

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1924)

Heft: 176

Rubrik: Financial and commercial news from Switzerland

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 15.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

eidgen. Getreideverwaltung. Sammler seien auf diese Gelegenheit aufmerksam gemacht.

(Inzeiger für das Limmthal.)

Ein Schirmleihverein.—Wir lesen im "St. Galler Tagblatt": Wie wir vernehmen, soll in St. Gallen ein Schirmleihverein gegründet werden, der zum Zwecke hat, in allen grösseren Ortschaften der Schweiz Depots einzurichten, die bei Bedarf an die Mitglieder leihweise Schirme abgeben. Die Depots werden möglichst in der Nähe der Bahnhöfe, in Tabakläden oder Restaurants der Hauptstrassen errichtet werden. Die Schirme können von morgens 7 Uhr bis zur Polizeistunde, das heisst in den Läden bis 7 Uhr abends und von dieser Zeit an in den bestimmten Restaurants bezogen werden. Mitglieder der Gesellschaft kann jedermann werden durch Kauf einer Abonnementskarte von 3 Fr. 50, die jährliche Gültigkeit hat. Auf der Karte befindet sich auch ein Verzeichnis der Depots. Die Organisation ist sehr günstig für Reisende, die zum Beispiel in St. Gallen einen Schirm beziehen und ihn beim Eintreten in besseren Wetters in Zürich wieder abgeben können.

Die Idee scheint uns gut und sollte auch in Zürich aufgegriffen werden. Alle jene, welche ihr Regendach mit Vorliebe irgendwo stehen lassen oder gerade dann den Schirm nicht bei sich haben, wenn es in Strömen giescht, werden solche Depots mit Freuden begrüssen.

(Zürcher Volksztg.)

Auch ein Jubiläum.—In Menzingen wurde dem Herrn Verwalter Albrich Hegglin in Bethlehem das 25. Kind geboren. Ehre und Achtung vor der braven Mutter, die den Segen in den Kindern sieht!

(Volksblatt.)

BERNARD DE WATTEVILLE. †

Bernard von Wattenwyl, a noted explorer and keen big-game hunter, was attacked and lacerated by a lion in Uganda on Nov. 6th, when endeavouring to follow and shoot a white rhinoceros. His untimely death means a great loss to natural science: the Bernese Museum of Natural History possesses already an extensive collection of rare specimens presented by him and secured during his many expeditions in Africa, where he was generally accompanied by his daughter, who is barely out of her teens. Mr. de Watteville mostly resided in London and was a cousin of Madame Paravicini, the wife of our Minister.

We reproduce an appreciation, published by *The Times* (Nov. 8th):—

The tragic end of Bernard de Watteville, artist and big-game hunter, will come as a bitter surprise to a very small, but devoted, number of friends. Sprung from an ancient aristocratic family of Berne, in Switzerland, he had preserved in him all the instincts and courtesies of the century that preceded the Revolution. Like his ancestors, who had scorned to recognise the democratic régime which had beggared their family, he had, even as a boy, conceived an intense hatred of modern popular government; he shunned the crowd and its manners as the incarnation of evil. Just as many leaders of his family abandoned their country before the revolutionary tide in 1797 to take service, together with a chosen band of their retainers, as "Watteville's Regiment" in the British Army, so Bernard took refuge in hunting, shooting and fishing to escape all contact with the plebeian world.

At first alone, then later with his devoted daughter, he had roamed throughout Europe in search of sport. A remote and rough little farm in Norway, three days' march from the railway, had been for long his favourite home, where he brought up his only daughter to observe nature, to fish and to shoot. Three times he had visited Africa. On this last occasion for two whole years father and daughter, alone and in the most fearless fashion, had been shooting and collecting photographs of all the fauna of East Africa. The girl herself had been taught by her father to stalk elephants and to take their photographs at a few yards' range.

De Watteville's courage was shown in many ways. On one occasion, while fishing along the Italo-Swiss frontier, he was accused of murdering a smuggler found dead on a lonely pass. He was threatened with a vendetta, whereupon, dragging with him a trembling policeman, he boldly went and entered the victim's home, where the relatives were in the act of preparing to sally forth to take the supposititious murderer's life. Abashed by the dramatic entry of their intended quarry, they were left by Bernard convinced of his innocence. Again, on the snow-covered Alps, father and daughter have been seen every winter since the war skiing alone, he always without hat and sticks. No slope, however rough or steep, deterred the pair; not even sprains and painful falls interrupted what had become a contest against nature. Life to Bernard, in fact, was but an opportunity to prove that the aristocrat of the 18th century was the superior of the modern man. To him the ordinary citizen of a so-called democratic State was but a despicable slave of his demagogic master. Like the nobleman of France who smiled at the

howling proletariat, so it is easy to imagine Bernard de Watteville facing his end, for he was true to type.

He had married, some 25 years ago, Beatrice, of the well-known Shropshire family of Belldoes. His daughter has declared her intention to continue his unfinished collector's work in Africa.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

The following cutting from the French watch trade journal "L'Horloger" has been sent to us by a correspondent: in looking through our own advertisement columns, we incline to agree:—

Il paraît que nos voisins d'outre-Jura n'auraient pas le sens de la publicité! Et ce manque de sens serait la cause que la Suisse industrielle n'occupe pas dans le monde la place à laquelle elle aurait droit. C'est du moins ce qu'affirme un journaliste commercial anglais cité par le "Journal suisse d'horlogerie." Et ce journaliste raconte une anecdote typique: "Il y a deux ans, on proposa à un des principaux journaux de l'Orient de faire paraître une série d'articles sur les Etats européens. La proposition fut acceptée et on cita des noms de pays. A quelqu'un qui parlait de la Suisse le rédacteur en chef répondit: 'Il ne vaut pas la peine de la mentionner. Elle n'a du reste pas d'industries à part celle du chocolat et du fromage.' Et on n'écrivit rien sur ce pays.

Il me semble que le rédacteur en chef en question exagérait un peu. Il avait probablement dans son gousset une montre de Genève, de Bienne ou de la Chaux-de-Fonds et, s'il ignorait que la Suisse est la grande pourvoyeuse de montres de l'univers, c'est qu'il n'avait pas mis ses lunettes le jour où il lança cette boutade! En tout cas, si la Suisse ne fait pas autant d'affaires qu'elle en ferait si elle faisait plus de publicité, il nous faut souhaiter qu'elle en reste là. Nos maisons françaises n'auraient plus qu'à fermer leurs portes. Et celles d'Angleterre et des Etats-Unis de même.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND.

The consolidated debt of the Swiss Confederation at the end of September, 1924, was computed at Frs. 2,205 million. The budget for 1925 provides for interest service on the debt to the amount of Frs. 108,500,000.

The budget of the Postal Service for 1925 foresees a surplus of Frs. 6,300,000 and a profit of Frs. 3,500,000 on the year's accounts, as shown in profit and loss account. For the Telegraph and Telephone services, which are carried on as a separate department, there should be a surplus of Frs. 28,000,000 and a net profit of Frs. 303,800. These figures are most satisfactory and form a very favourable addition to the list of improving Government services, of which the Federal Railways form the outstanding example.

Reporting on the results of the year ended 30th of September, 1924, the Directors of the Entreprises Sulzer in Winterthur state that, after providing Frs. 2,750,000 for writing off depreciations on foreign participations and covering the debit balance of Frs. 724,000 from last year, a debit balance of Frs. 1,500,000 is to be reckoned with. To cover this, the reserves of Frs. 2,000,000 will be drawn upon. The Directors believe that, unless any extraordinary circumstances now interfere with the normal course of business, they should now be able to continue working on a satisfactory basis. The amount of orders at present on the books is satisfactory.

Imports into Switzerland in the third quarter of the present year amounted to Frs. 619,000,000, as compared with Frs. 514,000,000 in the corresponding period last year. Against this, exports have only increased from 440 millions to 490 millions, so that the quarter's deficit of exports is 129 million francs, as against 74 millions for the September quarter in 1923.

Over the first nine months of the year considerable improvement is, however, noticeable in the case of certain important lines of export. Watches have advanced from Frs. 145,900,000 in 1923 to Frs. 183,300,000 in 1924, silk from 133 to 150 millions, machinery from 107 to 122 millions and cotton textiles from 75½ to 104½ millions.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES.

BONDS.	Nov. 4		Nov. 11	
	Fr.	Per cent.	Fr.	Per cent.
Swiss Confederation 3% 1903	73.87	73.50		
Swiss Confederation 5% 1923	99.00	98.80		
Federal Railways A-K 3½	77.07	77.80		
Canton Basle-Stadt 5½ 1921	100.12	100.65		
Canton Fribourg 3% 1892	69.75	69.50		

SHARES.	Nov. 4		Nov. 11	
	Fr.	Per cent.	Fr.	Per cent.
Swiss Bank Corporation	500	641	661	
Crédit Suisse	500	675	690	
Union de Banques Suisses	500	537	555	
Fabrique Chimique ci-dev. Sandoz	1000	3015	3080	
Société pour l'Industrie Chimique	1000	1905	1935	
C. F. Bally S.A.	1000	1150	1180	
Fabrique de Machines Oerlikon	500	598	606	
Entreprises Sulzer	1000	647	640	
S.A. Brown Boveri (new)	500	277	290	
Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Cond. Mk. Co.	200	197	197	
Choc. Suisses Peter-Cailler-Kohler	100	147	145	
Comp. de Navig'n sur le Lac Léman	500	500	500	

WORLD TRANSPORT AGENCY LIMITED.
Shipping, Forwarding & Insurance Agents,
HEAD OFFICE
TRANSPORT HOUSE, 21, GT. TOWER STREET,
LONDON, E.C. 3.
CONNECTED EVERYWHERE ABROAD.

Tell your English Friends
to visit
Switzerland
and to buy their Tickets
from
The Swiss Federal Railways,
Carlton House, 11b, Regent St., S.W.1.

Drink delicious "Ovaltine"
at every meal—for Health!

ERNEST Ladies' and
Gentlemen's Tailor
NEW ADDRESS:
5, UPPER JAMES STREET, GOLDEN SQUARE, W. 1.
Telephone: REGENT 4946
Exclusive West End Styles of best materials at moderate prices

CROWE & CO. (London), LTD.
Shipping & Forwarding Agents,
158, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2.
Telephone: Bishopsgate 1166-1169.
AND AT
MANCHESTER LIVERPOOL ANTWERP STRASBOURG
MULHOUSE BASLE ZURICH ST. GALL CHIASSO
COMO MILAN GENOA ROME.
Special Daily Services to and from Italy, Switzerland
and France, connecting with sailings from all ports.
Efficient Organisation for Colonial and Overseas Traffic.
C.O.D.'s collected and remitted promptly
Through Bills of Lading issued.

G. CUSI, Commission Agent,
52, SHAFESBURY AVENUE,
PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1.
Member of the Turf Guardian Society and National Sporting League.
Telegrams: Nostril, Piccy, London. Telephone: Gerrard 815-816
Trunk: Gerrard 2191.

Pension Suisse 20 Palmeira Avenue,
WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.
Highly recommended. Every comfort. Continental cuisine.
Billiards. Sea front.
Phone: Southend-on-Sea 1132 Proprietress: Mrs. Albrecht-Meneghelli

Please reserve **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28th,**
for the **BANQUET and BALL**
of the **CITY SWISS CLUB.**

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS
Not exceeding 3 lines.—Per insertion, 2s.; three insertions, 5s.—
Postage extra on replies addressed to *Swiss Observer*.

REFINED Comfortable Home for Gentlemen: excellent cooking and absolute cleanliness; within 25 minutes City and West End.—"Halcyon," 45, Weston Park, Crouch End, N.8.

CLAPHAM, unfurnished, 1st floor, 3 large, lofty Rooms, bathroom, kitchen and lobby, all enclosed; gas, electricity, garden.—12, Cedars Road, S.W.4.

BEDFORD PARK DISTRICT, W.4.—An attractive Freehold modern Residence, comprising 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, bath, kitchen, etc., small front and back garden, approach and room for garage at back; in excellent condition; vacant now; price £1,100.—Apply: "Freehold," c/o "Swiss Observer," 21, Garlick Hill, E.C.4.

SWISS FAMILY would accept Paying Guests at very nice private residence in Crystal Palace district; large garden and tennis court; reasonable terms.—"Box W. S.," c/o "Swiss Observer," 21, Garlick Hill, E.C.4.