## Notes and gleanings

## Objekttyp: Group

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

Band (Jahr): - (1930)
Heft 431

PDF erstellt am:
27.04.2024

## Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Inhalten der Zeitschriften. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern.
Die auf der Plattform e-periodica veröffentlichten Dokumente stehen für nicht-kommerzielle Zwecke in Lehre und Forschung sowie für die private Nutzung frei zur Verfügung. Einzelne Dateien oder Ausdrucke aus diesem Angebot können zusammen mit diesen Nutzungsbedingungen und den korrekten Herkunftsbezeichnungen weitergegeben werden.
Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Die systematische Speicherung von Teilen des elektronischen Angebots auf anderen Servern bedarf ebenfalls des schriftlichen Einverständnisses der Rechteinhaber.

## Haftungsausschluss

Alle Angaben erfolgen ohne Gewähr für Vollständigkeit oder Richtigkeit. Es wird keine Haftung übernommen für Schäden durch die Verwendung von Informationen aus diesem Online-Angebot oder durch das Fehlen von Informationen. Dies gilt auch für Inhalte Dritter, die über dieses Angebot zugänglich sind.

# Cle Swiss Observer <br> The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain. 

edited by dr. h. w. egli with the co-operation of members of the london colony.
Telephone: Clerkenwell 9595
Published every Friday at 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.
Telegrams: Freprinco, London.


## HOME NEWS

## FEDERAL

## - INTERNATIONAL BANK.

The difficulties regarding the state-treaty between Switzerland and the other nations which is necessary for the establishment of the International Bank at Basle have found an elegant solution at the second Hague Conference. As all Swiss State-Treaties of a longer duration than 15 years are subject to the Referendum it seemed originally that the secure establishment of the International Bank would have to be delayed durng the 90 days' period in which a popular vote or the acceptance or rejection of the treaty may be demanded by referendum. At the Hague it has now been decided to enter into two identical treaties, one for 15 years, for which period the referendum does not apply, and one for permanent duration. The Federal Government will submit both treaties to Parliament for ratification While the permanent treaty will be in suspense for three months allowed for the referendum the Bank's establishment is in any case secured for the period of fifteen years. The double treaty is really only a formality as no one anticipates that Referendum will be demanded anticipates that should be demanded the probability that the reaty be demanded the probability that the treaty might be rejected by the popular vote i
nil.

## HE FASCIST ACCUSATION AGAINST SWITZERLAND

The Federal Attorney General has submitted a detailed report to the Federal Council on the anti-fascist activities recently revealed in Paris, Brussels and Geneva which have caused the Italian Press to launch such violent attacks on the Swiss authorities for alleged neglect of their uties regarding the protection of the delegate to the League of Nations. The report gives the alleged plot against the Italian delegation a much ess dangerous aspect than the Italian papers would have it. Berneri has been arrested in Brussels not for plotting but merely because he nsed false identity papers. How he and other old hold of forged swiss passports will be investi gated. Our authorities have been watching Berneri's movements for several months and taven all the precautions required. On receipt of further information the Federal Government will more fully consider the unpleasant situation that has arisen owing to the Italian accusations.

## LOCAL.

## ZURICH.

The oldest living male citizen of Zurich is 94 years old. There are altogether 10 veterans of 30 and more years, and the report adds that, while 9 are widowers, " one is not yet married !"

A motion has been put to the Zurich Town Council to budget Fr. 10,000 pro 1930 for the furtherance of literature.

## BERNE.

As the nomination of Mr. Minger to the ederal Council has left a seat vacant on the Board of the Federal Bank, Mr. G. Gnägi, a mem ber of the national council, has been requested to fill the post for the remainder of the current period.

A terrible tragedy has occured at Thun. A working-man killed himself with his army riffe after first attempting to shoot his daughter with a evolver.
injuries.

The motive for the tragedy seems to be that the father did not like the idea of his daughter who was engaged, leaving him. T.G.

## THE END OF A LEGEND.

The Tribune de Genève reports the following story : In the Bernese Oberland it is considered as on established fact that neither the lake of Thun nor the lake of Brienz have ever been frozen. A correspondent of the " Bund" however has found in a Bible of the 16 th century a notice which shows that there is an error

The notice which appears in a very archaic rerman reads: " A historical event happened in the year of grace 1685 . The lake of Thun was
frozen to such an extent that horse drawn carriages and sledges were circulating on the ice. On the 26th day there was a severe earthquake and on the same day a heavy fall of snow covered the fields which lasted for a day and a night.'

## glarus.

Various outbreaks of fire in Elm, apparently due to arson, have agitated the inhabitants of the villages which consist mostly of wooden houses. A 28 years old woman was suspected and has owned her guilt. She was found to be insane and
was removed to safety.

In Blickensdorf near Baar Mrs. L. Kälin showed her husband and her 21 years old son a revolver, which somebody had given to her as the son took the weapon into his hands, there was a detonation and Mrs. Kälin collapsed mortally wounded. wounded.

BASLE.
The Hague Conference has definitely decided on Basle as the seat of the International Repar ations Bank

St. GALL.
The embroidery export in 1929 was 21 million francs less in value than in 1928.

## thURGAU.

Thanks to the perseverance of Prof. Dr Leutenegger the Kantonsschule at Frauenfeld possesses now an astronomical observatory. Z.

## GRISONS.

The Federal Council has authorised the Department of Political Economy to refund to the canton two thirds of the help granted in 1929 to vintners, up to a maximum of Fr. 12,000. This aid was given chiefly to the vintners in the Misox, as their vineyards suffered great damage from the severe winter.

## ON A GOLDEN LUGE

I gather that one of the most resplendent figures at St. Moritz this year is Lady Oppen heimer, wife of the South African magnate, Sir Ernest Oppenheimer

Lady Oppenheimer and her suite caused a sensation to begin with by arriving in Switzer of the the rallway coach of the Presily the pira Republic. This is appared out to those who care to pay for it.

Then, they tell me, Lady Oppenheimer prods over the snow on a golden luge.
Be that as it may, she won the prize at the fancy dress dance at the Carlton, in a 1780 costume of unparalleled magnificence.

## SKIERS IN AN AVALANCHE.

Three young skiers of Zillis, in the Canton of Grisons, were making an excursion on the Piz Beverin ( 9,849 -ft.) when they were struck by an avalanche which swept them towards a precipice.

On the brink of the abyss they struck against a rock, to which they clung desperately while the rest of the avalanche thundered by. Their skis being smashed to splinters, they struggled on foot through the snow, which was sometimes up to their arm-pits, until they reached the valley in a state of exhaustion.

## VALAIS.

The electorate had recently to decide on a credit of Fr. 700,000 for the construction of gas works estimated to cost Fr. 1,400,000 which is to provide gas for the commmes of Sierre, Chalais Chippis and Montana. The credit has been voted for by a large majority and one of the most modern plants will be erected in due course.
J.G.

## VAUD.

When making the customary round of inspection, the police of Rolle have found eight fishermen from Savoy who were throwing nets within 2 or 3 km of the Swiss shore. Sixty nets have been confiscated as well as have been given to the Hospital at Rolle. Bonne appétit:

## FROM THE TICINO.

## GOTTHARD RAILWAY

To avoid the possibility of danger and recurring interruption of the line, at Arbedo, due to abnormal quantities of earth and stones brought down by the mountain torrent coming from the avalanche region of Mount Arbino, the Federal Railways have planned a deviation of the line, for a distance of about $1 \frac{1}{4}$ kilometers. After would proceed closer to the mountain and would
(continued in next column)

## NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

## By Kyburg.

## Switzerland is Getting Safer :

Evening News, 13th Jan
More than 2,000 people returning from the winter sports in Switzerland arrived at Vic toria Station last night. Five boat trains were run from the coast instead of the usual two

Many business men returned, while bright mufflers showed that hundreds of undergraduates had come back to start a new term this week. Boys from the public schools, however, will have a few days longer in the snow.

More people returned than on the corresponding day last year, yet there were far fewer casualities.

There were some who limped or hobbled along, and some who had their arms in slings, while faces adorned with sticking plaster were plentiful. But there was not one cot case. A Southern Railway official said that it seemed as if conditions had been less dangerous this season or that British winter sportsmen were learning to take more care of themselves.

Last year ambulances met several of the boat trains, but this season they were not required.

Doctors at Swiss resorts always look for ward to a rich harvest at this time of the year, and ther are rarely disappointed. A few people who should have returned are still in Switzerland under doctors' orders

Customs officials were kept busy examthrough from by the earlier divisions of the boat train had long waits before their luggage could be cleared.
I particularly like the last paragraph in the above article, the one about the very long delay at the Customs at Victoria Station. I take it that among those returned from Switzerland on that day were to be found a great number of members of the English Upper Classes, i.e., people who may have some " pull" with the Powers that be and who, having felt terribly vexed over that delay and having thought, perchance, also how utterly futile and stupid such Customs Barriers are, may have learnt something.

But, if Switzerland is getting safer-and to my mind, Switzerland has always been The Safest Spot in the world, except for the foolhardy and the swaggerers-may we not feel some grateful remembrance when reading the following tribute to our Guides?

## Bold Climbers of the Alps

Evening Telegraph and Post, Dundee, 4th Jan.
More and more people each year seem to be seeking recreation on the Continent, either because the summers here are not warm enough or the winters not cold enough.

At the present moment hundreds of English and probably a few lucky Scots are disporting themselves amid the snow and ice of Switzer-

## Home News-(Coniinued)

cut through the alluvial cone of the torrent by vay of a tumnel about 370 vards long. The rail way line will be considerably improved as regards gradients and curves and the goods station of Bellinzona will have more elbow-room. The work is estimated to cost about 3 million francs and to take a year to carry out.

## GENTENARY OF CANTONAL CONSTITUTION

As this year occurs the centenary of the adop fion of the constitution, under which the Ticino has lived, with minor amendments, for the past hundred years, a committee of the leading politicians has decided to commemorate the event by holding a special meeting of the Grand Council on the 5th of July next. In addition, a book on historical developments with special attention to constitutional law will be issued and special tuition on matters connected with the constitution will be given in all the schools of the Canton.
EXHIBITION OF ITALIAN ART.

The Swiss visiting the Exhibition of Italian Old Masters at Burlington House should not omi to pay some attention to the works (seven of them) by Bernardino Luini of Lugano, perhaps the best painter the Ticino has ever produced. His "A Boy with a Puzzle" is supposed to be the best painting of a boy in existence, and several others of his works are much appreciated. I do not know whether there are paintings by other Ticinesi, but then my knowledge of the world of art is rather meagre.
land, and enjoying all the healthy excitement of vigorous and energetic winter sports.

They are not likely to find any class of the people they are living among more interesting or more admirable than the hardy race of Swiss guides, the physically perfect and adventureome group of men who risk life and limb in taking bold climbers to the peaks of the Alps.

By himself the professional is safe enough, but it is when for the sum of twelve or twenty pounds he agrees to conduct a mere novice to the topmost summit of the Matterhorn that the dangers really begin.

By himself the guide takes no risks. From couth upwards he has been rubbing elbows with langer. Experience has produced in him a curious pliability of the feet, which can find support on slanting surfaces without undue fatigue to the calves of the legs.

The average man used to walking with his feet on a flat surface, finds this excessively tiring. Just try it, and then imagine climbing for miles with the fore part of the foot held at an acute angle.

Then his arms, hands, and shoulders are so vell developed that off the mountains the guide looks top-heary, but among the peaks this strength is of the greatest use in making a way over the rocks and crags.

All the guides are under strict Government control. They can obtain a license only after an experience of several years as a carrier with properly conducted parties, and even then he has to pass an examination in arithmetic and grammar, accomplishments which seem to have no great bearing on his life-work.

That is why so many of them are well edu cated men, speaking several languages with ease and fluency

Some years ago a young guide was dis covered washing bottles in a large London hotel, and the friend who found him there took him for a climbing holiday in Cumberland Next summer his pations on the Alps were astounded when, after a sudden slip, the guide shouted to them in great excitement, "Whaur's ta gam? Hod tee ta rape, thou chump-heed.

But the majority of the professionals speak English with no such dialectal variants. They we gentlemanly, polished fellows, with capable minds as well as strong bodies.

One of their most pronounced virtues is their clannishness with their fellow guides. If one of them is unfortunate enough to get lost, his brethren spare no pains and shrink from no dangers in order to secure the boty and give it decent burial.

In January, 1912, as a party was descend ing from a towering peak called the Pigne d'Arolla, the last guide, in crossing a snow bridge over a deep crevasse, fell through, and the rope by which he was bound to his compan ions shapped under the strain.

He was heard to shout, but the only arailable rope, eighty feet long, was far too short to reach him. Rescue with the tools at hand was impossible. Next day a well-equipped party returned to the spot.

A guide, let down into the icy crevasse was hauled up fainting with the cold. Two others eventually discovered the lost guide, whose body was horribly mangled, at the bot tom of the crevasse, some 180 feet deep.

Another loss of two guides on Mont Blanc was followed by several days of daring search and the bodies brought up from a depth of some 200 feet.

In vain the authorities have protested that the recovery of lost climbers at such risk is scarcely worth while, but it is part of the guide's professional code to give his hapless brethren burial.

Some, no doubt, grow careless through over familiarity; others are tempted into difficult situations by the lure of big money, but the virtues that the sport of mountaineering calls forth are big and manly ones.

With ordinary prudence it can be the noblest and grandest of outdoor sports, but without that it becomes mere gambling against the forces of Nature, and in that game it is too extinguishes a human life. W.S.D.L
My emoluments as a collaborator to the swiss Observer do not permit of my making especial arrangements to go to Switzerland and visit the Winter-sports swiss observer afterwards and sign articles to our surs them ""Flom our own Correspondent on the spot!" It's a great pity, of course, because I have but little doubt that articles which I could write in that atmosphere would be so absolutely firstclass, especially if I travelled and lived there firstclass, that the circulation of the Swiss Observer would increase by leaps and bounds. (Good idea that and I must make a note to tackle the finance committee about it.) Well, what I really feel is this: It is a pretty awful thought that I, a Swiss, should be faced with news of a form of wintersport that is entirely new to me, thereby convincing me of my lack of knowledge of what's going on at home and of my lack of opportunity. And, I
ask you, how can I give of my best, when oppor tunity to improve my knowledge and my ex perience is denied me? What really has made me Write all the fore-going is an article in The Daily Mail, 9th Jan. entitled

## Snow-Shoeing:

A Winter Sport for the less young
You will see that the sub-title just fits me and I really do think that, like some other great News papers, the swiss observer should not hesitate but send me out to investigate for myself and then report to its Readers. After all, to continue my "grouse," it is all very well to re-print articles which have appeared in the British Press, but it would be a much tiner thing altogether if we were allowed to compose our own articles, inspiration for which would be gathered, as I said, on the spot! Well, here goes then :

I should like to be able to wear brightly coloured sweaters and fascinating scarves," a roman said to me last week. " It is dreadfully dull for me when I go with my daughter: to Switzerland. I am too old to learn to ski, and skating bores me, so I remain at home most of the time. I fee it would look lidiculous,
to wear sports clothes just to sit in the lounge."

It is rather dull for the middle-aged when he young things go rushing off on long ski-ing experlitions, but why don't the mothers take to snow-shoeing? It is a splendid way of getting abont the country, and, indeed, you can go to many places on snow-shoes which would be im racticable on skis.

Anybody can learn to manage the " webs" (you must call them that if you want to be
really knowledgeable) in half an hour, and they will make you quite independent. It is mos improbable that you will ever hurt yourself in any way, unlike the tiresome accidents that oceur with skis, and the worst that could hap pen would be an attack of what is known as "mal de raquettes." This is a form of muscle cramp, but it is generally the result of tramp ing day after day for hundreds of miles, and no body who is merely amusing herself need ever experience this particular ailment.

It is delightful to start out on a bright cold morning and feel that the comntry is an open map, over which you can glide at will The ski-ers may be scornful. Let them mock You will enjoy yourself just as much as the do.

True, they can precipitate themselves a lightning speed down steep slopes, but you will have your own peculiar joy when you reach an ncline. You crouch on your "webs," crossing swiftly, down the hill. Very pleasant, I assure sou, and when it comes to climbing the moun rou, and when it comes to climbing the moun
tain sides-ah, then you score! The ski-ers scramble up laborionsly, like crabs, while you walk up with no effort.

The technique of snow-shoeing is almost nil -at least for the individual who merely wants to amuse herself.

Now, my middle-aged friends, put on your now-shoes and enjoy yourselves. You need no longer envy the younger generation.

Gitty Vincent.
And then, there is another bit of news, which clearly requires most careful investigation " on the spot." Says the Financial Times on Jannar: 11th:

An effort is being made by Belgian financ ers to form a syndicate with the object of in troducing the reindeer into Switzerland. It is estimated that there are over two million acres of Swiss territory suitable for reindeer breed ing and that the vegetation of the high Alps would suffice to feed a stock of some 20,000 .

The reindeer already gives useful service in North Finland, Alaska, Siberia and Canada the Hudson's Bay Company being responsible or the experiment in the last-named country. At one time 70,000 head were employed is Alaska alone, but the stock has been gradually depleted owing to improper feeding methods unsuitable modes of harnessing and lack of parental selection. There is also a prosperous reindeer farm in the Italian $\mathrm{Al}_{\mathrm{p}}$ s, owned by the Savoy Royal Family, but the animals are not used for commerial purposes.

In the Swiss Alps these useful beasts could find sufficient food at an altitude of 7,500 feet at which height there is snow practically all the ear round. They are sure footed, swift-run themselves to mountain traction.
I am not quite sure what they mean by "ountil in that rein Bür wir, in future, pull the train up the Bürgistock, for instance, I think they will be quite wrong. Anyhow, the jolly old reindeer would have to choose a different track and what then would become of the present track, I ask you? Might it be used for gliding purposes? I mean for children and grown-ups to glide down the track, sitting on saucepan-lids, etc? And what is going to happen to our cattle when reindeer, 20,000 of them, eat up all the food at altitudes over 7,500 feet? And again, who is going to look after them during the winter? Or will they be provided

## GESCHAFTS ANZEIGE

Anstatt durch Zirkular, gestatte ich mir auf diesem Wege
meinen verehtren Landsleuten anzuzeigen, dass ich das von meinen verehrten Landsleuten anzuzeigen, dass ich das von
Herrn F. W. Rühmann anno 1887 g gegrundete, sich

## DELIKATESSEN-GESCHÄFT <br> 32 Tottenham Court Road, W.i

 Kunden und Gonner dur
Preise zufrieden zu stellen.
Im ersten Sten zu stellen.

## RESTAURANT

## eröffnet, wo gut zubereitete SCHWEIZER-PLATTEN und

 andersind.
Darauf mache ich insbesondere die lieben Studenten der
Ich luh nüd nah, und luh nüd nab,
bis dass mer überall seidt:
bis dass mer uberall seidt:
Wä mer würkli oppis Guets will z'Esse ha
So mues mer zu üsrem Landsma Störi gah.,
Erfreuen Sie mich durch Ihren werten Besuch, ich werde afur sorgen, dass Sie wiederkommen

Hochachtungsvoll empfiehlt sich,

## Telefon: Museum 1622 PETER STOERI.

N.B.--Bestellungen durch die Post oder das Telefon auf
meine Prima Delikatessen-Waren, werden prompt und meine
sorgfallig ausseführt.
Von jetzt ab täglich frische St. Galler Schüblinge.
Frankfurter Würstchen, und Schweins Kïngel


DALCROZE EURHYTHMICS CLASSES F TR ADULTS AND CHILDREN
(Rhythmic Movement Solfege



## For Details of all the above write to The Secretary

London School of Dalcroze Eurhythmics, 23, Store St. W.C.
Maurice Bruschweiler


| 42 Snowsfields, <br> London Bridge, SW. 1 <br> Telephone: Hop 3188 | West End Branch: <br> 62 Gt. Titchfield St., W. 1 <br> Telephone: Museum 4404 |
| :---: | :---: |

## A Swiss Butcher for Swiss People!

## Don't be disappointed with

## your Schweizer Spezialitäten

PLEASE NOTE NEW WEST END ADDRESS
62 GT. TITCHFIELD ST., W. 1
Telephone Museum 4404, to which old and new customers are cordially invited to see the hygienic conditions under which their food is stored and prepared. Your favourite dish supplied at very

## PATZENHOFER



Bottled at the Brewery

JOHN C. NUSSLE \& Co. Ltd. LONDON, E.C. 3 .


Mr. A. L. MONELL, m.I.s.ch. [London] (Cfirquaüist.

- stockwell park road

RESIDENTIAL VISITS MORNINGS
ADVERTISE in the "SWISS OBSERVER"

## MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

Not exceeding 3 lines:-Per insertion. $2 / 6$ : three insertions $5 /-$
FURNISHED BEDROOMS: Double 22/6; Singl 15/- per week. Electric Light, Gas or Coal Fires. Anglo Swiss Family.-A. Rhyn, 4, Oval Road, Regents Park N.W.r.

TO LET, FURNISHED BED-SITTING ROOMS Divans, lavatory basins with hot and cold water in al rooms; Baths; Electric light; from 18/-. Breakfast if required. Recommended by Swiss resident. 'Phone 4932 Park-35, Kildare Terrace, Bayswater, W. 2
with extra－special accommodation？I am afraid the Financial Times will have to give us more exact details ere we spend part of the emoluments afore－mentioned on the scheme．But，I repeat， the subject ought to be investigated by the Swiss Observers own Correspondent！Otherwise，our
Readers may read the above article from the Readers may read the above article from the
Financial Times and never hear anything Financial Times and never hear anything
more about it．（Which probably is just as well ！－ more about
Eo．s．）

Having read so far，intelligently and with close attention to details，as Editors do read Manuscripts，you must know，our Chief，thinking aloud，let it be known that in his opinion Kyburg was suffering from some inhibition complex！
Well，it＇s quite true．Kyburg did feel，when writ． Well，it＇s quite true．Kyburg did feel，when writ－
ing the above，that he wanted to be away from ing the above，that he wanted to be away from England for the time

Thet all about Golf ！
Theason is really quite simple．A friend， so－called friend I now think，presented us with a tear－off Almanack，which，for every day in the year，gives condensed advice on various aspects of Golfing．You can just see me，can＇t you，or if you had ever seen me play，then you could，how vice not one per diem only，but，anticipating the future，dozens of them．So，armed with plenty of good advice，in tabloid form，I sallied forth yes－ terday，full of vim，into the beautiful warm sun－ shine to do battle royal on the Links．And，of course，thrice of course，the inevitable，the absol－ utely dead certain thing did happen，viz．I fluffed and foozled all my shots，I could not even put，in short，I was easily the World＇s worst golfer，until， after lunch，I had forgotten all about those bits of advice and began to play without thinking about anything except of just having a nice half－
roumd before sin－set．But even so，the defeat of the morning round rankles and I felt that if the the morning round rankles and I felt that if the of having its own Correspondent somewhere in Switzerland and would chose me，at a princely
fivure of course，I might get over yesterday＇s figure，of course，I might get over yesterday＇s
experience in time．

But if，against all expectations，that should prove to be a vain dream，well，I＇ll jolly well
look up some more＂hints＂，＂and find out where I did wrong and then you＇ll see how I shall hit them down the middle next Sundray ！

## Dr．Spahlinger Libelled： Daily Herald，11th Jan．

Dr．Henri Spahlinger，the well－known Swiss bacteriologist and inventor of the Spahlinger treatment for tuberculosis，has won an action for libel against the Geneva Socialist organ，Travail．

Dr．Spahlinger had been accused by the Travail of being engaged on an entirely com－ mercial enterprise of no reliability according to mercial enterprise of
scientific standards．

Damages of approximately $£ 80$ have been awarded by the Court of First Instance to Dr． Spahlinger against the Travail．

The newspaper has given notice of appeal．
What I should like to see is a really competent enquiry into Dr．Spahlinger＇s claims．As the faith in his methods，others haven＇t and one really does not know whom to believe．The mat－ ter being so frightfully important for the human family，why can＇t it be made a matter of national importance and dealt with accordingly？

## Ticinese Architects and Sculptors in Past Centuries．

By Dr．A．Janner，translated from＂Deine
Heimat＂by one of our readers．
（Continued．Commenced Jan．18．）
While the Solari were bringing to Venice the finest flower of the Renaissance the Rodari，from Maroggia，were building the cathedral of Como ac－ cording to the new conception of art．The Rodari
are three brothers ：Tomaso，the chief，and his are three brothers：Tomaso，the chief，and his
two younger brothers Giacomo and Bernardino． two younger brothers Giacomo and Bernardino．
We have in them a good example of the way of associating of the artist families of those times． Among the three，four or five members of one
family you would always find one whose genius family you would always find one whose genius
would excel that of the others，and then the would excel that of the others，and then the
brothers or the other relatives would submit to him as a matter of course，as to an acknowledged chief．He planned and held the main direction of the work，the others carried it out．At that time no one gave himself airs of a great artist before having given proof of his worth．To begin with he was satisfied to place himself under a good leader，and to follow the tradition．It is in this way that of many ancient monuments the name of the author has been lost，but the original expres－ sion of beauty has been preserved．

In Como，under the direction of Tomaso Rodari，architect and sculptor of exquisite genius，
his two brothers，also，created beautiful work however，in order to seek after a supposed origin－ however，in order to seek after a supposed origin－
ality，they should have desired to go their own

## GENEVA KURSAAL AND INTERNATIONAL CLUB．

The Geneva Kursaal is a difficult problem． Since the gaming tables were suppressed in 1925 the casino has cost the taxpayers 190,000 francs a year，and the contract with the company now running it has been cancelled．After much dis－ cussion，architect＇s plans have been drawn up for the transformation of the theatre in the building to provide increased seating accommodation，im－ provements to the large hall，and the building of a pergola along the front of the terrace overlook－ ing the lake．The cost of these alterations，it is estimated，would be about half a million francs． A report presented to the Municipal Council says it is obvious that the casino cannot exist unless it receives support，and as the town is not pre－ pared to vote large subsidies the restoration of the tables is suggested．

This has been rendered legally possible by a vote of the Swiss people last year reversing，in effect，their previous decision，and the tables have already been restored，under special restrictions， however，the opposition to such a course is es pecially strong．Two suggestions are put forward in the report above－mentioned；first，that an offer should be made to lease the casino to a com－ pany，which should either pay interest and amortization of the costs of reconstruction within fifteen years，or amortization only within ten years，with a percentage of profits on the tables ； or，alternatively，that the whole of the ground and buildings should be ceded to a private person or company，the town retaining ground ownership only．The latter proposal－to hand the whole con cern over to private enterprise－is regarded as the most desirable solution ；provided that any person or company comes forward to undertake it．One thing only is certain－that the town cannot afford to go on losing money on the casino as it has been doing．

While this problem remains unsolved it will be difficult to make progress with the schemes afoot with regard to the International Club， which adjoins the Kursaal．As a result，partly， of the munificence of James J．Forstall of Chicago，it is planned to enlarge the present
premises of the club and in addition to organize premises or the club and in a＂plage＂，or bath a kind of country club，with a＂plage＂or bath ing beach，just outside the town near the buildings of the International Labor Office and the site of the new buidings of the League of Nations．So
far as the latter part of the scheme is concerned， far as the latter part of the scheme is concerned， this seems likely to go throngh，though opposition may be forthcoming from the owner of some adjacent property，who has already resigned from the commitce of the club．As regards the ex tensions of the present club，the proposal is to take over and demolish a part of the Kursaal premises and build offices and dining rooms，so as
to leave the whole of the now existing premises to leave the whole of the now existing premises
available for other club purposes．A holding com－ pany has been formed for the construction of the new and the enlargement of the old premises and the necessary capital is being raised by gifts， loans，etc．The whole will be a corporative enter－ prise as between the city authorities，as owners of the Kursaal，the Geneva bankers，the League of Nations personnel，the foreign delegations to the League of Nations，the League of Nations Swim ming Club aud a few Americans．

## Christian Science Monitor．

way to－day they would perhaps be forgotten．By Tomaso Rodari are also the two finest churches in the Ticino，viz．the Collegiata of Bellinzona and that of Lugano．The latter has in the facings of its portals perhaps the finest sculptured marble of the 16th century．About the cathedral of Como the great historian of art，Burckhardt，says：＂The choirs and the transverse wings are one of the contemeations of the Itana Renaissance．A a sculptor of great capacity，to whom we owe， among others，the very beautiful sepulcral monu－ ment of＂Lodovico il Moro＂and of his wife ＂Beatrice d＇Este，＂now in the Certosa of Pavia．

And while the Solari were working in Venice and the Rodari in Como the Gaggini，from Bissone，were creating most beautiful work in Genoa，which is still greatly admired to－day．The Gaggini is a family of artists which，single－ handed，could demonstrate how，under certain conditions，genius is an hereditary quality．For
nearly 200 years the Gagrini open ateliers of sculpture in all parts of Italy．From Genoa， where the head of the family had established him where the head of the family had established him－
self，his sons and nephews very soon radiate over the whole Peninsula and create everywhere new and fruitful centres of art，principally in new and fruitful centres of art，principally in family Gaggini many enjoy great fame in the his－ tory of art，like Giovanni，Pace，Elia，Domenico and Antonello．Giovanni Gaggini sculptured portals for Genoese palaces and decorated churches and chapels．Pace Gaggini，also a sculp－ tor，worked for the Certosa of Paria and at Genoa

## THE FEDERAL POLITICIANS＇XMAS PRESENT

I cannot help it！It must be said！All day long it incommodes me like asthma，and at night it crawls over my bed－cover，as a friend of mine used to say，when he could not sleep．Well，what
is it？I want to say a few words concerning one is it？I want to say a few words concerning one of the two recent elections to the Federal Cauncil．
Politics in the＂Kirchenbote＂， Politics in the＂Kirchenbote？＂，You smile，or do you frown？Perhaps you think：Mind your own business？Still，I cannot keep it，I must say it－ unintelligent，shortsighted and ，unjust was the action of our＂Federal Fathers＂in refusing the demand of organised Labour to have one of their representatives in the Federal Council，so that they also should share in the governing of our Country，an action due to selfish party consider ations．This is a policy which pains me，a policy which，I feel sure，sows the seed of dissatis－ faction and unrest．You may ask me：Have you turned＂Red？＂You may also，as somebody did once to a Basle clergyman，Mr．Altherr，after a lesson during which he spoke of Rich and Poor， send me a red tie．Please yourself，it will not hurt me ！

But to prevent any misunderstanding：I am not a politician，and I do not belong to any political party．My profession as clergyman
prevents me．The new Zurich Federal Councillor prevents me．The new Zurich Federal Councilor is unknown to me，and his late opponent has，as many years ago．Nor do I know personally Zurich＇s Mayor．Let me also state that，what ever I have heard of the successful candidate， his character and his abilities，gives me reason to say that he will fulfill his high mission conscien tionsly and for the common good．He is without any doubt a man，who takes his duties seriously．

All the same I regret deeply，that the Zurich and the Federal bourgeoisie，or rather its political party，have not had it in them to make a con－ cession to Swiss Labour，or rather to give it justice．A considerable part of our population has been vexed．They have been treated as the old－time feudal overlords treated the peasantry， unless revolution wrenched the power out of their hands．

My greatest disappointment is，that an oppor－ tunity to appease the disturbed minds，to bridge in a small way the gulf separating our citizens， has been sadly missed．Instead the gulf has been
widened．Party－war will become more intense （the first indications have already been given）． The small man feels again，that he need not expect justice from his rulers．

You retort：Do you not know the serious reasons which have decided us to disregard the claims of the Socialists？Have you not yet realized，what are the aims of the Swiss Socialist Party with its acceptance of the doctrine，that the proletariat masses should rule State and Society？ And have you forgotten with what merciless and even underhanded means they have endeavoured to attain their aims，and how they have jeered at us？Where is their idealism，their unselfishness， where their justice？Was it justice and upright－ ness which ousted Zurich＇s former Mayor，a man of merit？

Yes，yes，I know all that．I can also dis－ tinguish between Socialism as a movement based on idealism to achieve more unity by co－operation and Party－Socialism as evidenced in political mat－ ters．I have often critisized sharply the Socialist

かった he carried out the he carried out the monument to Caterina da Rivera．Domenico Gaggini，the most famous of the family，leaves immortal works in Genoa，
Naples，Palermo and elsewhere．His son， Naples，Palermo and elsewhere．His son，
Antonella Gaggini splendidly carried on the tradi－ Antonella Gaggini splendidly carried on the tradi－
tion with grace and strength and enriched with tion with grace and strength and entiched with
marvellous statues all the great palaces of Sicily．

In Florence there were no Ticinese artists． Florence was itself a hot－bed of artists and did， therefore，not need the influx of strangers．It had been the cradle of the art－it is there that had taken shape that marvellous springtide of art which became the Renaissance，and on the work of Brunelleschi and of Donatello have learned also the great artists of the Ticino．But within a petitos space of time the Ticinesi had become corr， pome the in fact when，in the pathered witi－ in its walls the flower of Italian artists，we find the masters from the villages of the Lugano countryside competing，and with success，against the masters of Florence．The height of the Renaissance and the beginning of the Baroque period are completely dominated by our artists． San Gallo and Michelangelo and to them succeeded our own Ticinesi ：Fontana，Maderno and Borromini，as the undisputed leaders of the new artistic movement The cathedral of St Peter in Pome symbel of all that period，though starited in Rome，symbol of all that period，though started The history of，is completed by our own men． 1650 bears only names of Ticinesi as leaders of the various phases．

