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What is Geneva doing about it all?

I cannot do better than to tell you what Mons. A. Thomas said to me. "M. Thomas was in the war the Lloyd George of France, the organiser of victory. He is now head of the International Labour Office at Geneva."

"There are ten years left, monsieur," he said in effect, "in which to get into the heads, not only of this generation, but the next, the futility of war. The next generation will know nothing of the war. We have to secure in them the Mind for Peace. Ten years, monsieur, ten years. . . . Shall we do it?"

Then, after a game of Bridge last night and just as our guests were preparing to leave, I switched on the wireless and was fascinated by the relay from the Savoy Hotel, where Johann Strauss conducted the orchestra and made them play Strauss Valses as they should be played and as we used to hear them, twenty years and more ago. What rhythm, what music, what melodies! Anyhow, we valsed round the room, carpet or no carpet, and for a short, all too short moment, I fancied myself back in the old days, in the days of the old Valse! Thank you, Johann Strauss!

Some of our older Readers will no doubt remember the articles we printed, years ago, about the

Spahlinger Treatment.

At the beginning of the new year when we are hoping for things to happen, the following article from the *Manchester Guardian*, 10th December, will not be amiss:

A committee of people interested in Mr. Henry Spahlinger's work in the immunisation of cattle against tuberculosis has to-day issued a report on recent experiments which have been carried out in Norfolk during the past year. The Aga Khan is the chairman of this committee, which includes Lord Crewe, Sir Arthur Stanley, Sir Arthur Steel Maitland, Dr. Drummond Shiels (Under Secretary for the Colonies), Major General Sir Frederick Maurice, Sir Thomas Watts, and other well-known people.

Addressing a gathering of journalists at the Ritz Hotel to-day, the Aga Khan stated that the English tests of the Spahlinger vaccine had proved its efficacy beyond doubt.

"This vaccine," said the Aga Khan, "is a perfectly safe and, in all circumstances, innocuous vaccine, for it is produced from dead germs. It solves the problem of ensuring that the milk and meat supply of the world can now be made free from tuberculosis. Between 40,000 and 50,000 people die of tuberculosis every year in this country, and it is well established that a potent source of infection is tuberculous milk."

"A number of calves vaccinated with this vaccine under practical farming conditions are to-day alive, well, and normal, although five months ago they were inoculated with massive doses of hyper-virulent living bovine tubercle bacilli. Unvaccinated calves of the same age and weight which were given the same doses of virus in the same way, died in a month riddled with the disease, as the post mortem examinations showed. This test confirms similar results achieved in five experiments made since 1925 in Geneva. They, too, were conducted under scientific conditions of control."

The report states that the demonstration was conducted on the farm of Captain R. G. Buxton, near Swaffham, under the control of a committee composed of Sir Frederick Maurice, Mr. Henry Overman (late chairman of the Norfolk branch of the National Farmers' Union), Mr. Alfred Lewis (chairman of the Norfolk branch of the National Farmers' Union), Sir Thomas Watts, M.D., late member of Parliament; Captain R. G. Buxton, a well-known breeder of pedigree stock; Mr. Guy G. Sooby, and Mr. B. W. Blomfield. This committee of control, under whose direct supervision the demonstration was conducted, was aided by Captain Buxton's bailiff, in whose sole custody the animals remained throughout the experiment, and also by bacteriologists, veterinary surgeons, doctors, and stock-breeders, who observed the demonstration at various stages and recorded their observations.

The report says that Mr. Spahlinger produced a vaccine that immunised cattle against tuberculosis in 1916, and describes the experiments carried out at Geneva which "resulted in 1925 in the production of two forms of simplified vaccine economical to manufacture and easy to administer, which immunised cattle against tuberculosis with complete success in 1926." Further successful experiments were made there later. The Geneva experiments were conducted under ideal laboratory conditions, and the English test was undertaken—

(1) To test the efficacy of the Spahlinger simplified bovine vaccine under conditions likely to be met with in ordinary everyday farm life.

(2) To ascertain whether the simplified vaccine used successfully in the 1927 experiment in Geneva was still effective, or whether

its potency had been reduced by the lapse of time.

(3) To establish the effective range of dosage for British as compared with Swiss cattle.

In order to accomplish these objects, no precautions were taken to provide that all the calves used should be free from tuberculosis. Most of them were bought in the open market from unknown dams, and were vaccinated immediately after a 20-mile lorry drive on a bitterly cold winter day. These calves suffered from scouring and ringworm, infectious diseases, which some of the other calves caught. All the calves were housed and kept in ordinary farming conditions, and were fed on milk from cows that reacted to tuberculin. These conditions were deliberately invited in order to reproduce the unfavourable conditions all too frequently met with in practical farming. After describing the tests, the report states that the results of this first experiment proved—

1. That the Spahlinger simplified bovine vaccine immunises calves against massive injections of a virulent tubercle virus which kills unvaccinated calves in about a month.

2. That even a mere trace of the vaccine suffices to enhance in a notable degree the animals' resistance against this massive infection.

3. That the Spahlinger vaccine immunises cattle under the most unfavourable conditions to be found in ordinary practical farm life.

4. That the vaccine does not lose its potency with the lapse of time.

There is appended to this report a statement signed by Mr. Alfred Lewis, the chairman of the Norfolk Farmers' Union, and other agricultural and veterinary experts who "controlled" the experiment and who certify to a series of facts which they say prove "that the Spahlinger simplified bovine vaccine confers on calves an extremely strong resistance against tuberculosis even when the virus is administered intravenously in such massive doses as to kill unvaccinated calves in about a month."

There does not seem to exist any reasonable doubt that there is at least a very good "something" in this Spahlinger Treatment and by and by, I hope, mankind in general will benefit by it.

Swiss Cabinetmakers.

Many of our English friends will be astonished to learn that Swiss Wood Workers do not excel in wood-sculpture only, but that some very fine furniture is being made too. *The Liverpool Echo*, 27th December, publishes the following:

Furniture-making during the last year or two has received a new impetus in Switzerland. The Swiss have always been noted for the beauty of their wood-carving, so it is not at all surprising that recent exhibitions of furniture have fired their ambition to show what they, too, could do with wood—native and imported. They are not only using their fine-grained white sycamore, their deep-toned walnut, their ash, and their elm, but they are inventing new methods of polishing these woods, and are inlaying them with decorative tropical woods. It is interesting to follow the work of a cabinet-maker in one of the Swiss towns.

After having sawn all his different kinds of wood into appropriate lengths and thicknesses, he leaves all these planks for months (and in some cases for years) in an open space out of doors, to ensure their perfect seasoning. Hot sun, bitter winds, snow and frost, take turns in destroying the sap, and then, to render it absolutely dry, the timber is carried into yards, where, properly stacked, the out-door drying process is completed.

But the Swiss cabinetmaker has also to consider the pernicious effect of central heating upon furniture, and in a country of severe winters, such heating is universal in Switzerland, at any rate in the towns and large buildings. So special arrangements have been made to guarantee wood against damage of this kind. The wood is placed in a room in such a manner that air circulates freely between, and around, each and every plank, and powerful ventilators bring a furious current of air into play. Cold at first, this draught is gradually heated until, for some species of timber, it attains the highest possible temperature. This proceeding is duly regulated by hygrometers and thermometers.

The wood is now ready for working, and here in Switzerland, as elsewhere, a certain amount of machinery comes into play. Yet the Swiss still prefer handwork for the better-class furniture, and the minutest care is lavished on the "collage" or fixing. Everyone knows that for a glue to hold it must be applied boiling on a heated surface, and the cabinetmakers here are real masters in this art.

The shop where the men are working at "Collage" is always kept at the required temperature, and close to the furniture presses are installed huge ovens, heated to proper degree for the wood upon which the man is busy. The glue, constantly kept in the same way at the proper temperature, is placed on the wood

(Continued on back page.)

TEN YEARS.

A brief summary of the more important happenings in the Swiss Colony reported in our columns during the period 1920—1930.

(Continued.)

Issue No. 352 (June 23rd, 1928).

Mr. Charles Studer won the Pollard's Hill Cup at Pollard's Hill Golf course.

Issue No. 353 (June 30th, 1928).

Fête Suisse at Caxton Hall, under the Presidency of Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Issue No. 354 (July 7th, 1928).

Swiss Rifle Association: Visit to Bisley Camp.

Issue No. 358 (September 1st, 1928).

First of August celebration at Hendon.

Visit of Cons. Nat. Henri Vallotton in London.

The Kent Agricultural Show award 1st prize to Messrs. C. Duruz & Sons, of Hythe Nurseries, Hythe, Kent.

Issue No. 360 (September 15th, 1928).

Swiss Mercantile Society: Lecture by Mr. U. A. Casal, at Victoria Hall.

Issue No. 363 (October 6th, 1928).

Mr. Charles Studer wins the monthly Senior Bogey Competition at Pollard's Hill Golf course.

Issue No. 365 (October 20th, 1928).

Death of C. A. Bieri, member of the Société de Secours Mutuels.

Issue No. 371 (December 1st, 1928).

City Swiss Club: Annual Banquet and Ball at Hotel Victoria. In the Chair: Mr. M. Gerig, President. Principal guest: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Swiss Gymnastic Society: Display at Union Helvetia Club.

Issue No. 372 (December 8th, 1928).

Union Helvetia: Annual Banquet and Ball at 1, Gerrard Place. In the Chair: Mr. A. Indermaur. Principal guest: Monsieur W. de Bourg, First Secretary of Legation.

Swiss Rifle Association: Annual Banquet and Ball. In the Chair: Mr. Charles Strubin. Principal guest: Monsieur Borsinger, First Secretary of Legation.

Issue No. 373 (December 15th, 1928).

Recital by Miss Violette Brown at Wigmore Hall.

Union Helvetia: Memorial Service at Hendon Park Cemetery.

Issue No. 379 (February 2nd, 1929).

Concert by Elly Ney at Wigmore Hall.

Issue No. 381 (February 9th, 1929).

Swiss Mercantile Society: Annual Banquet and Ball at Midland Grand Hotel. In the Chair: Mr. A. C. Stahelin. Principal guest: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Issue No. 383 (February 23rd, 1929).

Swiss Choral Society: Annual Banquet and Ball at First Avenue Hotel. In the Chair: Mr. M. E. Bommer. Principal guest: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Swiss Mercantile Society: Lecture by Major Nathan. In the Chair: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Issue No. 384 (March 2nd, 1929).

Death of Mr. H. Hoelsli. Member of City Swiss Club and Swiss Mercantile Society.

Issue No. 386 (March 16th, 1929).

Death of Mr. J. Geilinger. Member of City Swiss Club, N.S.H. and Swiss Mercantile Society.

Issue No. 387 (March 23rd, 1929).

Unione Ticinese: Annual Banquet and Ball at Restaurant Monico. In the Chair: Mr. W. Notari. Principal guest: Monsieur Borsinger, Councillor of Legation.

Issue No. 388 (March 30th, 1929).

Swiss Club (Schweizerbund): Annual Dinner and Ball at 74, Charlotte Street. In the Chair: Mr. Pache. Principal guest: Monsieur de Bourg, First Secretary of Legation.

Issue No. 392 (April 27th, 1929).

Death of Mr. G. E. Colomb, former President of Société de Secours Mutuels.

Issue No. 394 (May 11th, 1929).

Farewell Dinner to Monsieur F. J. Borsinger, Councillor of Legation. In the Chair: Mr. E. Werner, President of City Swiss Club.

Unione Ticinese: Social Evening at Schweizerbund. In the Chair: Mr. W. Notari.

Issue No. 396 (May 25th, 1929).

Swiss Sports at Herne Hill.

Issue No. 397 (June 1st, 1929).

Death of Mr. A. Palliser, a great friend of Switzerland.

Issue No. 398 (June 8th, 1929).

Death of Mr. L. M. Delaray, member of Swiss Colony Birmingham.

Issue No. 400 (June 22nd, 1929).

Fête Suisse at Caxton Hall.

Issue No. 401 (June 29th, 1929).

Death of Mr. Ad. Meister.

Issue No. 405 (July 27th, 1929).

Death of Mr. A. L. Dumoulin.

Issue No. 407 (August 10th, 1929).

First of August celebration at Hendon.

Issue No. 408 (August 17th, 1929).

Swiss Team wins Army Officers' Jumping competition at Dublin Horse Show.

(To be continued.)

Back numbers of the *Swiss Observer* are obtainable from this office at 4d. per copy (post free). Orders, which must be prepaid, should be addressed: "Swiss Observer," 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.

Notes and Gleanings—(Continued)

before either the one or the other has had time to cool. The various parts thus stuck together are then assembled, and the whole placed in these enormous presses, where they are squared so perfectly that it is the rarest thing for Swiss furniture to lose a wedge or gape at a join.

After this the pieces are subjected to chemical treatment to add to their colour or decoration. Special workshops are set aside for this purpose where the least speck of dust is hunted down pitilessly for fear of spoiling the perfect polish of the pieces of furniture under treatment.

Up to the present the modern cabinet-maker in Switzerland has been devoting his energies to very dear and extremely fin-de-siècle sets of furniture, simple in form but elaborately ornamented as regards inlay, polish and colour. Certain signs, however, tend to prove that he is turning his attention to less expensive work; and at the recent exhibition at Basle bedroom and living-room sets of furniture suitable for folk of modest means vied in charm and utility with more pretentious furniture. Needless to say, simplicity of design is one of the marks of modern Swiss cabinetmaking.

It is surprising to see how many various bits of information about Switzerland get into the *British Press*, and I generally conclude therefrom that *British Readers* take a gratifying interest in things Swiss in general. Which is as it should be, because the two peoples have much in common.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

During last week in connection with the scholastic programme, the debating classes dealt with the following subjects:

"Are you in favour of Missionaries?" Miss E. Wissmann, Zurich: Proposer. Mr. P. Bertschmann, Basle: Opposer.

"Charity begins at Home." Messrs. Bertschmann, Kilcher: Proposers. Messrs. Schüpbach, Egg: Opposers.

On Friday Evening, January 2nd, 1931, Captain F. F. G. Messum delivered a lecture (with lantern slides) on the "Argentine Republic."

XAVIER CASTELLI. †

Mr. Xavier Castelli, whose sudden death at his residence in Hampstead, at the age of 68, we regret to announce, was well known to the Swiss Colony in London through his many years of association with the Swiss Bank Corporation.

Mr. Castelli began his banking career with the *Crédit Lyonnais* in London and subsequently joined the staff of the *Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris*. It was in the service of this latter institution that he went to India, where some years afterwards he was appointed Manager of the Calcutta branch. On his return to England he became Manager of the Eastern and Foreign branches of this Bank at the London Office. During the next stage of his career he acted as secretary to Sir Ernest Cassel, from whose service he was called in 1905 to the position of Manager of the London Office of the Swiss Bank, where he worked under the leadership of Mr. Leon Rueff.

It was from this time onwards that Mr. Castelli's association with Switzerland and Swiss people, both at home and in England, commenced to grow. The outbreak of war in 1914 naturally placed the Swiss Bank in an outstanding, and not always enviable position among London financial institutions and it was due in no small measure to Mr. Castelli's tact, enthusiasm and courage that the Bank became accepted from the start as a centre of "neutrality" in the City.

The position of General Manager, to which he was appointed in 1916, carried with it many extra responsibilities in this connection and involved much travel between Switzerland and London at a time when such journeys were not the simple affair to which the traveller of 1931 is accustomed. The writer remembers Mr. Castelli's passport, stamped and counter-stamped by hundreds of authorities, as a striking testimony to the travels he accomplished during those years.

In 1923 he was elected to a seat on the Board and consequently to the position of Managing

Director in London, and when, in 1926, he retired from the London Management, he retained this directorship and continued in active association with Switzerland through his attendance of Board Meetings. His directorship of the Clayton Aniline Co. Ltd., in Manchester, also represented a close tie with Switzerland, as this concern is the English subsidiary of the great Society for Chemical Industry in Basle.

Before his retirement Mr. Castelli had moved from his London home to Westgate for reasons of health but during the last year he returned to London and settled in Hampstead. His sudden death came as a great shock to his City friends, many of whom had met him quite recently and were unaware that he was in any way an ailing man. He leaves a widow, three sons—he lost two sons in the War—and a daughter. The sincere sympathy of the Swiss Colony in London is extended to his family.

ARMAND PAUL ROSSELET-DROUX. †

Notre ami n'est plus; cet homme au caractère droit empreint d'une extrême franchise, aux abords parfois frondeurs mais où la bonté et la bonhomie finissaient toujours par percer, vient d'être enlevé subitement dans la fleur de l'âge à l'affection des siens et de notre colonie.

Pour nous tous, la mort d'Armand Rosselet est une grande perte, et les nombreux amis qui ont assisté dimanche passé au service funèbre à l'Eglise suisse, ont entendu retracer en termes poignants ce qu'avaient été sa vie et ses aspirations.

Bourgeois des Bayards, né à St. Imier en 1889, il y suivit les écoles et compléta son apprentissage à la "Nationale," puis recherchant l'aventure et plein de ressort, il courut le monde et fit plusieurs voyages au long cours dont il se plaisait à raconter les péripéties à l'aide de savoureuses expressions, mais ce n'est qu'en 1914, grâce à certaines conditions dues à la guerre, qu'il se fixa à Londres afin d'y faire carrière.

Chargé de l'exécution de divers travaux par la maison d'horlogerie Moïse Dreyfuss, il s'y attacha définitivement en 1916, et fit preuve à maintes reprises d'une grande capacité de travail, ses chefs, savaient apprécier son jugement sûr de par fait comptable.

Dans la suite, Armand Rosselet ne tarda pas à s'intéresser aux affaires de la colonie: ses goûts le conduisirent tout d'abord en 1916 à la "Swiss Mercantile Society," dont il fut chef de cours, vérificateur des comptes, et finalement, élu membre honoraire en 1930 afin de marquer la reconnaissance et l'estime qu'il inspirait.

Durant quelques années, il assista régulièrement au Fonds de Secours aux séances hebdomadaires dites du lundi, et là encore, ses services furent mis à contribution lors des révisions annuelles.

C'est à la "Société de Secours Mutuels" qu'il se manifesta peut-être le plus activement, il y entra en 1919, fit partie de son comité dès 1922, et en 1929 voulant témoigner l'affection qu'il lui vouait, accepta le poste de trésorier qu'il remplit avec son dévouement coutumier; terminons en disant de lui, qu'il avait à cœur de mener à bien toute mission dont il s'était chargé, à témoin aussi le grand zèle dont il fit preuve chaque année lors de l'organisation de la Fête suisse.

Il s'en va dans ce coin de France, où repose déjà depuis plus de trois ans sa chère fillette dont il avait tant pleuré la mort, c'était son désir souvent exprimé et auquel il est fait droit hélas! bien prématurément.

Qu'il nous soit permis ici, de renouveler à sa famille l'expression de la sympathie la plus profonde de notre colonie, un vide vient de s'y creuser, un caractère marquant a disparu!

CeC.

An inquest on the late Mr. A. P. Rosselet-Droux was held by the Battersea Coroner on Tuesday, 6th inst. A verdict of death from accidental causes was recorded and the Coroner expressed his sympathy with the relatives.

La Maison Moïse Dreyfuss a le regret de faire part à ses amis et connaissances de la perte qu'elle vient d'éprouver en la personne de Monsieur

Armand Rosselet-Droux,
leur fidèle collaborateur pendant 15 ans.

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6.30 h.—M. M. Pradervand.
7.30 h.—Réunion de prière.

BAÏTEME.

Paul Georges Rodolphe Ryf, né le 1 Août 1930, fils de Rodolphe et d'Ethel Louise née Spalding—de Rumisberg (Berne)—le 4.1.31.

SERVICE FUNEBRE.

Un service en mémoire d'Armand Paul Rosselet-Droux des Bayards (Neuchâtel) né le 23. octobre 1889, décédé dans sa 41 me année le 31. décembre 1930 a été célébré à l'Eglise suisse le 4. janvier 1931.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6. (Téléphone: Archway 1798).—Heure de réception à l'Eglise: Mercredi de 10.30—12 h.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

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Sonntag, den 11 Januar 1931.

11 Uhr vorm: Gottesdienst und Sonntagsschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen u. Religionsunterricht sind an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde, C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W.4, erbeten. Telefon: Chiswick 4156.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, January 14th, at 8.30 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Monthly Meeting at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Saturday, January 17th.—CITY SWISS CLUB: First Cinderella at the May Fair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.

Wednesday, January 21st, at 7.45 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE: Monthly Meeting of the London Group, followed by a short address by Dr. Walter E. R. Mons on "The Psychology of Cancer in the light of the latest Research," at the "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Friday, January 30th at 8 p.m.—SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY: Social Evening and Tombola at the Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

Wednesday, February 4th, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIÉTÉ DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Saturday, February 7th, from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Annual Banquet and Ball, at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.1.

Wednesday, February 25th, at 8 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Annual General Meeting at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

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