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# Che Swiss Observer

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# **HOME NEWS**

(Compiled by courtesy of the following contem-poraries: National Zeitung, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, St. Galler Tagblatt, Vaterland and Tribune de Genève).

# FEDERAL.

## MINISTER STUCKI ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND CURRENCY PROBLEMS

Minister Stucki, Switzerland's representa-tive on the technical commission of the League of Nations, reviewed the International Economic and Currency question at the meeting of the above commission in Geneva.

The main feature of his address was a justification of the fiscal policy of the countries belonging to the "gold bloc." He also strongly advocated bi-lateral agreements between the

Minister Stucki emphatically drew the attention of the commission to the fact, that Switzerland has been an untiring collaborator in the flagrant contradiction to the aims and the prinprovement. "If an increase in the production, and a decrease in unemployment has taken place in various parts of the world, same was due principally to a re-newed activity in armaments, a fact which could hardly be welcomed, and was in efforts to bring along an improvement in international commercial relations. "Switzerland is ready," he said, "to lower customs and tariff barriers if other countries will do the same."— Minister Stucki emphatically drew the attenbarriers if other countries will do the same.'

He questioned the accuracy of the statement, that the economic situation has undergone an imciples of the League of Nations."

"Switzerland" he declared "favourably "Switzerland" he declared "favourably views an increase in prices for raw materials, not withstanding the fact that his country was obliged to import practically all raw materials and a large part of its food supply." "We are well aware," he continued, "that without the maintaining of sound prices, a sound economic policy is impossible."

Referring to the international currency situation, he mentioned that the position could not be viewed with optimism, as the "Gold bloc" was further weakened through Belgium and Italy having severed their connections. He strongly defended a currency based on gold, saying that his country had repeatedly been approached with his country had repeatedly been approached with the view of devaluating its currency. "Switzerland," he declared, "has nothing to gain by devaluation, but would lose many valuable assets, a change in the financial policy therefore is not contemplated." "A country like ours" he continued, "which almost entirely depends on International Commerce, would, in case of devaluation, at once have to pay higher prices, and as Switzerland possesses no raw materials these would have to be paid for with a devaluated franc.—

Minister Stucki concluded his expose by de-claring that the maintenance of the Gold Stan-dard was in the interest of the whole world.

# BANQUE D'ESCOMPTE SUISSE.

The Court came to an arrangement with regard to the Banque d'Escompte Suisse, which closed in April, 1934. Liabilities total 186,000,000 Swiss francs (£12,400,000 at current rates), of which Sw.Frs.56,000,000 (£3,733,300) represents secured creditors and Sw.Frs.130,000,000 (8,666,600) unsecured creditors.

It is expected that creditors will soon receive It is expected that creditors will soon receive a first dividend of 20 per cent, and other dividends are to be paid gradually with the progress of liquidation. Furthermore, if the proceeds of the liquidation permit, creditors are to receive a further 4 per cent. premium by way of compensation for loss of interest since 30th June, 1934. Any further proceeds accruing are to be shared among the shareholders.

#### GORDON BENNETT BALLOON RACE.

The official Results of the Gordon-Bennett Balloon Race, which was held at Warsaw on September the 15th, are as follows:

1.	balloon	" Polonia " (Poland) 16	20	km.
2.	,,	"Warschau II" (Poland) 15	40	km.
3.	**	" Belgica " (Belgium) 14	48	km.
4.	***	" Erich Deku" (Germany) 13	60	km.
5.	**	" Kosciuszko" (Poland) 12	75	km.
6.	**	" Torun " (Holland) 9	70	km.
7.	**	" Maurice Mallet " (France) 7	44	km.
8.	,,	" Lorraine " (France) 7-	30	km.
9.	**	" Bruxelles 1935" (Belgium) 6	60	km.
10.	**	" Zurich III" (Switzerland) 5	80	km.
11.	,,	" Alfred Hildebrandt" (Germany) 5	72	km.
12.	,,	" Deutschland " (Germany) 5	43	km.
13.	,,	" U.S.A. Marine " (U.S.A.) 5	35	km.

Poland, by winning the race three times in Forand, by winning the race three times in succession is entitled to permanent possession of the present trophy. The victorious balloon "Polonia" which was piloted by Captain Burzynski and Lieutenant Wysocki, was altogether 58 hours and 54 minutes in the air, and

reached a height of 5,100 m.

The next race will be held in 1936 in Poland, the Aero-Club of Poland, has offered a new cup.

### INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING COMPETITION IN ROME.

Switzerland has again won the world Championship, held since 1927, in the 50m. international revolver shooting competition at Rome. The Swiss team scored 2634 points, Italy with 2569 points comes second.

The 300m. Rife world championship, held formerly by Switzerland, was unfortunately lost, the result being: 1st: Finland (5488 points, world record); 2nd: Esthonia (5465 points); 3rd: Switzerland (5446 points); 4th; Sweden (5405 points); 5th: Norway (5368 points); 6th: France (5298 points); 7th: Italy (5279 points); 8th: Denmark (5241 points).

The individual scores of the Swiss team are as follows:

	Standing	Kneeling	Position	Total
Horber	338	361	382	1081
Zimmermann	350	370	383	1103
Salzmann	337	368	384	1089
Reich	344	374	382	1100
Tellenbach	333	368	372	1073
	$\frac{-}{1702}$	1841	1903	$\frac{-}{5446}$

Finland has, with 5488 points, established a new world record, a record which was held by Switzerland since 1931 (Lemberg).

The World championship in all three posi-tions has been awarded to M. Miinalainen (Fin-land) with 1111 points; 2nd: Leskinen (Finland) 1111 points; 3rd and 4th: Kärnen (Esthonia); Zimmermann (Switzerland) 1103 points; 5th: Reich (Switzerland) 1103 points; Reich (Switzerland) 1100 points.

World championship standing: Dessler (Norway) 355 points. (Zimmermann (Switzer-land) still holds the record with 360 points).

World championship kneeling: Kärner (Esthonia) 377 points.

World championship ground position:
Ronnemark (Sweden) 392 points.

Army Rifle competition, World championship: K. Zimmerman (Switzerland) 435 points;
2nd: Lindgreen (Finland) 434 points.

It is to be regretted that two of the Swiss crack shots, who have taken part in various International Shooting Competitions, M. Hartmann, and M. Demierre were unable to join the Swiss team at Rome.

# NAZI ACTIVITIES IN SWITZERLAND.

M. Baumann, Federal Councillor, replying to a question put to him in the National Council, about Nazi activities in Switzerland, said that the Federal Government had decided to prohibit the wearing of political uniforms in the country.

Under the terms of the prohibition, foreign political organizations may continue their ac-

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tivity provided that they do not interfere in Swiss politics and cause no disturbance. Processions and public meetings are forbidden and foreign political agents will have to ask for authority from the police to lecture or deliver speeches in public. Foreign political organizations may concern themselves only with their own fellowcountrymen and are not allowed to carry on propaganda among the Swiss. The Government will deport foreigners who do not observe the regulation.

GENEVA LOAN.

The Municipal Council has decided to ap point a committee to examine the terms of the proposed Sterling loan.

A previous message published in The Finana Times on 24th September stated that the City of Geneva had negotiated with a London group a Thirty-year loan of £1,800,000 at 4½ per cent., repayable at par, but with the option to repay at

repayable at par, but with the option to repay at any time after the first five years.

The London group is said to be headed by the Anglo-European Properties.

Proceeds of the loan are to consolidate the floating debt accrued during the last three years in connection with productive public works.

\*\*PALLINGER METHODS APPROVED.\*\*

in connection with productive public works.

SPAHLINGER METHODS APPROVED.

The claims of Mr. Henry Spahlinger, the Swiss scientist, that his simplified vaccine confers immunity from tuberculosis infection in cattle are vindicated in a remarkable report issued by the Northern Ireland Government.

Drastic tests over a period of three years, carried out by officers of the research division of the Northern Ireland Government, have so impressed the authorities that preparations are being made for the compulsory use of the vaccine in Ulster as a means of eradicating boyine tuberin Ulster as a means of eradicating bovine tuber-culosis from the country.

culosis from the country.

The animals involved in the experiment were, after vaccination, inoculated by "massive doses of tubercle bacilli into the blood stream, and subjected to a degree of infection immensely greater than could be obtained by natural means."

Mr. Walter Elliot, Minister of Agriculture, has ordered immediate investigation into the detailed report by the Northern Ireland Government. It is confidently expected in official quarters, that the Spahlinger vaccine will be tried out in an official large-scale experiment in England.

# THE RESIGNATION OF M. STUCKI.

M. Stucki, "directeur de la division fédérale du commerce," having decided to stand for Par-liament, is retiring from his post at the end of

# LOCAL.

# BASLE.

M. Otto Wenk, President of the Community of Riehen for the last 29 years has died in Basle at the age of 63, the deceased has rendered great services to the community of Riehen. M. Wenk was a member of the Grand Council from 1902-

The firm of Walz and Eschle, soap manufacturers, has celebrated the 50th Anniversary of their existence.

The death has occurred at the age of 61 of Colonel Manfred Alioth. The deceased was born in Basle in 1874 where he underwent his schooling. He studied chemistry at the Universities of Basle and Zurich, and in 1902 he entered the Chemical works of Durand and Huguenin in Basle where he occupied a leading position. M. Chemical works of Durand and fluguenin in Basle where he occupied a leading position. M. Alioth was in turn commander of the Bat. 97, the Infantry regiment 11 and from 1922-1927 of the Infantry Brigade 21.

The inn "Zum Engel" in Mariastein belonging to the family Stocker-Borer, was destroyed by fire.

A former employee (fondé de pouvoir) and cashier in the "service de titres" department of the Swiss Bank Corporation in Basle has been condemned to three years imprisonment for embezzling a sum of 200,000frs.

# SOLOTHURN.

One person was killed and two very seriously injured by a lorry which was travelling at an excessive speed between Oberbuchsiten and Egerkingen. The driver who was under the influence of drink was arrested.

# TICINO.

M. Eligio Pometta, the eminent historian of the canton Ticino, has celebrated his 70th birth-day Anniversary.