Catholic, and the remaining 20% are Jews and members of other faiths.

The large number of Protestants is due to the influence of Calvin and Zwingli who led the so-called "Reformation movement" which wooed away a considerable number of people who had been members of the Church of Rome.

Religious differences were often the cause of bitter rivalries between the two factions. But in the end, common good sense prevailed and today both religions are openly and freely practiced.

7. THIS IS A MAP OF THE THREE ALPINE REGIONS

Practically all of Switzerland is mountainous. Geographically, it is subdivided into three regions: the Alpine Zone; the Swiss Alps; and the Jural Range.

8. A VIEW OF SNOW-CLAD ALPS

The *Alpine Zone* includes the Pennine Alps, the Lepontine, and the Retic; more fully described, the Swiss Alps comprise the Alps of Berne; the Alps of the Four Cantons ,and the Tod ranges. These mountain ranges meet at the water basin of St. Gothard.

9. THE ALPINE RANGES

Of all the great Alpine ranges which stretch out for almost one thousand miles from the summit of Cadibona to the Austrian frontier, the Swiss Alps comprise the central region for a distance of approximately 200 miles.

10. HERE IS A VIEW OF THE ALETSCH GLACIER

Now we find the most important European glaciers here, (such as the Rodan, the Little Deer, and others), making the highest point in Switzerland: the Dufour peak, in the solid rock of Monte Rosa (about 15,000 feet).

11. THIS IS A VIEW OF THE LITTLE DEER

Other important mountains are: the Little Deer, the Weisshorn, and the Monte Leone. Of the greatest importance are the mountain-passes of the Novena, St. Gothard, and St. Bernard, because they connect the Ticino and Rodano valleys, the Reuss, and both ends of the Rhine pass.

12. A SWISS HIGHLAND

The Swiss Highland varies in height from 15 to 18 hundred feet and ends in the northwest at Lake Neutchated at the mouth of the Aar, and at the southeast where it joins the eastern ends of Lake Geneva and Constance.

The principal cities of Switzerland have been built on the highlands: Berne, Zurich, Basle, and Luzerne.

13. THE JURAL COUNTRYSIDE

The Jural mountain-range is the boundary-line that separates Switzerland from France, and, while the mountains are not very high, but because they stand parallel to it, they cause many communications difficulties.

The Jural Range is shaped like a quarter-moon, is approximately 375 miles long and 55 miles wide. In his Commentaries, Julius Caesar pointed out that the "Mons Jura" was the boundary that separated the Helvetians from the Sequani.

14. THIS IS A CHART WHICH SHOWS THE RIVER-BASINS

These are five great river-basins within Switzerland: *the Rhine*, whose waters empty into the North Sea; the Rhone whose mouth opens into the Mediterranean; *the Po*, which empties into the Paduan valley and thence into the Adriatic; *the Adige* which also flows into the Adriatic; and *the Inn* whose waters flow the great distance to the Black Sea. The Rhine is the largest of them all.

15. THE RHINE FORMS THE SCIAFFUSA WATERFALLS

The two largest rivers in Switzerland have their sources here, both at St. Gothard: the Rodan which flows through the Vallese and empties into Lake Geneva; and the Rhine; one of whose main tributaries flows into Lake Constance and which, upon its outflow, rushes to swell the Sciaffusa waterfalls, considered to be the most impressive in Central Europe.

16. AN ALPINE VIEW WITH RIVULET

There are countless torrents and small rivers. They are to be seen everywhere, giving the Helvetian countryside a character all

its own. The mountain rivulets are very pretty, flowing across a valley and crossing the fields, merrily giving life to a whole series of little waterfalls.

17. A VIEW OF LAKES JOUX AND BRENET

There are countless lakes: large and small, there are more than 200 of them, some of which assume considerable importance in the economic life of the country because they are popular tourist attractions.

The most popular are Lakes Geneva, Zurich, Constance, Four Cantons, and Locarno. These immense mirrors of water play a large part in making the air mild for comfortable bathing, otherwise, they would be too cold for comfort because of their high elevation.

18. AND THIS IS ONE OF THE SMALLER ALPINE LAKES

And we must not omit mention of the countless mountain lakelets which make the whole area a portrait of majestic beauty.

19. THIS SMALL LAKE-CRAFT IS LOADED WITH TOURISTS

It is easy to pick out the small Swiss watercraft that ply the lakes and rivers because they fly the national flag, the red-cross on white field. They not only carry daily passengers and vacationing tourists, but they also act as lines of communication among the shores of the various cities.

20. THESE ARE FLAT-BOATS ON THE RHINE

On the more heavily travelled lakes and rivers we can see the flat-boats, or "lighters" which are built for "rough" cargo. Some are drawn by tug and others are self-propelled by built-in motors. They carry such cargoes as heavy crates, mineral ores, coal, stone, and other imperishables.

21. ZURICH: A CENTER FOR PLEASURE-CRAFT ON THE LIMMAT RIVER

A flotilla of pleasure-craft has recently appeared at this beautiful spot, consisting of skiffs and row-boats with out-board motors and built-in power plants. They stay moored peacefully at the lake and river banks, awaiting water-sports fans. Water-skiing is one of the more popular sports on the Swiss lakes.

22. ASPECTS OF SWISS LIVING

It is often said that Switzerland is a rich country where living

is good and where want and misery are a dim memory of the forgotten centuries. Actually, this is quite true.

But if Switzerland is rich today, the country does not owe it to the fruits of its soil, but to the dogged tenacity and the unstinting labors of its people who, deprived of natural resources, turned their sights toward other fields of endeavor that were less laborious while at the same time more profitable.

Today, trafficking in money, industry, and tourism are the three keystones which support the well-being and wealth of the country.

23. PROTECTIVE HANDS HAVE BECOME THE GUARDIANS OF OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY

Although Swiss banks began to develop only during the middle of the 19th Century, in this brief period, they have inspired such a faith and prestige, that Switzerland has become the great "strong-box" of the world.

Courteous and close-lipped, detached but astute, Swiss bankers, jealous defenders of their professional secret, receive money from all parts of the world, guarding and administering the funds with caution and wisdom.

24. A HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER-PLANT

Any other race on earth would have shied away from the idea of industrialization especially when there are no practical mineral deposits, particularly iron and coal, both indispensable to any industrial operation.

Nevertheless, the super-abundance of water that melts from the glaciers and the countless lakes and rivers, sharpened the wits of the Swiss who in very short order built industrial plants for the exploitation of these waters in the production of electrical power.

Today, Switzerland produces 20 billions K W a year and stands at the head of the other European producers of electrical power.

25. TWO TYPES OF SWISS WATCHES

But the Swiss have truly demonstrated their know-how in watch-making and in the field of precision design and engineering.

It is no secret, in fact, that Switzerland has long held first-rank in watch-making due to the high-grade of training of its technicians and the extraordinary ability of the skilled workers.

Swiss watches continue to remain most in demand all over the world, and properly so, because their unequalled technical perfection is unrivalled.

Watch-making is engaged in everywhere in Switzerland, but the more highly specialized factories are in cantons of Berne, Geneva, Solothurn, Sciaffusa, and Ticino.

26. WORKERS AT THEIR TASKS IN A TEXTILE MILL

The textile industry also moves ahead at a fast pace, especially in the manufacture of silk and cotton piece goods. The old hand-looms have been replaced by the most modern machinery which, it must be conceded, are not only faster, but produce more accurately.

The silk industry has developed particularly in the cantons of Zurich, Saint Gaul, and Glarus.

27. THIS IS LACE-MAKER AT WORK

Saint Gaul is also very famous for its embroidery and lace which for their beauty and varied designs are unequalled anywhere. The development of synthetic fabrics (textiles) has also been established in the cities of Roschach and Steckborn.

28. COSTUMES OF THE GRIGIONI CANTON

Traditionalists by nature, the Swiss are fond of displaying their ancient popular costumes on civil as well religious holidays.

As in other countries that nurture this tradition, every canton has its own peculiar attire, that singles it out from all the others. The people have an almost personal affection for them. The costumes are trimmed with materials that display more or less flamboyant colors and are further enriched with points, lace, embroidery, and ribbons. These costumes are worn in the Grigioni Canton.

29. HERE WE HAVE A FIELD OF GRAIN

There is very little farming in Switzerland, since only 10% of the land surface is arable. Notwithstanding this short-coming, the use of synthetic chemical fertilizers, farm machinery, and carefully selected seeds allow some abundant harvests of top-rank quality.

30. DAIRY AND MEAT-CATTLE AT PASTURE

In the highlands, however, cattle-raising is widespread. Helvetian cattle are of superior strain and . . .

31. MILKING-TIME

. . . supply the dairy industry which is very thriving and produces cheeses of the highest quality which are exported all over the world. The production of butter is prodigious, as well as small bland soft cheeses to suit every taste.

32. THIS IS A GRAPE-HARVEST IN THE HILLY VINEYARDS OR LAVAUX

There is extensive grape-cultivation in the Ticino and Vallese regions, especially along the hilly sections that enjoy sunshine and the cool waters of the lakes.

These grapes yield light wines of fragrant bouquet, among the better known, the Umagne, Malvasie, L'Aigle, Fendant and Hermitage.

33. HERE WE SEE A TOURIST-SPOT ATOP A MOUNTAIN

As we have already mentioned briefly, tourism is the third largest source of national income. In fact, we may have to concede that Switzerland may be justly recognized as the international tourist center *par excellence.*

There are various factors that attract visitors from all corners of the globe: first and foremost is the beauty of the country, unmatched anywhere; then there is the salubrious climate, the enchanting lakes and mountains, the abundance of mineral and thermal springs and, finally, network of hotel accommodations that are the most efficiently operated on earth.

34. THIS IS WHAT THE SWISS CALL A "PANORAMIC STREET"

They have built these avenues in numbers in deference to the tourists . . .

35. THE MOUNTAIN AIR-CARRIAGE

. . . railroads across the plains and mountains, in an endless stream of enchanting country views . . .

36. A FUNICULAR TROLLEY SUSPENDED IN MID-AIR

. . . this and other modern means of transportation so that every panoramic mountain-top and every attractive spot might easily be reached. And let us note carefully, all this without in the slightest manner changing or defacing any of the natural beauties.

Another reason why tourists from other lands gladly come and tarry on Helvetian land: the painstaking professional training of the personnel who come into contact with the visitor from abroad.

In this special area of human endeavor, the Swiss have, in truth, outdone themselves. They have established schools and integrated courses built around a hard-core of preparation aimed especially at the tourist, so that foreigner of any tongue and nation

will find themselves individually welcome, comfortably accommodated, and with an impeccable organization constantly at their disposal.

37. THESE ARE YOUNGSTERS WAITING FOR A LIFT TO THE SKI-SLOPE

During the winter season the Swiss Alps hold a special attraction for ski-enthusiasts, because every place even the apparently most forbidding, is easily reached by the modern funiculars and seat carriages.

38. THIS IS A VIEW OF ST. MORITZ

The little city of St. Moritz is one of the most renowned winter vacationing spots. Internationally heralded as a tourist center, it provides first rate hotel and tourist accommodations.

39. AND HERE WE SEE THE EINSIEDELN ABBEY

For we may not forget a visit to Einsiedeln, the most famous pilgrimage to be made in Switzerland, the site of the abbey which is the custodian of the Black Virgin, so-named because it is believed that she was blackened by the smoke of a fire.

40. THIS IS THE PRETTY LITTLE SQUARE IN A SMALL SWISS CITY

When you visit a Swiss city three things are certain to command your attention: orderliness, cleanliness, and reserve.

The thoroughfares are truly models to imitate: for example, no one would allow himself to discard a scrap of paper or a cigarette butt on the pavement in deference to that orderliness and scrupulous cleanliness that reign supreme in Switzerland.

41. A PICTURESQUE SMALL DWELLING WITH ITS BALCONIES ADORNED WITH FLOWERS

Another prerogative of the cities, particularly the smaller ones, is to decorate windows and balconies with beautiful flowers of many colors, which regale the tourist with an incomparable spectacle of light and color. This is a very ancient custom which has come down through the successive generations, revealing the gentle soul that yearns for the beautiful.

Every balcony is a little enclosure in which the most beautiful varieties of flowers are carefully placed, not for any reasons that nourish pride and ostentation, but because they give the dwellers in the home a real personal satisfaction.

42. THIS IS THE CASTLE AT CHILLON

It will be helpful, at this point, if we note that Switzerland lived one of the most glorious pages in its history, during the Middle Ages.

The many medieval castles that dot the valleys and those close to the lake-fronts bear witness to that historical fact. Most of them have withstood the ravages of time and are even today in a good state of sound preservation, such as this one at Chillon.

43. BERNE: A SWEEPING PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE AAR RIVER

Now let us cast a swift glance at the more important and representative cities of the country.

Let us begin with Berne, the capital. Since it is the seat of government, life there is heavily flavored with political and administrative talk and activity. Nevertheless, there are also several quite important industries there, also, such as cotton textiles and watch-making.

The old Berne quarter retains its typically medieval appearance. In character, also, are the porticoes which seem to slither, snake-like, along the main thoroughfares. And these are many fountains, each with a bear perched at the top, Berne's symbol.

The modern part of the city, instead, boasts of ambitious, though rational, buildings, while the perimeter of the city displays many elegant small residential villas, embellished large, luxiriant gardens.

44. AND HERE WE HAVE A PANORAMIC VIEW OF ZURICH

While Berne is actually the political capital, Zurich is unquestionably conceded to be the economic capitol. Of Roman origin and named *Turicum* - - and crossed by two major rivers, the Limmat and the Sihl, Zurich has undergone a sweeping evolution in less than a century, particularly because of its fortunate geographical position which has placed it at the cross-waterways which constitute major lines of European communication, and because the city has fostered and nurtured the most important Swiss industrial enterprises. Furthermore, Zurich is the first-ranking commercial and banking center in the entire Confederation.

45. ZURICH: AN AFTER-DARK GLIMPSE OF THE LIMMAT RIVER

Built upon the lake from which it derives its name, and is

shaped like a half-moon, Zurich has a "dual personality", so to speak: there is a vast difference, for example, between the old medieval-like quarter with its tiny narrow streets and poor dwellings and the new quarters with their modern buildings, wide thoroughfares, and tree-lined avenues.

Here we have an after-dark view of Zurich, with the multicolored lights of the signs that are reflected in the mirror of the Limmat River.

46. AND THIS IS BASILEA: A PANORAMIC VIEW FROM THE CATHEDRAL TOWER

Basilea is also an ancient Roman settlement which they called Basilia. It is watered by the Rhine River which cuts it into two sections: to the right is the so-called "Little Basilea. It is the economic and commercial part of the city with its modern industrial chemical, textile, and mechanical plants. At the left, on higher ground, is the old section of the city which, among other things, boasts its famous university, the cathedral, museums, and several typically medieval edifices.

Incidentally, Basilea is, moreover, the most bustling river-port in Switzerland.

47. GENEVA: A FLEETING PANORAMIC GLIMPSE OF THE CITY AND LAKE

The Romans called the city, *Genava*. Today the city enjoys worldwide fame as the seat of such great and prestigious organizations as the International Red Cross, and the Office of International Labor and European Services of the United Nations.

The Rhone River flows through it, also dividing it into two sectors; it has a splendid lake, a feature that tourists from all over the world have proved is very desirable and preferable to many others.

48. AND HERE IN GENEVA, WE SEE THE FOUNTAIN ON THE LAKE

This fountain actually spouts directly from the lake.

Geneva is most famous for its watch-making industry which has manifested an incredible degree of excellence. The city is certainly modern in appearance, although the buildings are more or less low and the avenues wide. No skyscrapers are in sight.

49. AND THIS IS LUZERNE: ANOTHER PANORAMIC VIEW

Luzerne is built upon the banks of a magnificently beautiful

lake. It, too, is a typically medieval city: the towers, the church-belfries and the general aspect of its buildings amply prove it.

But it is precisely because of this that Luzerne has become one of the major Swiss tourist attractions and, peculiarly, but of necessity the new rises next to the old. Modern hotels have sprung up, as well as various sports to offer the tourists maximum choices of self-indulgences.

50. LOCARNO: A VIEW OF THE LAKE

Locarno is a beautiful and gay city, the principal center in the Ticino Canton. It is thickly populated with people of Italian ancestry.

It is situated on the lake-front, an enchanting setting which makes it a soul-satisfying tourist's play-ground which draws visitors primarily for its gentle climate and the beauty of the surroundings.

51. THE END.