

KARL BARTH ON HIS DISMISSAL.

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AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW.

THE CHURCH AT THE CROSS ROADS.

"GREAT RELIGIOUS AWAKENING."

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

ZURICH, Saturday.

Professor Barth, who is at present staying with friends at a lovely country seat high above the lakes of Zurich, received me this afternoon when he gave one of the first interviews he has granted to Press representatives.

Dr. Barth was compulsorily retired from his post of Professor of Evangelical Theology at Bonn University last week on account of his refusal to take the prescribed oath to Chancellor Hitler.

Being a passionate horseman, in spite of his fifty years, he is now enjoying an invigorating holiday, and appears to feel satisfied with the course things have taken. In October he will begin lectures at Basle University.

"Do you consider yourself a victim of the Nazis?" I asked. "I have no special resentment against them," he replied. "I fought them and they cleared me out. But I have not been especially unfairly treated."

"INTRIGUES."

"Were there intrigues against you?" His reply was: "Germany is full of intrigues and hostilities to-day. Of course, the German Christians were against me. But my dismissal and subsequent compulsory retirement are the logical consequences of my own conduct."

"What attitude did the students take?" I asked. "Mostly on my side." The Professor was very cautious in answering questions. "Who were your greatest adversaries?" Professor Barth said: "My hardest battles I fought against my own friends. The weak and timid ones who tried to find some compromise and *modus vivendi* with the Nazis. The bishops, for instance, tried to save the national church. I would not have minded separating from it and founding a free church."

"What will be the future development of the confessional church?" "If the confessional church refuses to compromise, if they have the pluck to fight it out to the end, there will be a great and heroic struggle which will render them strong and powerful."

"Have they the majority?" "I think so. In addition to their innumerable religious adherents, all the enemies of the Nazi system flock to them, because they are the only bodies to offer any resistance. There is a great religious awakening, with a political undercurrent, and the number of convinced Nazis is rapidly diminishing."

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message on sweeping tax proposals created two storms: one of protest from those who object to "soaking the rich," one of enthusiasm from those who approve of creating a "better social order." Mr. ROOSEVELT on Wednesday virtually suspended his plans by wisely announcing that he was in no hurry. His motive is clearly social and electoral rather than fiscal, for the exclusive taxation of the super-rich is of little budgetary consequence. His caution is wise, because the Supreme Court is still in being and is still for him an unknown factor.

Geneva and Aggression.

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The legal committee set up as a result of the League of Nations resolution of April 17 has sat at Geneva throughout the week. Its business was to explore a method of making more precise the existing Covenant provision for sanctions against an aggressor with a view to the "collective system of security" in Europe. In the middle of April that committee's work was regarded in the prospect as containing potentially the very seed of the collective system. How much the situation has changed in the short interval is illustrated by the fact that during its session last week it could command little more than an academic interest.

The Australian Peace Move.

There is wisdom in the visit of the Federal Ministers to Perth. West Australia has lost her petition for secession, as seemed inevitable from the start, but the grievances remain. Briefly, they are two: economic handicap and political isolation. The former can and must be removed, or at least reduced, before there is any real union, but the reconstruction of fiscal policy which it involves necessarily takes time. Happily the political grievance is more easily surmounted in these days of aircraft and transcontinental railways. Now that the Federal Government has taken the first step West Australia will no longer feel herself cast for the role of Cinderella in the Commonwealth family.

Summer Sport.

After two years of drought, the English climate has returned to the normal summer weather of three fine days and a thunderstorm. Unluckily, the three fine days do not always coincide with the cricket calendar—with the result that the first Test Match a fortnight ago was ruined by rain. The second opened yesterday at Lord's in glorious sunshine, but the low scoring at the start suggested a difficult wicket and a mortmain of leather-jackets. It is almost too much to hope that next week will remain fine throughout.