

**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:** - (1932)

**Heft:** 542

**Rubrik:** Notes and gleanings

#### **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:** 18.01.2026

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

# The Swiss Observer

POUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

EDITED 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.

Vol. 12—No. 542

LONDON, MARCH 12, 1932.

PRICE 3d.

## PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES

|                |                                   |           |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| UNITED KINGDOM | { 3 Months (13 issues, post free) | 36        |
| AND COLONIES   | { 12 " (52 " " )                  | 66        |
|                |                                   | 12-       |
| SWITZERLAND    | { 8 Months (26 issues, post free) | Frs. 14.— |
|                | { 12 " (52 " " )                  | 14.—      |

(Swiss subscriptions may be paid into Postscheck-Konto Basle V 5718).



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

## FEDERAL.

### FEDERAL COUNCILLOR MOTTA HONOURED.

The Senate of the University of Freiburg i. U. has conferred the title of *Doctor juris honoris causa* on M. Motta, President of the Swiss Confederation, as an acknowledgment for his eminent services rendered in connection with the League of Nations, and for his efforts to improve friendly relations amongst all countries.

### STRIKING SUCCESS OF SWISS LOAN.

The 3½ per cent Federal Loan issue of 150,000,000 Swiss francs has been a great success, being entirely covered by conversions. No allotment could be made of the cash subscriptions totalling 110,000,000f.

### BANQUE POPULAIRE SUISSE.

The profit for the year 1931 amounts to 6.06 million francs (1930 — 10.16 million francs), a dividend of 3.09 per cent (1930 — 5%) is proposed.

### EXCHANGE OF TELEGRAMS MOTTA — HOOVER.

Very cordial telegrams were exchanged between M. Motta, President of the Swiss Confederation and President Hoover on the occasion of the 200th century of the birth of George Washington.

### LONG WINTER DROUGHT IN SWITZERLAND.

Switzerland is suffering from the longest and worst winter drought recorded for the past 100 years. Water is becoming scarce in several districts, and forest and gorse fires are frequent.

### INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC IN SWITZERLAND.

An acute Influenza Epidemic is ravaging in Switzerland, and many cases have proved fatal. A curious fact is, that mostly younger people have been affected.

### FINANCIAL RESULT OF THE 19th FEDERAL MUSIC FESTIVAL.

The accounts of the Federal Music Festival which was held last August in Berne, show a surplus of 8,502f.

### SWISS COLLEGE ATHLETES FOR STAMFORD BRIDGE.

Chillon College are to send a team to take part in the Public Schools Athletic Championships at Stamford Bridge on April 1st and 2nd. This will be the first time that a school from abroad has been admitted to the meeting, although in recent years several applications have been received from the Continent.

### LOCAL.

#### ZURICH.

Dr. O. von Waldkirch, Chairman of the Board of the Banque Fédérale, has resigned his position for reasons of health. Dr. von Waldkirch has for nearly 40 years rendered great services to this important institution, first as General Manager and since 1919 as Chairman of the Board. M. E. Appenzeller-Fröhle has been appointed Chairman of the Board.

\* \* \*

Dr. Wilhelm Wiget of Kirchberg (Ct. St. Gallen) at present Professor at the University of Dorpat (Estland) has been appointed Professor of Philosophy at the University of Zurich.

#### BERNE.

The 2½ year old son of M. A. Lanzrein, architect at Thun, fell in a tub of boiling water, he was so badly burnt that he soon afterwards died.

\* \* \*

A fire completely destroyed the house of M. Kuenzli, Carpenter at Interlaken. Unfortunately it caused the loss of life of a young woman, named Crozier, who was trapped by the flames.

\* \* \*

M. Tschopp, Manager of the Heustrich Bad, which was destroyed by fire last week, has been arrested on suspicion of having caused the fire himself. M. Tschopp has already been once convicted for arson, and spent 2 years and 8 months in prison.

## SCHWYZ.

M. Anton Gwerder has been appointed Manager of the Cantonal Bank in Schwyz.

## FRIBOURG.

After the death of the lady cashier of the Banque Populaire de la Glâne at Romont, irregularities were detected in the accounts. The directors instructed the "Schweiz Treuhändgesellschaft" at Basle, to investigate the matter, and a considerable deficit has been established which will not only wipe out the whole of the share capital, but also the reserves, amounting altogether to 268,100f. It is hoped that the money of the depositors is safe.

The Banque Populaire de la Glâne is a local Bank and has of course, no connection with the Swiss Popular Bank.

## GENEVA.

M. Adolf Weitnauer, General Manager of the British American Tobacco Co. at Geneva, has celebrated his 60th birthday.

## ST. GALLEN.

M. Charles Cornu, a former Judge has been appointed Public Prosecutor of the Canton of Geneva.

## GRISONS.

A motor accident happened near Filisur, when a car driven by the Italian Vice-Consul, accompanied by his Secretary, overturned. Both driver and passenger received more or less severe injuries, and the car was badly damaged.

## TICINO.

The death is reported of Giovanni Tamò at the age of 70, at Bellinzona. M. Tamò was one of the founders of the Socialist party in the Ticino, and was a member of the Grand Council.

## FOOTBALL.

### Germany 2 Switzerland 0

in Leipzig on 6th March, 1932.

Before 50,000 spectators the fourth international match of the season has been played and lost; I almost said, of course, lost. At any rate, this time our team held its own for most of the game. The first goal happened shortly before half-time, our defence giving a penalty away and Richard Hoffmann, inside left, made no mistake from the spot. Some of you may remember him from that broadcast, almost 2 years ago, when England drew 3 : 3 with Germany in Berlin. Hoffmann appears to be as god as ever.

In the second half Switzerland was exerting considerable pressure without tangible results. Towards the end Germany in a last attempt to improve on a mere penalty goal, changed their forward formation with effect. Five minutes before the end R. Hoffmann sent in from 30 yards a tremendous shot which flew into the top left hand corner of the net like a cannon-ball. The enthusiasm this goal let loose amongst the spectators almost shattered my loudspeaker.

Our team was the same as against Italy in Naples, except Weiler M. for Beuchat and Frigerio (Lugano) for Syrvet. Well played, against that strong German team in far away Leipzig!

But I really do think we are overdoing that International business. On 29th November, 1931, we met Austria in Basel, 1 : 8. On 6th December, off to Brussels, 1 : 2, on 14 February, 1932, lost to Italy in Naples 0 : 3, on 6th March, in Leipzig 0 : 2, and there remain:

20th March : Switzerland v France  
17th April : Switzerland v Czechoslovakia  
13th November : Switzerland v Sweden  
11th December : Switzerland v Hungary

No wonder some of our international players have enough "caps" to set up as hatters!

### NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Each group had only one game. Zurich fortified their position by beating Urania 5 : 2, and Old Boys drew 2 : 2 with Carouge.

### FIRST LEAGUE.

There was a full programme:

#### Group 1

|          |   |           |   |
|----------|---|-----------|---|
| Racing   | 3 | Cantonal  | 4 |
| Grenchen | 1 | Fribourg  | 0 |
| Olten    | 1 | Solothurn | 3 |

(Continued on back page).

## NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

By KYBURG.

### CETERUM CENSEO:

Sometime anno 2032 someone not entirely satisfied with his prospects, will exclaim "oh, if only I had lived a hundred years ago, when life was full of interest, excitement and really worth living and, to prove his outburst he will refer to

- a) the great war 1914-1918,
- b) the great economic disasters which befell some of the Nations in Europe after that war,
- c) the great economic developments shewn by other Nations during that same period,
- d) the unceasing efforts of the civilised world of that time to grapple with post-war problems,
- e) the birth and childhood of the League of Nations,
- f) the great international conferences which sat in order to discuss, prepare and adopt various plans for making future wars impossible,
- g) the great Disarmament Conference of Geneva in 1932, and
- h) the Sino-Japanese conflict of the same year

and, armed with the above facts, he will have very little difficulty in proving that life in 1932, was very interesting indeed.

*And so it is!* Without peeping into the future and trying to find out what the verdict of our descendants in 2032 may be, we can at the present moment, form a pretty accurate idea of the criticism which will be levied against our present-day Civilisation and against the frightfully chaotic conditions this, our much vaunted Civilisation, has brought us into.

Well may those happy descendants of ours, living in 2032, point out how easily we might have got over most of our difficulties, if only we had the sense, so elementary to them, to UNITE. Well might they ask themselves, in amazement, why we, who surely must have heard about the grim wars which preceded the unification of most of the various European Countries of to-day, failed to perceive that what is taking place to-day, is only a repetition, on a vaster scale, of what has happened before? Why do we, who smile when we remember the stupid fighting that went on, for centuries, among the robber barons of the early middle-ages, among the little states of the middle-ages, among the small nations of the 18th and 19th century, pretend to ourselves and against our better knowledge and judgment, that the present-day political and economical struggles are anything else, but the inevitable result of too many individual states with jealously guarded individual aspirations and ambitions, coming into conflict with each other, because, with so many frontiers, with so many points of hostile contact, there must be friction and dangerous heat engendered by such friction. Why do we shut our eyes to simple facts? Why do we deceive ourselves into believing that it must always be the other fellow, i.e., the other Nation who is in the wrong and that we always must be right? Why?

Humanity's path of progress is paved with catchwords. If I had time and inclination, coupled with the necessary knowledge and the expert training necessary to do such things, I feel sure I could prove this assertion with examples from the very earliest times of man's earthly pilgrimage. I will contend myself with a survey over the last couple of thousand years or so. The ancient Romans, whenever the plebs seemed or threatened to get out of hand, or showed discontent with the bread or the circus performances provided for their living and amusement, were wont to start up the cry of "Hannibal is at the gates" and, he presto! the citizens would fall into line and roll up to defend the sacred City.

Another nice catch-word the old Romans coined and which has lasted until recent times and is only just now beginning to lose its nefast

## HOTEL DE NORMANDIE GUERNSEY CHANNEL ISLANDS.

SPECIAL TERMS FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS  
Friday morning to Tuesday morning £2 20 inclusive.

PROPRIETORS: MR. & MRS. ISLER.

power of suggestion was "If you want Peace, prepare for War." Countless millions of slain, countless sacked cities, millions of brutally treated woman and children in all countries, testify to the utter falsehood of that catchword and yet — even in my time at school, we were told and taught that not only must we prepare for war in order to obtain peace, but "it is glorious to die for one's country." Never by any chance were we told, nor taught, that it might be just as glorious to live for one's country!

Another sinister catchword, found in the Old Testament and, therefore, of undoubted antiquity, was that "eye for an eye" slogan, which, in our time was translated into the simple "wie Du mir, so ich Dir." You need not go to the American Gangsters to be thrilled with frightful misdeeds, murder, rape, arson and other crimes, you can find them all in the Old Testament, among the stories of those ancient nations, so sturdy of character, as we were told and so stern in their sense of duty and who believed in the catchword of "an eye for an eye."

To come to quite modern times, we need not much help to discover faithful reproductions of these old sayings, not, perhaps faithfully translated as far as the wording goes, but quite as faithful *i.e.*, efficient, as far as their influence is concerned. Need I enlarge and remind you of such slogans as "the red letter," the "Bankers ramp" "the Doctor's Mandate," etc.?

You, dear Reader, may begin to wonder why, in spite of the terrible effect of these catchwords, Humanity has progressed at all? Perhaps, because a gentle Providence, indulgently guiding the unsteady steps of poor Humanity across the catchword-paved path, has helped it to tread warily along the narrow dotted line between the catchwords.

At the present moment, progress, political and economical, is being held up by the obvious fact that the economic battle now raging all over the world — the immediate successor to the battles of the armies in 1914-1918 — is causing untold losses, suffering and a great waste of accumulated wealth. The material reserves of Humanity are being engaged in this battle and are being slowly but surely reduced. High taxation, confused currencies, slowly but surely deteriorating standards of living in most countries, want on the one hand, inability to get rid of accumulated goods on the other, all these terrible signs of disorganisation are a direct result of the economic war now devastating the world.

As the Ostriches bury their heads in the sand on the approach of an enemy, so we see Nations, all over the world, entrench themselves behind high and yet higher tariff-walls, in a similar endeavour to obtain shelter from an approaching enemy.

Buy British! Buy French! Buy Swiss! etc. Do we not all know and feel that madness lies that way?

Do we not all know and feel that the various Nations are doing the wrong thing?

Listen to the conversations in bus, tram, train or Underground and you will hear that nearly everyone discussing tariffs opines that "well, let's give them a chance, let's see what happens, let's have them, so as to have a weapon for negotiations." It seems to me about the same argument, as if a man who suffered from a very bad disease went deliberately to a Specialist who, to his certain knowledge had treated about half a dozen similarly afflicted men for the same disease and failed each time and utterly, Poor fish!

But arguments avail nothing in this case. The fact is that, we are all suffering from an overdose of the same disease, and that disease may be likened to a panicky feeling which drives men and women, whole Nations in fact, along one certain line of action, stampedes them so that they rush headlong with never another thought but the one that is burning dullly in their brain, that feeling which Zola, describing the "over the top" rush of soldiers called so finely "la fuite en avant."

That disease, to my mind, is *Nationalism*. Nationalism, not in its finer and better, but in its sauvé qui peut, brutal sense, in that sense which makes men and women boastfully exclaim "right or wrong, my country first."

*This Nationalism is our enemy!* Instead of it, we must substitute a sane Internationalism, by which I do not mean a sloppily, spineless admiration of everything foreign in unfavourable comparison with our own. By sane Internationalism I mean that cultivation of our sense of belonging to a larger unit than our family, our village, our canton or county, our country. We Swiss, for instance, are *Europeans* and, in a still larger interpretation, citizens of the World.

Just as some of us are "Zürihagel," others "Bärnermutze" others again Rüeblihändlers or Vaudois or Genevois, so we are all Swiss and just as some of us are Swiss, others German, others English or French or even Scotch, so we are all Europeans.

Once we get this larger interpretation of Nationalism or as it will then be called Inter-

nationalism in our heads, we have progressed a very big step forward. Because once we feel that we are all *Europeans*, we also feel the stupidity there would be if we were to fight each other with arms, instead of settling our differences judicially. Because again, feeling ourselves to be *Europeans*, we would soon consider it extremely stupid too to fight each other with economic barriers, such as tariffs, various currencies, etc.

And, a *United Europe* would form a big entity and a big force for *Peace*.

For us Swiss in a foreign country, although a *European* one, the problem of considering ourselves as *Europeans*, though Swiss, is not so very difficult. A difficulty may arise in the case of our children, if we are too much Swiss and try to force our children, though they are born and brought up in England, to retain their Swiss characteristics.

As far as my observations goes, and I may add that I have watched many cases for a quarter of a century, the understandable desire of a Swiss born Swiss that his offsprings should be Swiss too, does not work out very well in actual practice.

I was listening in the other night to Bero-münster broadcasting a series of songs sung by the "Berner Bubensinger." Mostly Swiss songs, sung beautifully well and a rare treat for an elderly Swiss like myself. While I was listening with eager ears, with my whole inner self tuned in and keyed up to catch every note, while I was feeling Swiss through and through, I doubt very much whether many children of say 18 years or so, born and brought up in England, but born of Swiss parents here, would have appreciated that music, those songs, as I did.

Our native country is the one we ourselves have been born into. It is not necessarily the country of our father and our mother. Our country is our native country, irrespective of our parentage. I think that holds true anywhere, unless, of course, we are born into a colony of definitely Swiss character or Italian or French character. There are such colonies in London and among those children my contention might not hold good. But, in those cases, I contend that the children are living among surroundings which are foreign to the country in which they are living and, by following up my argument set out above, we come to the same conclusion.

It is not my province, nor my privilege, nor my duty to teach other people what to do with their children. But many a father and mother in our colony may be sorely troubled over just this aspect of a chapter in their lives and in that of their children and they may wonder whether they are doing wrong, whether they are untrue, unfaithful, disloyal to their beloved home-country if they allow their children to grow up as English or whatever the case may be. To those I would say, with all the conviction of which I am capable, "let your children grow up with their playmates, do not trouble about your old allegiance which is firmly implanted in your heart but which means very little to your children. Rather than let them grow up with a half-felt, half-understood allegiance to a home-country they may see occasionally on a holiday, or of which they may hear wonderful stories, etc., let them grow up *Naturally* and, when they are old enough, let them decide for themselves. They will thank you later on.

And this is one aspect of that *Internationalism* which, I think, we ought to embrace, because beginning with the children, we are teaching them the great truth that one country is as good as another, that one European is as good as another, that we are all members of the same *European* family and that our efforts, our unceasing efforts, must tend towards the bringing together of the now artificially kept apart members of that family.

That way lies progress! That way lies Peace!

#### PERSONAL.

We hear with pleasure that our friend M. A. Desponds, who left London some time ago for Roubaix, has been last week elected "Président de la Société Suisse de bienfaisance de Lille et du Nord de la France," and we are sending him our heartiest congratulations on behalf of our readers and his numerous friends.

#### SCHWEIZERBUND

(SWISS  CLUB)

74, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Members are notified that the

#### ANNUAL DINNER & BALL

will be held on

**Friday, MARCH 18th, at 8 p.m.**

EARLY BOOKING WILL BE APPRECIATED.

Museum 9081.

THE COMMITTEE.

## A DELICACY

### The last word about Cheese

Something new !!

ALPINE-HERB CHEESE (Alpenkrauter Käse)

CARAWAY CHEESE (Kummel Käse)

CREAM CHEESE (Stangenkäse)

WELSH RAREBIT or SANDWICH CHEESE (Tartinette)

Any of these Varieties will do credit to the table of any housewife either at Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner or Supper but it is also a delightful snack with your glass of beer or cup of tea.

Spreads like butter

Makes lovely sandwiches

Refined in flavour

Very appetising & highly digestive

Sure to please your guests

Clean, wholesome, nourishing

There's no waste & it will keep.

Try it and you will surely be delighted.

Order any of these varieties, or a mixed parcel now — you will not regret it.

CASE CONTAINING 10 PACKETS (approx. 700 grammes) of any one of the above type : 3/6 carriage paid.

ASSORTED PARCELS, CONTAINING 5 PACKETS of EACH TYPE (20 packets) 6/9 carriage paid.

Sole Agents for the United Kingdom

**Mathews & Studer Ltd.**

9, Denman St. London Bridge, S.E.1

Phone : HOP 5885

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

**THE BRITISH PATENT No. 331'320**

concerning a practical and very useful implement for withdrawing ball bearings from machine parts of all kind, is to be sold.

For particulars apply :

**FRITZ STOTZER,  
ENGINEERING TOOLS.**

Genfergasse 15, Berne.

*A l'Approche de Pâque*

Monsieur et Madame

**ROHR**

(Ancienne Maison Alfred Meyer)

*Se recommandent a leurs nombreux*

*clients pour les Oeufs de Pâque*

*en Chocolat, Nougat, ou*

*Fantaisies, les Poissons*

*d'Avril, ainsi que pour*

*les Célèbres Simnel*

*Cakes, Brioches, Crois-*

*sants Pâtisseries et*

*Gâteaux du jour*

*en Grand*

*Assortiment.*

*Commandes soignées tout particulièrement  
et livrées à domicile.*

**10, Buckingham Palace  
Road, Victoria, S.W.1**

Telephone : VICTORIA 4266