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The Swiss Observer

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Where are you going next Saturday? to the Swiss Sports at Herne Hill, of course!

SWISS SPORTS.

We particularly wish to draw the attention of our readers and their friends to the Swiss Sports Meeting which will take place next Saturday.

The Committee of the Swiss Sports has spared neither time or money to make this event a great success, and we hope that many of our compatriots and their friends will make the journey to Herne Hill.

We feel sure that they will not be disappointed, it will be an afternoon well spent. Therefore make your mind up now, and do not fail those who have given their time and money freely, that you and your friends should have an enjoyable afternoon. Don't say "I may come along" say "I will be there" and we feel sure you won't regret it.



FEDERAL.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR PRESIDENT DOUMER.

On Friday last, a memorial Service for the late President Doumer took place at the "Dreifaltigkeit" Church in Berne.

M. Motta, President of the Swiss Confederation, Federal Councillors, Schuethess, Musy and Minger as well as the diplomatic corps took part in the service. The French ambassador, M. de Marcilly and the members of the Embassy received the condolences of the congregation.

NEW FRENCH PRESIDENT AND SWITZERLAND.

The new French President, M. Lebrun, is a well-known personality in the canton of Vaud. He stayed on various occasions at Oulens with his brother-in-law. A few years ago he stayed for some considerable time in Cully, Romainmôtier and at Lausanne.

SWITZERLAND'S CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE BUILDING OF THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

The Federal Council is proposing to the two Chambers to pay an amount of 3 million francs to the canton of Geneva towards the costs of the Disarmament Conference building.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA.

Once again various industrials in Switzerland have approached the Federal Council, regarding re-establishing commercial relations with the Soviet Republic; they expect, however, that the Swiss Government should guarantee the financial transactions, which clearly shows, that these firms have but little confidence in the integrity of their prospective customers. In acceding to the wish of these industrials the Swiss Government would saddle themselves with a heavy responsibility towards the country, besides there is no article in the constitution which would sanction or justify such an undertaking. There is but little hope that the Federal Council will entertain such a proposal.

ALPINE ACCIDENTS.

A party of five Swiss ski-runners, three men and two women, was caught by an avalanche yesterday and buried on the Heidelpass, in Canton St. Gallen. The three men and one woman managed to free themselves, but the other woman, Fraulein Wolber, was killed. On the same day a party of six German ski-runners was caught by an avalanche in the Silvretta region in the Grisons, and one, Herr M. Frank, of Lindau, was killed.

A 14-year-old boy of Gstaad, who was collecting wild flowers in the mountains above Saanen, fell 100ft. and died soon after.

FRENCH HOARD SWISS NOTES.

During this week there has been an extraordinary demand in Paris for Swiss banknotes. Packets of them have been despatched from Switzerland to banks and money-changing offices in

France to an extent never known before. The notes for 1,000f., 500f., 100f., and 50f. (£40, £20, £4 and £2 at par) are mostly in demand.

NEW SWISS CONSUL AT HAMBURG.

Prof. Ernest Delaquis from Geneva, has been appointed Swiss Consul in Hamburg.

SWISS STUD HORSES FOR PERSIA.

A consignment of horses from the Federal stud farm at Fribourg has left for Persia.

LOCAL.

ZURICH.

An employee of a large warehouse in Zurich has been arrested for falsifying customs receipts. A preliminary enquiry has shown that an amount of over 200,000f. is involved. It is stated that the firm in question had no knowledge of these fraudulent transactions.

* * *

Dr. Maag (democrat) has been elected President of the town council at Zurich. Dr. Gygax (liberal) and Dr. Balsiger (socialist) are the two Vice-Presidents of the council.

* * *

A military aeroplane crashed beside the road of Nürdendorf to Brütten, the pilot, Lieutenant Philipp Collet, and the observer, sub-lieutenant Roth, were killed instantaneously.

Lieutenant Collet hails from Geneva, and leaves a widow and a few months old child. Sub-lieutenant Roth was born at Lucerne in 1909 and is a bachelor. Both officers were attached to the military aerodrome at Dübendorf.

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M. Heinrich Baumann-Oertli, senior partner of the well-known steel pen works has died in Rüti. M. Baumann was a member of Parliament (National Council) from 1922-1929.

BERNE.

M. K. Louis, Manager of the Municipal Tramways in Berne, is retiring from his post at the end of next month. M. Louis has been for 38 years in the services of the Municipality, where he enjoyed a great reputation.

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Dr. H. Mouttet, head of the cantonal government has been elected a member of the State Council, in succession to the late M. Charmillot.

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The Grand Council has elected M. Otto Tschanz as chief prosecutor of the canton of Berne. M. Tschanz has played an important rôle in the famous Riedel murder case.

LUCERNE.

The Grand Council has voted a credit of 100,000f. for the erection of a clinic for consumptives, private donations will also be invited. A further sum of 30,000f. has been promised towards the costs of the celebrations on the occasion of the 600th anniversary of the entry of the canton of Lucerne into the Swiss Confederation, providing the town of Lucerne will vote an equal amount. The costs of the intended pageant are estimated at about 120,000f.

SCHWYZ.

The spinning works of Nuolen in Lachen have closed down, owing to lack of orders, and 50 work hands have been discharged.

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Dr. med. Josef Weber has died at Schwyz at the age of 65. Dr. Weber was in 1890 President of the Swiss Student Association, he was also a leading personality in Swiss Rite circles.

BASLE.

Burglars entered the church of St. Jacob and broke open the offertory boxes, as these had been just previously emptied they contained no money.

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Dr. F. Schill has been elected President of the Grand Council. Dr. Schill is a member of the bourgeois party.

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The Annual Meeting of the members of the Swiss Press has been fixed to take place on September 3rd and 4th at Basle.

FRIBOURG.

A credit of 560,000f. has been voted for the erection of three military barracks at the Schwarzwald.

APPENZELL A.Rh.

Various committees have been formed throughout the canton to fight the ever increasing spectre of unemployment.

ST. GALLEN.

Dr. Jakob Kuhn, a well-known medical practitioner in St. Gall has died at Zurich at the age of 83.

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An agreement between the heirs of the late town clerk of Rapperswil, M. Oswald, and the cantonal income tax authorities has been made. The income tax authorities claimed an amount of 70,000f. for insufficient returns made during several years, but they have now accepted the sum of 50,000f. as a final settlement.

VAUD.

Lieutenant-colonel Marcel de Montmollin, Commander of the St. Maurice fortress has retired from his command. The Federal Council has expressed their appreciation for his services.

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In conjunction with the Crédit de Lausanne, the criminal tribunal of Lausanne has ordered the following three ex-directors, Charbonney, Piaget and Schmidt to appear before them.

SOLOTHURN.

An amount of 350,000f. has been earmarked as a subsidy for unemployment.

15 YEARS' WORK OF THE COMMISSION DES SUISSES A L'ETRANGER.

By Dr. A. LATT.

(CONTINUED).

I like to think of the hot discussions we sometimes had in the Council where all the Societies were represented. I am elated with memories of great meetings at Ashburton Hall, at Steinway Hall, at Westminster Hall, not to speak of my lecturing tours to the groups in the provinces, to the universities, to Rotarian and other clubs, at soldiers' hostels and hospitals, to wounded soldiers, to Swiss munition workers at Crayford, at the student's homes, at press meetings.

I know it was useful work, and I hope some was for the permanent good of the Colony. To myself it has been an inspiration and a starting point for work at home on a broader scale. After the visit here in 1918, of Messieurs Baudat, then President of the N.S.H., de Reynold, President of the C.S.E. since 1917, and Dr. Schoop, then Secretary of the N.S.H., it was agreed that the propaganda for the foundation of new groups on the Continent should be directed by the central office in Switzerland, whilst we should write to the Swiss Societies overseas. We brought in 19 groups in the 1st "bag" and 20 in the 2nd year. Then at a meeting at Soleure in 1919, where Mr. Baer and I were present, the S.S.E. was founded, and Mr. de Traz was elected Secretary. In 1920 I was sent on a lecturing tour to France and Italy as a result of which we got the Groups of Florence, Genoa, Milan and Le Havre.

My work being mostly journalistic, the late hours every day began to tell, further development of my work in this country was not likely, and so in 1921 I accepted an offer to return to Switzerland, and at the same time to my old job of teaching.

When the C.S.E. got both a new President (Dr. Martz) and a new Secretary (Dr. Steuri) in 1921, I was elected a member of the C.S.E. and given two jobs which were considered very hard: the task of finding the money for the S.S.E., and that of bringing about an amalgamation between at least 5 publications to all of which the Swiss abroad were expected to subscribe. The finding of Frs. 50,000 in Switzerland is harder work than it was in this colony. Still I was lucky enough