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FEDERAL.

SWISS DISCOUNT BANK.

At a meeting held at Berne of the principal banking creditors of the Banque d'Escompte Suisse (Swiss Discount Bank) with Dr. Bachmann, president of the managing committee of the Swiss National Bank, in the chair, it was decided to approve the main lines of the proposals for the re-organisation of the bank. These proposals involve a serious writing down of the Ordinary share capital, the conversion of Preference capital into Ordinary and the payment of a substantial proportion of the creditors' admitted claims in Ordinary shares.

A committee was formed to work out the details of the plan. According to the scheme about 56,000,000 Swiss francs (£2,240,000 at par) will be written off capital and liabilities.

SWISS MOTOR LAW.

The new Federal motor law which came into force on the first of this month, abolishes 24 different existing regulations. Every Swiss canton has hitherto had special legislation concerning motor traffic.

Under the new law the speed limit is only maintained in the towns and villages, but the driver's responsibility will be considered greater in case of an accident. Third party insurance is also continued and some safety devices are made compulsory, such as direction indicators, consisting of red arms electrically lit and placed at the front of the car. The weight of motor lorries is limited, and this to some extent will favour the railways in their competition with road transport.

NEW DISTRICT INSTRUCTOR OF THE 1st DIVISION.

The Federal Council has appointed Colonel Lederrer to the post of District Instructor of the 1st Division, in succession to Colonel Schibler who has retired. Colonel Lederrer was in command of the troops which were sent to Geneva on the occasion of the riots which occurred in November last.

LOCAL.

ZURICH.

M. Eduard Schindler, editor of the "Zentralblatt," the official organ of the Société Suisse des Commerçants has retired, he edited the paper for 35 years. Messrs. Adolf Galliker and Emil Losey have been appointed editors.

The Emperor of Abyssinia has presented to the Zoological Garden at Zurich a small collection of wild beasts.

Dr. H. Wegmann, Federal Works Inspector, is relinquishing his post which he held for many years, he has been in the service of the Confederation for the last 46 years.

The firm of Ober, warehousemen in Zürich have sent a cheque amounting to 20,000f. to the town council of Zurich, the amount to be used for helping the unemployed of the town of Zurich.

GLARUS.

The cantonal government has given an amount of 2,000f. to the University of Zurich on the occasion of the Jubilee of the University.

ZUG.

M. Heinrich Gallmann from Maschwanden, has been elected "Landammann," he is a member of the socialist party.

BASLE.

The death is reported of M. Georg Wagner, Managing-Director of the Chemical Works vorm.

Sandoz, at the age of 68. M. Wagner was for many years connected with this important concern, and since the death of his colleague M. Stauffacher, held the post of Managing-Director.

FRIBOURG.

At a Meeting of the Organisation Committee of the Federal Shooting Competition which will take place in 1934 at Fribourg, it was decided that the Competition should start on the 20th or 21st of July, and should finish on the 5th of August.

GENEVA.

A large fire broke out at the Garage of Laurent Francasetti, in the vicinity of the Cornavin railway station, the fire brigade was unable to save the building which was burnt down to the ground. The damage is estimated to exceed 200,000f.

* * *

M. William Martin has resigned the foreign editorship of the "Journal de Genève," and he leaves the paper on January 31st. He has accepted the professorship of history at the Polytechnic University of Zürich, and will take up his duties there in October. In the interval M. Martin proposes to visit China, where he will spend several months, as he has been invited to give a course of lectures in Chinese universities.

* * *

M. Burkli, member of Parliament for Geneva (States Council) has resigned, on the occasion of his appointment as chief controller of the 1st Postal district.

APPENZELL A.Rh.

The municipality of Herisau has reduced the salaries of its employees by 4 per cent, owing to the crisis.

ST. GALLEN.

Doctor Karl Moser-Nef, a former examining magistrate in St. Gallen, has made a donation amounting to 10,000f. to the hospital of his native town in Altstätten. (Rheintal).

* * *

A similar amount has been given to the Infirmary at Walenstadt by the late Miss Hermine Gantner in Flums.

* * *

The town council of St. Gallen proposes a reduction of 6 per cent. in the salaries of the staff, owing to the crisis.

SCHAFFHAUSEN.

Professor Otto Tanner, a prominent teacher at the Kantonsschule in Schaffhausen was killed during a ski tour near Furna. (Prättigau). Professor Tanner was also a leading member of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique in Switzerland.

OBWALDEN.

The death is reported from Sarnen of M. C. Berger-Röthlin, Manager of the firm G. Meyer & Co. A.G. in Wohlen, at the age of 71. M. Berger has been the author of several plays, which are still occasionally performed.

VAUD.

Dr. Borle, teacher at the "Gymnasium" in Berne, and a lecturer at the University, has been appointed Professor of political economy at the University of Lausanne.

ICE HOCKEY.

In a return ice hockey match St. Moritz beat the Cambridge University team, thus repeating their last Saturday's win. The home side, who won by 4 goals to 3 on Saturday, were successful on Monday by 5 goals to 2.

FOOTBALL.

The short respite till 8th January, before the "Challenge" programme is resumed, gives me the opportunity to get up to date.

First of all, I have found to my cost that even Swiss papers can occasionally be guilty of printers' errors. I am referring to that postponed cup tie in Bellinzona on the 8th December. The Wireless had it that Basel had won and in print it was the other way about and in spite of my spectacles I trusted my eyes more than my ears. My confidence was utterly misplaced. Please note the result of that match was

Bellinzona 2 Basel 3

In the next round therefore, Lugano will have to travel to meet Basel and my tip is on the latter.

Of course, the S.O. has already forced me to give the draw for the fourth Round twice, on account of a printers' error, and for the Swiss contemporary to fall into line and help to make it three-times, is really too bad.

And now we come to what is probably something unprecedented in the history of any Football competition. On 27th November, Montreux was to meet Oerlikon in the First League Challenge. Montreux was otherwise engaged (cup tie replay) so the two clubs arranged to consider the Challenge game as played, no goals and no points to be credited to either side! Funny, is it not?

Lastly, the days of protests and appeals are not yet ended in good old Switzerland. This time it is Bözingen, the newly promoted First League Club who appear as the aggrieved party. In the Championship match of 9th October won by Montreux 3:1 the latter played an unqualified man. Bözingen won their protest and the result has been altered to 3:0 in their favour. This affects the League table published in our issue of 26th November. Bözingen now occupying sixth place with 5 points and Montreux remaining last with not a single point from 8 games.

The other "affaire" refers to the First League Challenge game in Locarno, played on 11th December. That match had to be abandoned when the result was 2:1 in Locarno's favour. The Referee had awarded Bözingen a penalty, when pandemonium broke loose, the spectators invaded the playing field and prevented the taking of the kick, etc., etc.! The decision of the Football Committee now is:

1. Result altered in favour of Bözingen 3:0.
2. F.C. Locarno's ground to be closed for three Challenge or Championship games, which are to be played on other grounds at least 100 km. from Locarno.

And quite right too. Can you imagine such a thing happen in English League Football? What makes it worse is that last year we had similar trouble in Lugano, resulting in that ground having to be closed. Swiss Football may have advanced, but what of the sportsmanship of the public? A healthy club-partisanship is surely permissible, yet such wild fanaticism amongst the spectators must be discouraged and kept within reasonable bounds.

The Christmas Holiday Games were rather fewer than usual. The more interesting results were (home clubs always first):—

Grasshoppers	3	Admira (Wien)	3
Bellinzona	1	Rapid (Wien)	14
A. S. Roma	2	Lausanne Sports	0
Lazio Roma	2	Lausanne Sports	4
Napoli	6	Urania	2
Como	1	Lugano	2
A. S. Annemasse	1	Servette	5

NEW YEAR MATCHES.

Lazio Roma	4	Urania	3
Genua	3	Young Boys	1
Florentina	4	Servette	2
Kreuzlingen	1	Floridsdorf (Wien)	3
Aarau	1	Floridsdorf (Wien)	7
Basel	3	Nicholson (Wien)	2
Bern	1	Chaux-de-Fonds	4

CHALLENGE NATIONAL.

Lugano	3	Zurich	1
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CHALLENGE FIRST LEAGUE.

Solothurn	2	Seebach	3
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INTERNATIONAL.

Italy	3	Germany	1
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in Bologna.

We also hear that England have arranged to play Switzerland in May 1933, probably in Zurich. The previous encounters were all won by England, 1919 in Basel 9:0, 1910 in London 6:1 and 1911 in Bern 4:1.

M.G.

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