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The Swiss Observer

POUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOHRINGER.

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Where are you going to-day?

To Herne Hill, for the Swiss Sports, 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 to-day.

The Committee of the Swiss Sports has spared neither time nor 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.

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FEDERAL.

M. SCHULTHESS REPLY TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

M. Schulthess, President of the Swiss Confederation has addressed the following telegram to the American President:

"Je m'empresse de vous remercier cordialement de l'important message télégraphique que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser hier et dans lequel vous exposez les vues de votre gouvernement à l'égard de la conférence du désarmement et de la conférence économique. Le Conseil fédéral qui a pris connaissance de ce message avec la plus vive sympathie se fait l'interprète du peuple suisse en saluant les nouveaux efforts que vous tentez pour empêcher la conférence du désarmement de sombrer dans un échec qui pourrait compromettre la paix du monde et qui laisserait peu d'espoir d'une issue de la conférence économique de Londres.

SWISS GOLD STOCKS.

The Swiss National Bank return for the week ended 15th May revealed the further substantial decline of Frs. 144,697,296 in the gold holding, which, at Frs. 2,189,000,000, is now roughly, Frs. 346,000,000 below its level as at the end of March. The effect of this very substantial decline is likely to be exaggerated if due allowance is not made for the trend of events over the past two years.

In the first place, it must be borne in mind that the gold holding of the Swiss National Bank in the earlier months of 1931 amounted to only Frs. 642,000,000, at which time the holdings of gold exchanges, now reduced to an insignificant figure, amounted to Frs. 310,000,000. At the time of the departure of Great Britain from the gold standard and subsequently, the policy of the Swiss National Bank has been to build up a reserve of gold as a protection for the foreign balances which were being hoarded in Switzerland and sufficient to assure the stability of the Swiss franc under any circumstances which were likely to be experienced.

Now that the turn of events has come this gold is being used for the purposes for which it was accumulated, and the rate at which the reserve has been reduced in the last few weeks may be regarded as moderate and is, in fact, far less marked than was the rate at which the gold reserve was accumulated during 1931.

BASLE.

The death is reported from Basle of Dr. Otto Pinosch, since 1920 Director of the "Allgemeinen Treuhand A.G. in Basle at the age of 53.

FOOTBALL.

May 20th, 1933, in Bern

Switzerland 0 England

The great test has ended as it was bound to end and yet we may be very satisfied with the exhibition our Eleven gave before that record crowd of 27,000 on the Neufeld Stadium, headquarters of the F.C.Bern. The match has been so extensively reported in the English Press that we may be excused from adding thereto another belated account. It will suffice if we present the views as expressed in our Home Press. The superiority of the English team is fully accepted, more especially as regards the penetrative and finishing powers of the forwards, the magnificent headwork and the sure and safe play of the defence. Switzerland's splendid display in the first half is exemplified by their gaining 8 corners to England's 4 and a Swiss half-time lead of 2:1 would not have been undeserved. (But as we all know, it's goals only that count and not messed-up chances!) Our two wing forwards, v. Känel and Jaek were particularly scintillating, but the inside trio found their small stature a very severe handicap against the tall and hefty English defence and furthermore they appear to have suffered from the all to usual complaint of having left their shooting boots behind in the dressing room. The pace our Reds put up and maintained during the first 45 minutes was really admirable but it took so much out of them that the reaction in the second half was not surprising. Amongst the Halves, Hufschmid was the best (he had the weaker wing, Geldard, opposite), Imhof and Gilardoni so-so. Minelli and Bieler at back were both brilliant and Séchéhaye undoubtedly is the best Swiss goalie and we really have some good ones! As regards the goals (let me repeat, I give Swiss press views):—Bastin's first, from a corner Séchéhaye fists out short, Bastin pounces on the ball and places into the empty net. "It was a beauty of a goal but totally unnecessary" (whatever that may mean!).

No. 2: In the 70th minute Séchéhaye runs out, unnecessarily, the ball bounces to Bastin and again he puts it into the empty goal. "England leads totally undeserved by 2:0" (Is that so?)

No. 3: In the 75th minute Richardson dribbles right through the defence up to a few yards from goal and shoots an unstoppable ball into the corner. "3 goals advantage for England."

No. 4: One minute later Richardson shoots on the run and that is the fourth hit. "From two individual efforts England has scored twice." (just so?)

And a few views of the mighty:—
Nam Abegglen: England won thanks to greater stamina. Our inside trio has failed. We should have scored at least one or two goals. In my view England has won with too great a margin.

Paul Ruffo: Switzerland were beaten by an undeservedly high score. The first 2 goals should have been prevented. Switzerland sinned grievously in missing their many golden chances.

Dr. Bauvens, Referee: To-day's game was nicer and more interesting than that in Rome, because England this time did not play to hold the score. The Swiss have surprised me. They have made great progress during the last few years.

Hugo Meisl: The Englishmen throughout are splendid individual players but tactically not specially great. Switzerland should have led at half-time. England must thank their stamina for the victory. In my opinion, Austria, given Switzerland's goal chances would have beaten England "glatt." (Says you! I saw Austria having just good chances in one first half against England, yet they still lost!)

Mr. Kingscott (Vice-President F.A.) In the first half Switzerland were the better team and above all had the better goal chances which they failed to make use of because at the critical moments they did not keep calm. After the interval

the picture changed radically and England played very much better. The score is undoubtedly too high. (Englishman, Gentleman, as ever!)

And if you want my view, England won because they are at last taking these Continental International Matches more seriously. They are handicapped because their international teams are chopped and changed about continuously. Why? Because there is such a plethora of talent to choose from. There lies the difference. The continental international teams as a rule play together almost unchanged for years and many times in each year at that. Probably a club like the Arsenal playing their League team against Austria or Italy would be more sure to win than England's international team, and just for that same reason. Continental Nations may place in the field an Eleven which may sooner or later even beat an England Eleven. Will that prove that Continental football is better or as good as English football? Not a bit of it. There is simply no comparison between English First League football and any other League football on the Continent or anywhere else. And that is that!

M.G.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY LIMITED.

LECTURE OF PROFESSOR DR. G. P. GOOCH.

The Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd., held its Monthly Meeting at Swiss House on Wednesday, May 17th. Mr. J. J. Boos, Vice-President of the Society, being in the Chair.

Over 40 Members were present at the Meeting when the proceedings opened and it is undoubtedly in no small measure due to the fact that some of the Meetings are followed by lectures of topical interest that the attendance at the meetings has greatly improved of late. The Society has gone forward a step in the right direction by introducing these lectures which can only be highly beneficial from an educational point of view and help to foster greater interest in the manifold activities of the Society by attracting a larger number of members to the meetings.

At the conclusion of the business part of the meeting the Chairman introduced the lecturer, Professor Dr. G. P. Gooch, who was to address the Meeting on "The World Situation." The Society invited to this lecture the members of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique as well as the senior students of the College and it was gratifying to see that the lecture hall was filled to its full capacity and the audience must have numbered about 150. Many friends and patrons of the Society were present and no doubt none regretted having come along.

The lecturer, who was no newcomer to some of the audience, said that though he had spoken on the World Situation previously, he had a different story to tell. He conceded that the state of the world is very bad, in fact worse than at any time since the war, but he did not think it hopeless. He had seen a great deal of the world and still retained his belief in the human being. He went on to say that man is a teachable animal, capable of learning, and however gloomy the skies might look, he was not going to give up hope.

He first broached the question of the Far East, where he strongly condemned Japan's policy of attack, which he called a crime against civilisation as well as a crime against defenceless China. Japan has deliberately and openly broken three international pledges. The voting on the Lytton report at Geneva has shown that every single nation condemned her action. One might say what is the good of condemning without action, but no country, however strong, can in the long run defy with impunity the massed opinion of the whole world. The lecturer said that the other powers were far too busy with their own affairs to intervene, and determined not to have war with Japan and that Japan knew that. But, he said, if nothing could be done to stop Japan here and now, three things could be done, all negative, viz. 1. Not to recognise Manchuria, a mere puppet state, created by Japan. 2. No