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luci dei lampioni, le allungano, le sformano; le rendono vive quasi ... e le onde hanno così degli improvvisi chiarori, diventano allora d'argento. Guizzano rapide. S'infrangono. S'accarezzano. Macchie brune, le barche, che oziose stanno alla spanda.

Pozanghere nere, melmose, le strade più frequentate; strano contrasto di tanto candore delle montagne, dei prati; del bagliore delle luci che si sprigionano dalle finestre delle case, nere esse pure.

Bianco e nero. Ovunque. Senza volerlo si è tratti a meditare, a volte, innanzi al quadro invernale. Si filosofa. Con un pizzico di esagerazione anche. Ma, del resto, non è tutta la vita un tessuto di filosofia? Non Siamo tutti noi altrettanti filosofi? Ottimisti gli uni, pessimisti gli altri, i più forse. Bianco e nero filosofico! E chi è il maggiormente felice? Spesso, seduta comodamente in treno, guardando i miei compagni di viaggio, mi sono chiesta chi tra quei presenti era il più fortunato ... ma esiste poi veramente il "più fortunato"? Un sorriso di felicità può nascere da cosa così umile ... da un nonnulla ... ed il nonnulla può dare anche un immenso sconforto ... La miseria, a volte, conosce meno il pianto di quanto lo conosca lo sfarzo ...

Bianco e nero ... anche nell'animo! Ma brillano alto, in cielo, le stelle ... e più fulgida tra tante, quella di Natale ... Lassù tutto è candore!

Elena Ghiringhelli Lunghi.

dicembre 1933

**FOOTBALL.**

**NATIONAL LEAGUE.**

24th, December, 1933.

|              |        |                |        |
|--------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| Grasshoppers | .....3 | Basel          | .....0 |
| Zürich       | .....2 | Concordia      | .....1 |
| Nordstern    | .....1 | Young Fellows  | .....2 |
| Biel         | .....6 | Blue Stars     | .....2 |
| Lugano       | .....0 | Servette       | .....1 |
| Urania       | .....4 | Chaux-de-Fonds | .....1 |
| Lausanne     | .....1 | Young Boys     | .....1 |
| Bern         | .....5 | Locarno        | .....3 |

31st December, 1933.

|               |         |              |        |
|---------------|---------|--------------|--------|
| Young Fellows | .....1  | Biel         | .....4 |
| Zürich        | .....0  | Grasshoppers | .....6 |
| Basel         | .....3  | Lugano       | .....1 |
| Nordstern     | .....3  | Bern         | .....3 |
| Young Boys    | .....10 | Blue Stars   | .....0 |
| Locarno       | .....9  | Urania       | .....3 |
| Servette      | .....3  | Lausanne     | .....1 |

**FIRST LEAGUE.**

|         |        |          |        |
|---------|--------|----------|--------|
| Bözigen | .....0 | Grenchen | .....1 |
|---------|--------|----------|--------|

Just fancy, 47 goals in 7 National League games! And they say we cannot shoot. — We can, when we have nothing against us.

Grasshoppers have now for the first time this season reached the top of the League table. And Young Boys jump from tenth to sixth place. It had taken them 10 games to score 17 goals and then they ran riot and piled up the goals at the expense of poor Blue Stars, who before that disaster had only conceded 22 goals in 10 games. Basel, Bern, Servette and Biel are second, third, fourth and fifth respectively. Concordia are the wooden spoonists with 4 points, Zurich, Locarno, Nordstern and Lugano are next in order, reading from bottom upwards.

The newly adopted National League gathered into one group of 16 clubs (and which means 30 League Sundays) does not appear to find things turning out according to expectation. 10, 11 or 12 games only have so far been played, of course, due to those innumerable Internationals. A meeting of the National League clubs has been called to discuss matters. Probably some plain speaking will be heard. The predominant fault obviously is that the number of National League Clubs is just about by four too many. And as long as matches can only be fixed for Sundays on account of revenue and a certain summer break is imperative and it continues to snow and freeze in winter, it will always be a puzzle how to set up a paying League-programme. After all, money, even gate-money, talks!

M.G.

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| B | By St.'s active clever nib         | B |
| S | Sound skill in spicy repartees     | S |
| E | Exciting news from overthere       | E |
| R | Re commonwealth and Swiss affair   | R |
| V | Varied topics told with verve      | V |
| E | Engage your readers, you deserve E | E |
| R | Real praise, may live for ever     | R |

"The Swiss Observer." H.E.

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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**

- Saturday, January 6th, 1934, from 7 to 1 a.m., Fancy Dress Ball — Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd. — at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, N.W.
- Wednesday, January 10th, 1934 — at 8 p.m. (Supper 7 p.m.) — Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd. — Monthly Meeting — The Meeting will be followed by a lecture on "My Work as a War Correspondent" by Henry W. Nevinson, Esq., at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W. (Members of the Swiss Colony are cordially invited.)
- Saturday, January 13th, 1934 — City Swiss Club — Cinderella Dance — at the Mayfair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.
- Wednesday, January 17th, 1934, at 8 o'clock — Nouvelle Société Helvétique—Annual General Meeting — at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
- Saturday, February 3rd, from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd. — Annual Banquet and Ball, at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.1.
- Wednesday, February 21st, at 8 p.m. (Supper at 7 p.m.) Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd. — Annual General Meeting at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.
- Saturday, February 24th, at 2 and 4 o'clock p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — "A Travers la Suisse" Film Show, at King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1.

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