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HOME NEWS

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FEDERAL.

NEW SWISS ISSUES.

There is a noticeable increase of public interest in new issues in Switzerland, and the amount of fresh capital subscribed this year up to date substantially surpasses that of last year. In the first nine months the total of bond issues offered for public subscription amounted to Frs. 357.6 millions, as compared with Frs. 601.1 millions in the corresponding period of the previous year, but after conversion issues have been taken into account, which on this occasion represent only one-fifth of the previous year's values, the effective total of new capital amounted to Frs. 273.4 millions, against Frs. 136.8 millions.

THE PROTOCOLS CASE.

The trial at Berne of the action concerning "the Protocols of the Elders of Zion," was adjourned with the consent of the prosecution.

The defendants applied for an adjournment to enable them to nominate another expert, the German Post Office having been unable to find the expert they had originally nominated.

The defendants proposed as an expert a German officer, Colonel Fleischauer, a well-known anti-Semite.

The Court decided that the defendants must say before next Monday whether he had consented to act. If he had, he would then have a month to prepare his report.

SWISS OFFICER CASHIERED.

Lieutenant Ernst Scherz, of the Swiss Air Force, has been cashiered for attempted espionage for the benefit of the German Government.

Apparently Scherz visited Berlin in September, 1933, and agreed to supply to the Reich Air Minister information concerning German citizens residing in Switzerland and to convey certain persons over the frontier if asked to do so. It would not appear that the spy had any practical opportunity for carrying out his plans.

START OF SWISS WINTER SPORT.

Winter sports began in earnest throughout Switzerland, a hard frost having made conditions perfect for skiing.

WORLD PRODUCTION OF ELECTRICITY.

According to the statistics which are collected by the Electrical Bank of Zürich (Bank für Elektrische Unternehmungen), the production of electrical energy throughout the world is increasing, and promises to reach a record level this year. Assuming the production of energy in 1929 for supply to third parties to have been equal to 100, the bank gives the following figures of the development since the end of 1931:

Production percentage in relation to 1929.

	1932.	1933.	1934.*
Switzerland	107	114	119
Germany	78	85	102
England	119	131	150
France	92	100	103
Italy	105	116	127
United States	86	88	95
World production (estimate)	89	94	106
World production, without			
North America	97	106	119

* First half.

LOCAL.

BERNE.

Dr. Joseph Raber, director of the International Office of the Telegraphic Union at Berne, died suddenly at Berne at the age of 62. Dr. Raber, who had had a distinguished legal career in Switzerland before his appointment to the Berne office in 1928, had been a prominent and

much respected figure at many recent international conferences on telegraphic and wireless communications, notably the Washington and Madrid international radio-telegraphic conferences of 1927 and 1932, the Prague and Lucerne European broadcasting conferences of 1929 and 1933, and the recent conference of the International Consultative Committee on wireless problems at Lisbon.

ZUG.

States Councillor J. Hildebrand has resigned his seat in Parliament which he occupied since 1886.

LUCERNE.

M. Joseph Wismer, a member of the Grand Council has been elected member of the cantonal government in succession to M. Arnold Ott, who recently resigned on account of ill health.

THURGAU.

From Arbon comes the news of the death of M. Heinrich Vogt-Gut, chairman of the manufacturing firm H. Vogt-Gut, A.G.

VALAIS.

Regrettable conditions prevail in the State-Council. Of the five conservative members three are pitted against two, Escher and Pitteloud. The latter has just won his action against the conservative paper "Courrier de Sion" which has been condemned to pay Frs. 5000 damages. Appeal pending, of course. Escher as head of the finance department incorporated several measures of strict economy in his 1935 budget proposals, so as to circumvent increases in taxation. The government had given a pledge not to add to the already heavy burden of the taxpayers. Disregarding that pledge the already mentioned majority of three in the council put forward their own budget proposals and the chief of the finance department would have nothing to do with it. Result, chaos and a first class row! Councillor Lorétan (one of the three, the other two shall go nameless) asserted that Escher had kept secret the figures of some of his proposals, whereupon the last named placed under Lorétan's nose a slip of paper with the disputed figures, embellished by some little sketches, written thereupon by Lorétan himself, left behind by him at the previous meeting and accidentally picked up by Escher. He was now promptly called a "something-something" and it needed the personal intervention of another member to prevent a regular battle of fistfights. Escher demanded that it should be recorded in the minutes that he, as chief of the government, had been insulted by a member of the state-council; he announced that he would at once take proceedings against Lorétan and closed the meeting. The indignation amongst press and people is great.

TICINO.

The unfortunate differences that have arisen in the Liberal Party continue. After the Liberals had launched an initiative to change the present election method of proportional representation as applied to the state-council, a new Radical-Democratic party constituted itself on the 4th February, 1934, excluding several prominent personalities and particularly the Young-Radicals.

Since that split between the left and right wing of the party became effective the question arose, what of the two liberal state-councillors Mazza and Galli? At a district assembly of the Democrats on October 21st in Novazzano, all doubts were settled by state-councillor Galli attending in person and Mazza sending a letter to be read out, thereby acknowledging adherence to the new party.

Considerable surprise is now caused by the "Dover," the liberal-radical paper, publishing the correspondence passed as between the two

councillors and the liberal party between 8th February and 23rd May. It would appear that four days after the foundation of the new party both Mazza and Galli stated that they could not agree to the resolutions passed and that they would lay down their mandates in case their advice, not to go too far in that breach with the Young-Radicals, being disregarded. In that eventuality they declared themselves ready to resign before the end of the constitutional period (end of January next) should conditions call for such a step. And then, a little later, we have a declaration by the two councillors, that their statements of the 28th April meant the breaking of their political collaboration with the Liberals, followed by a further letter on the 11th May to the effect that they were determined to hold their mandates up to the end of January. It is difficult to get a clear view from such short extracts. Evidently considerable wobbling must have occurred. Whether the publication of these letters will influence the populace in favour of the Liberal-Radicals appears to be somewhat doubtful. The voting on November 11th should provide the answer.

FOOTBALL.

4th November, 1934.

SWITZERLAND 2 Holland 4

In Bern, in the presence of 24,000 spectators Holland did what they had never done before, they defeated Switzerland on their own ground. Thus they took revenge for being eliminated in the world championship by our Reds, who beat them then 3:2 in Milan.

After the match against the Czechs in Geneva where a drawn game after all was quite satisfactory, the inside forwards and the halves were replaced and it was reasonable to expect that we would account for the Dutchmen. Alas, it was not to be! The alterations made were not a success and the result a deserved licking.

Our team stood as follows: Séchehaye; Minelli, Weiler II; Hufschmid, Jaccard, Frick; v. Känel, Spagnoli, Kielholz, Jäggi, Jaech.

Switzerland kick off and have an early success, Spagnoli heading a goal in the fifth minute on a pass from Kielholz. The cheers have hardly died down when Holland draw level, Smit, inside left scoring from a corner, 1:1. And 25 minutes later, Bakhuys, centre-forward stands unmarked and the right winger Wels, retrieving a ball on the line passes to the middle and the rest was easy, 1:2. Holland is definitely superior, quicker on the ball and far more enterprising. No wonder then, that in the 40th minute Van Gelder, outside left, scores No. 3 and just before half-time, Bakhuys dribbles round Minelli (it wants some doing generally) and places the ball into the net 1:4. In the second half Holland appear to be satisfied to rest on their laurels and the Swiss get rather more of the game. In truth, however, they played an awful game and it needed a foul on Kielholz in the penalty area to give them a second goal, Jäggi taking the kick. Fouls became rather too frequent, but as Jack was as good as his Master it did not much matter. To sum up, the backs have been seen to better advantage, especially Weiler II; the halves, in particular the newcomer Frick (Lucerne) were run off their feet, and of the forwards, v. Känel played about the worst game of his life, Jaeggi also disappointing everybody. "Schwamm drüber!"

Next Sunday, the 11th, we are due in Vienna to meet Austria in the Europa-cup. A good job the latter are not as good as they used to be. What our selectors thought of our team against the Dutch you can judge from the Eleven, chosen after the match, for Vienna: Séchehaye; Minelli, Gobet; Greiner, Jaccard, Lütscher; Stelzer, Spagnoli, Frigerio, Aebi G., Jaech; Reserves: Bizzozero, Baumgartner, Kielholz. What a chance they stand!

M.G.

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