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The Swiss Observer

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Where are you going on Saturday, February, 27th? To the Crystal Palace of course to watch the GRASSHOPPERS (Zurich) play the CORINTHIANS!

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HOME NEWS

(Compiled by courtesy of the following contemporaries: National Zeitung, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, St. Galler Tagblatt, Vaterland and Tribune de Genève).

FEDERAL.

B.I.S. PROFITS.

In spite of the troubled world conditions and the depreciation in the values of certain currencies, the Bank for International Settlements has not suffered to the extent which many persons thought possible during the current year's business.

It was also feared that the cessation of Reparations payments would have caused serious losses to the bank, but this, it is learned, is not so.

The profits of the bank during the business year ending in March, in the opinion of a well-informed Swiss source, are likely to be larger than those of the year 1930-1931. The estimated figure is 13,000,000 Swiss francs, against 11,500,000 francs in 1930-31, and therefore the minimum dividend of 6 per cent is assured.

The bank's prudent policy regarding currency holdings and dealings has prevented it from being seriously affected by the instability of exchanges. The sterling commitments of the B.I.S., it is stated, amount only to £4,500,000 and its sterling holdings to £3,250,000, so that as a result of the decline in the value of sterling, the bank actually makes a profit on balance of 11,000,000 Swiss francs.

SWISS BANKS REPORTS.

The following Dividends have been declared: Aargauische Hypothekbank in Brugg — 7 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Ersparnisanstalt Toggenburg A.G. — 6 per cent. (1930 — 6%); Credit Anstalt Lucerne — 6 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Schweizerische Boden Kredit Anstalt, Zurich — 7 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Bank in Langenthal — 6 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Banque Populaire de la Gruyère Bulle — 6 per cent. (1930 — 8%); Berner Handelsbank Bern — 5 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Basler Handelsbank, Basel — 5 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Schweizerische Bankgesellschaft, Zurich — 5 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Leu & Co. A.G., Zurich — 6 per cent. (1930 — 8%); Volksbank Münster in Münster — 5½ per cent. (1930 — 7%); Leikasse Neumünster Zurich — 7 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Bank in Burgdorf, Burgdorf — 5 per cent. (1930 — 7%); Bank in Gossau — 7 per cent. (1930 — 8%); Volksbank in Visp, A.G. — 6 per cent. (1930 — 6%); Federal Bank — 5 per cent. (1930 — 8%).

"STANDSTILL" PACT.

The Swiss bankers have now given their formal consent to the new German Short-Term Credit Agreement, 1932, which replaces the agreement known as the "standstill" agreement, and which had as yet only been initiated in Berlin by the delegates of the Swiss bankers.

They have also signified their consent to a special agreement concluded between the German debtor bankers and their Swiss, French and Dutch creditors. By this special agreement the creditor bankers of the three nations are permitted, if they so desire, to convert into the currency of their own realm cash loans falling under the agreement and granted to Germany in the currency of another nation.

FIRST OF AUGUST COLLECTION.

The result of the 1st of August collection 1931 is very satisfactory. There were 632,000 post cards, and 432,000 badges sold; in addition the

lists which were circulated brought in 100,000., half of this amount was collected in Hotels. After deducting all expenses, a total of 394,570f. remains, an amount which has never yet been reached before.

LOCAL.

ZURICH.

In August 1930, M. Kaspar Gyr, Manager of the "Waldhaus Dolder" in Zurich, was found murdered. In spite of the great efforts which were made at the time to detect the assailant, no arrest could be effected.

The police authorities, however, did not relax in their endeavours to bring the murderer to book and they have now been able to lay hands on the criminal, in the person of a man, called Hermann Köpfer, a German subject, who was imprisoned in Switzerland previously.

Dr. Fridolin Störi, a well-known Art dealer and Auctioneer in Zurich, has disappeared. It is reported that the "Kunst und Auktionshaus, A.G." of which Dr. Störi, was Managing Director is in financial difficulties. A writ for the arrest of the fugitive has been issued by the police.

BERNE.

M. Paul Charmillot, State Councillor, died at St. Imier last week. He was born at St. Imier in 1865, and after having finished his studies of law at the Universities of Berne and Leipzig, started a practice in his native town. In 1910 he became a member of the Administrative Tribunal of the Canton of Berne; in 1919 he was elected Member of Parliament and last year he presided over the State Council.

BASLE.

A furniture dealer named Böttle, has shot his 15 year-old daughter, and his wife, after which he committed suicide. Böttle was proprietor of a flourishing furniture shop at the Leonhardstrasse, and had no financial worries. He and his family were very much liked and the reason for this terrible tragedy, remains a complete mystery.

An amount of 5,000f. in silver has been found by the police; this find is relating to the burglary at the "Staatliche Arbeitslosenkasse." The amount was buried near the spot, where the burglary had taken place. There is still an amount of about 41,000f. missing. A reward of 1,000f. and 10% of the amount recovered has been announced.

The death has occurred at Basle of M. Werner Stauffacher, Managing Director of the Chemische Fabrik vormals Sandoz, in Basle, at the age of 64, as a result of a motor accident. M. Werner Stauffacher was an eminent citizen of his native town and an important personality in the Swiss Industrial world.

AARGAU.

The Board of the Ersparnisbank Laufenburg, has made a proposal to their share holders, to vote an amount of 200,000f. towards the foundation of a home for old people. (Fricktälische Pflegeanstalt für alte Leute). The Hotel Solbad in Laufenburg is earmarked for this purpose, and steps to acquire same have been undertaken.

NEUCHÂTEL.

The population of the Canton Neuchâtel per 31st December 1931, is returned with 123,512 in-

habitants, or a decrease of 1,693 over the figure given at the same date in 1930. (125,205).

SCHAFFHAUSEN.

Last Thursday, Mme. Verena Schudel-Werner celebrated her 100th birthday, in the best of health. She is the oldest citizen of the town and canton of Schaffhausen.

VAUD.

Federal Judge, Dr. H. Honegger, in Lausanne has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary.

FOOTBALL.

On February 7th the last round in the Swiss Cup before the Semi-finals were played with the following results:

Grasshoppers v Blue Stars 3—1
Urania v Young Fellows 1—1 after extra time
Lausanne Sport v Young Boys 5—0
Basel v Chaux-de-Fonds 6—3.

The sensation undoubtedly is the shattering victory of Lausanne Sport, First League leaders, over Young Boys Bern. And another sensation, what has happened to F.C. Servette, who defeated Lausanne in the last round and were due to play Young Boys? First, I must remind you of the fact that every club is permitted to engage professionals; a maximum of three foreigners are allowed to form part of a team in any League or Cup Match; foreigners who have been domiciled in Switzerland for three years or more or who were born in Switzerland are not reckoned as such. Foreigners who are bona fide Students at one or other University in Switzerland also do not rank as foreigners. And this last clause has brought the trouble. Complaints were made, that some Student-players were only "so-called Students" and the upshot of it all was, that the Football Committee made a belated rule as to the proofs to be submitted when registering a foreign student. These belated proofs of immatriculation had to be submitted by 20th January for all players already registered as students and if unable to do so, that player immediately ranked as a foreign player from the date of his original registration. Obviously, if a team played three foreigners in a match and also a "student" whose qualifications now did not hold good, that team has been guilty of an infringement of rules and the result of the match cannot stand. F.C. Servette found themselves in that position and their Cup match, won against Lausanne Sport 2—1, was altered into 3—0 loss, and that is how Young Boys had to play in Lausanne. But worse was to follow. The three League games won by Servette against Old Boys 5—2 and 2—0, and against Young Boys 2—0, were also cancelled and decreed as lost 3—0 in each instance, all due to Servette playing more than three foreign pros. in these matches. The net result is apparent from the following tables:—

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Gruppe 2

| Original Table | P. | W. | D. | L. | F. | A. | Pts. |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|
| Grasshoppers | 12 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 39 | 7 | 18 |
| Biel | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 19 | 14 |
| Young Boys | 9 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 15 | 12 | 11 |
| Carouge | 11 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 23 | 20 | 11 |
| Blue Stars | 9 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 17 | 10 | 10 |
| Servette | 9 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 13 | 14 | 9 |
| Etoile | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 17 | 34 | 8 |
| Aarau | 9 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 21 | 6 |
| Old Boys | 10 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 24 | 5 |

Revised Table

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Grasshoppers | 12 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 39 | 7 | 18 |
| Biel | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 19 | 14 |
| Young Boys | 9 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 18 | 10 | 13 |
| Carouge | 11 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 23 | 20 | 11 |
| Blue Stars | 9 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 17 | 10 | 10 |
| Old Boys | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 14 | 17 | 9 |
| Etoile | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 17 | 34 | 8 |
| Aarau | 9 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 21 | 6 |
| Servette | 9 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 21 | 3 |

CITY SWISS CLUB.

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