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FOOTBALL.

30th May — 2nd June, 1935.

INTERNATIONALS.

Switzerland B 1 Ligue du Lyonnais 2

Belgium 2 Switzerland 2

The last of this season's internationals was played in Brussels on Ascension day, before a crowd of 20,000 spectators. Our team stood as follow: Bizzozero, Minelli, Gobet; Defago, Weiler II, Müller; Boesch, Poretti, Kielholz, Trello, Amado. The defence therefore was unaltered, but in the attack, Jaech (Basel) had to stand down, unfit, and this brought Amado from the right wing to the left, Boesch from inside left to right wing, Trello taking his former position; a bit of a jumble, it would seem. Though an accident early in the first half, Poretti had to be replaced by Binder and in the second half Weiler was injured and had to go to outside right. But there is no need to make excuses. A draw in Brussels is a result one may be proud of.

In short, Switzerland played a fine and forceful game in the first half, at the end of which we deservedly led by 2:0, the first goal going to the debit of Styren, the Belgian centrehalf, who helped a centre of Amado's past his own goalkeeper; the second goes to the credit of Kielholz. In the second half our team lost all cohesion; Minelli had the misfortune to score for the "Red Devils" (which in this instance refers to the Belgians) and within 12 minutes after resuming, a goal by Van Beeck made it 2:2. After that Switzerland had to fight hard to keep the result; once again we have not been able to force a win against Belgium; the balance now is: Belgium won 4, drawn 3, goals for 20, against 9. Please note, the very first international, played in Antwerp on February 20th, 1912, brought a defeat by 9:2 and that result will spoil our goal average for a long time to come. Why worry?

LAUSANNE-SPORTS SWISS CHAMPIONS.

Lausanne, already cupholders, have done the trick and are Champions by virtue of their victory over Chaux-de-Fonds by 1:0, although it only was a penalty goal. Servette have failed in their quest to equal Young Boys' record of three successive championships; they will have to start all over again. And thus ends a season full of interest to the very last kick. Well done, Lausanne, Winners of Cup and Championship 1934/35!

M.G.

PAGINE DI STORIA TICINESE.

By E. EUSEBIO.

Crediamo fare cosa gradita ai lettori dello "Swiss Observer" nel pubblicare le seguenti note che abbiamo raccolte per una breve conferenza storica.

Dato il breve tempo disponibile non ci è stato possibile di preparare un esteso compendio di tutte le vicissitudini delle popolazioni del Cantone Ticino; di mostrare cioè come un popolo italiano di stirpe e di civiltà, di artistico sentire e di carattere, venne a staccarsi volontariamente dal ceppo ausonio — forse in un istante di disperazione per l'attuazione dell'Italia Una — e rivolgersi allo Stato confinante, alla Svizzera montana e federativa, la quale, pur minacciandolo e premendolo costantemente, parve nello stesso tempo stendergli una mano soccorritrice che lo condusse a un porto finalmente tranquillo senza nulla togliergli della sua italicità. Così, anziché rifare tutta la sintesi degli avvenimenti di due millenni e le circostanze dalle quali emersero, ci siamo limitati arbitrariamente a quegli avvenimenti che per la loro importanza, conseguenze o drammaticità bastassero ad una esposizione interessante per quanto sommaria.

I LEPOINTI.

La regione che oggigiorno conosciamo come il Cantone Ticino fu senza dubbio abitata sin da tempo antichissimo; ma pochi indizi troviamo sulla natura e carattere dei primi abitanti. "Rheum autem oritur ex Leontis qui alpes incolunt" — Il Reno però nasce dai Leonti i quali abitano le Alpi, — così scrive Giulio Cesare nei suoi Commentari. Il Reno infatti scaturisce nella catena di montagne che separa il Ticino dal resto della Svizzera e che si chiama tuttora Alpi Leontiche. I Romani incontrarono quindi nelle valli ticinesi i Leonti, un popolo dedito alla pastorizia e di natura nomade; nella stagione fredda si spingevano fine ai bordi dei laghi subalpini, mentre l'estate li trovava alle sorgenti dei fiumi per l'alpeggio. Come vedete nel corso dei secoli l'occupazione principale della nostra gente ha cambiato, se mai, solo lievemente. Il nome di Leonti, come quello di altri popoli alpini è oggetto di discussione; in greco significherebbe: i rimasti, i superstiti, ciò che lascierebbe supporre una qualche grave catastrofe o fatto storico dimenticato.

I ROMANI.

La prima conquista romana del Ticino deve essere successiva alla vittoria di Castidium del Console Claudio Marcello sui Galli Cisalpini, dopo la quale Milano cadde in potere di Roma per opera dell'altro Console, Gneo Cornelio Scipione.

MONTHLY REPORT ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF ZURICH.

(By Leu & Co's Bank Limited, Zurich).

Zurich, June 4th, 1935.

During the whole month of May the outlook for the remaining gold bloc countries was anything but reassuring. Speculation went high and it looked for a while as if Holland as well as Switzerland were doomed. The defense measure taken by both countries was the old classical method of raising the discount rate, which was applied in Holland, several times, in Switzerland however only once. While Holland's gold losses dropped soon very low, Switzerland had a harder stand, since the much talked about "crisis initiative" was disturbing the money and capital market in a large degree. Especially the Swiss gilt-edged bonds noticed an activity which reached close up to that in normal times and would have been welcomed heartily, if the causes of it had not been so very serious one's. Unfortunately, the turnovers at the stock exchange in Zurich for the month of May are not known yet, but those for the month of April already show an increase from 343 in March to 503 million Franks in April, an amount that had never been reached any more since July 1931. More alarming than that were the sinking quotations of all the Swiss securities. The average yield of 12 bonds of the Federal Railways and the Confederation rose to a height that was reached for the last time in March 1925 only. Every now and then in Swiss economic history hectic days like these took place and the present situation resembled very much those times in December 1922 when the Swiss population rejected a capital levy propagated by the combined communistic and socialistic parties.

	lowest 1922	lowest 1935
3½% Swiss Federal Railways A-K	71.40	81.—
3% Swiss Federal Railways différencé	61.40	76.—
4% Swiss Federal Railways 1912/14	76.25	85.—
3½% Jura-Simplon Railway 1894	64.25	77.—
3½% Gotthard Railway 1895	67.25	78.75
3% Swiss Confederation 1903	66.50	82.50
3½% State of Zurich 1907	63.—	80.50

Some aggravation of the present situation was caused by the fact, that France as the backbone of the gold bloc suffered a new cabinet crisis which immediately rose the question of whether to stick to gold or drop it. Also in this case the discount rate was raised within short time from 2½% to 6%. It speaks for the common sense of the Swiss people that in spite of all this they did not loose their heads and voted against the referendum. As the day of the voting drew nearer it became more and more evident, that the "crisis initiative" was to be rejected and with the returning confidence the gilt-edged bonds began to move up in price till their present position is about 6 to 10 points above the lowest level.

On the stock market as long as the uncertainty prevailed, shares with definite international character dominated and advanced. Such were notably Hispano that reached a top price of 950. Also Royal Dutch gained, partly on account of an increased dividend payment from 6 to 7½% and partly in connection with rising Gasoline prices in the U.S.A. Among the Swiss industrials Nestlé as well as Aluminium were favoured. Lately the shares of some machine factories were in better demand, benefitting by a slightly increased business activity. Banks still keep very low, while insurance stocks in spite of small trading are in constant demand.

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"Ben faranno i Pagani.
Purgatorio C. xii. Dante
"Venir se ne dee già
tra miei Meschini."
Dante. Inferno. C. xxv."

Romano d'Oriente aveva indotto i Franchi di Re Childeberto d'Austrasia alla guerra contro i Longobardi. I Franchi si erano concentrati a Coira per invadere l'Italia dalle Alpi. Una colonna al comando del Duca Olo scese per il S. Bernardo su Bellinzona, che assediò e prese dopo un movimento attacco durante il quale Olo fu ucciso. Nell'anno 721 re Liutprando, il sommo capo dei Longobardi, dà in dono la contrada di Bellinzona a Aodealdo, Vescovo di Como, mentre alla Chiesa di San Carpoforo, pure in Como, la stesso sovrano regala tre anni dopo i suoi possimenti di Lugano e Sonvico.

I SARACENI.

Nei dialetti parlati nel Cantone Ticino e particolarmente nelle valli superiori si riscontrano sovente parole la cui radice non è né germanica né latina o greca, bensì araba. Sia esse che le Case cosiddette dei Pagani in Blenio e Leventina ricordano la presenza nelle Alpi dei Saraceni. Questo popolo irruente, ispirato da una nuova fede, aveva invaso l'Europa dalla Spagna rubando, incendiando e segnando rovina ovunque passasse. Nel conflitto per la corona d'Italia tra Ugo della Bassa Borgogna e Berengario d'Ivrea dal 940 al 950, questi era fuggito in Germania, attraverso il Gran San Bernardo, per chiedere rinforzi di truppe presso il Duca di Svezia e imperatore Ottone. Allora Ugo non esitò a prendere per proprio soldo i feroci saraceni — che aveva lui stesso combattuto — concludendo con loro un regolare contratto, mediante il quale li pose come vedette sui valichi alpini, obbligando Berengario a cercarsi altrove una via di ritorno. Con mirabile coraggio la Marchesa Villa, moglie di Berengario, si arrampicò incinta, e prossima al parto, su per il passo Avio (l'attuale San Bernardino) in pieno inverno per raggiungere il consorte in Germania. In virtù dell'aiuto datagli dall'Imperatore nonché grazie la collaborazione dei vescovi di Coira, Como e Milano, Berengario riuscì a scacciare i saraceni dalle Alpi Centrali e a sconfiggere il suo rivale Ugo.

La Donazione di Atto. — Atto, Vescovo di Vercelli che, quale partigiano di Ugo di Borgogna, non aveva tentato d'impedire l'invasione saracena, fu costretto a cedere in dono al Capitolo del Duomo di Milano i suoi possimenti alpini, fra cui le valli di Blenio, Leventina e Maggia. Questa forzata donazione, avvenuta nell'anno 948, è uno degli atti fondamentali nella nostra storia, non solo per le Tre Valli, ma anche per l'intero Cantone, poiché le terre ticinesi passarono così per intero sotto il dominio della storica Metropoli lombarda.

(To be continued).

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MORT DE M. LE MINISTRE HANS DE SEGESSER †.

De Nauheim, une bien triste nouvelle nous arrive. M. Hans A. de Segesser-Brunegg a succombé dans cette ville d'eaux à la maladie de cœur dont il souffrait depuis longtemps et qui l'avait contraint, il y a quelques mois, à renoncer à sa féconde activité.

Issu d'une famille patricienne de Lucerne qui a donné à notre pays bien des hommes de valeur, en dernier lieu Ph.-A. de Segesser, pendant de longues années membre du gouvernement lucernois et des Chambres fédérales, un des hommes d'Etat les plus clairvoyants de la droite catholique, et le colonel divisionnaire Henry de Segesser, il était né en 1877. Docteur en droit de Zurich, il avait débuté dans “la carrière” en 1902, comme attaché à la Légation de Paris, d'où il fut envoyé à Buenos-Ayres, puis à Vienne et à Rome. Conseiller de Légation en 1913, il avait exercé ces fonctions à Vienne et à Rome.

A Paris, en 1906, de Segesser avait pris part, sous la direction de M. Lardy, aux négociations pour le nouvel accord commercial franco-Suisse. A Rome, en 1918, il mena à chef et signa la convention pour le chemin de fer de Locarno à Diodossola.

Pendant ses stages au Département politiques au cours de la guerre, il s'occupa spécialement de l'internement et des prisonniers de guerre.

Il était détaché auprès du Département politique en 1921 lorsque il fut nommé consul général à Cologne en remplacement de M. Deucher et il s'y fit vivement apprécier. Peu après son arrivée sur le Rhin, en effet la crise de la Ruhr éclata et le consulat général de Cologne eut un travail intense; il dut s'occuper d'une foule d'affaires commerciales et juridiques, intervenir dans une multitude de questions très délicates pour défendre les intérêts suisses. M. de Segesser fut preuve de qualité de travail, de conscience et d'intelligence qui lui valurent l'estime générale.

En 1924, le Conseil fédéral put, comme il en avait l'intention depuis longtemps, donner à M. de Segesser un avancement bien mérité en l'appelant à la tête de notre légation de Pologne, à laquelle le colonel Pfyffer avait renoncé depuis un certain temps.

Par ses qualités et sa préparation très sérieuse dans les nombreuses fonctions qu'il avait occupées, le nouveau ministre était admirablement qualifié pour le poste de Varsovie et comme on pouvait s'y attendre il y rendit de grands services à notre pays. Depuis 1927, M. de Segesser était aussi accrédité comme ministre à Prague.

Il était très heureusement secondé dans sa mission par Mme de Segesser qui s'occupait avec beaucoup de dévouement de nos compatriotes établis en Europe orientale.

C'est une grande perte que fait notre corps diplomatique et nombreux seront ceux qui, dans notre colonie autant que dans notre pays, de même qu'à Varsovie, s'associeront au deuil de la famille de Segesser et de ses amis.

J.P.T.

UNE BONNE JOURNÉE.

L'initiative de banqueroute a reçu l'accueil qu'elle méritait. Le peuple suisse, dont il convient de louer une fois de plus le bon sens, l'a repoussée à une majorité de 142,000 voix; seize cantons et quatre demi-cantons ont fourni des majorités négatives, trois cantons seulement et deux demi-cantons ont voté oui.

Le scrutin d'hier peut donc être considéré à bon droit comme une victoire du fédéralisme, et nous sommes particulièrement heureux, à ce propos, de souligner les résultats des cantons romands, auxquels nous “annexons” le Tessin, — veulent nos confédérés d'outre-Gothard ne pas nous tenir rigueur de cette conquête pacifique! — qui ont tous “donné” avec entrain pour défendre l'idée fédérale, affirmant du même coup leur foi dans l'avenir de notre petite patrie dont les vingt-cinq Etats doivent rester étroitement unis, certes, mais unis dans l'égalité et dans la liberté. Les cantons waltes, donc, ont fourni une majorité rejettante de plus de cent pour cent (168,618 non contre 83,185 oui, soit 85,433 non de plus que de oui). La participation au scrutin, qui est de 83% pour l'ensemble de la Suisse, a atteint 91,3% dans le canton de Vaud, un record.

Et pour montrer l'intérêt que le peuple suisse attachait à la question qui lui était soumise, mentionnons encore que près d'un million d'électeurs ont participé au scrutin d'hier (991,120 d'après les résultats que nous avons sous les yeux et qui ne sont pas encore absolument complets), alors que, pour la loi rail-route, il n'y avait eu que 720,000 votants et 939,000, le 24 février, pour la loi militaire.

Le résultat du canton de Berne, canton où le Conseil fédéral trouvait jadis son plus ferme

appui, a étonné bien des gens. Il prouve — si tant est que la preuve ait encore besoin d'être rapportée — qu'il y a quelque chose qui cloche au pays du “mutz” où les paysans, particulièrement nombreux et actifs, sont travaillés par la propagande démagogique du député Müller, qui fait là-bas figure d'apôtre et dont les harangues enflammées ont tourneboulé beaucoup trop d'esprits.

Quant au résultat de Genève, il aura sans doute surpris aussi nombre de nos confédérés, mais en bien. Il remonte tout simplement qu'il existe chez nous une majorité nationale effective, qui s'affirme de façon très nette chaque fois que les mesquines rivalités de partis ou de personnes sont reléguées à l'arrière-plan. Et cette constatation, renouvelée dimanche de manière éclatante, devrait suffire à ouvrir certains yeux et à faire taire certaines rancunes exacerbées par un faux amour-propre. A bon entendeur, salut!

Voilà donc le danger immédiat écarté, mais les difficultés dans lesquelles se débat notre pays n'en sont point résolues pour autant. Il reste au gouvernement fédéral et aux Chambres une lourde tâche à accomplir pour opérer le redressement économique et financier de la Suisse. Il est urgent d'élaborer un programme net et précis; trop de temps a déjà été perdu, grâce, en partie, à l'initiative elle-même, au rejet de laquelle il a fallu consacrer des forces qui eussent pu être employées plus utilement à une besogne constructive. Conforté par l'appui que vient de lui apporter le peuple suisse, le Conseil fédéral aura certainement à cœur d'établir le programme de redressement. Assez parlé, il faut maintenant agir. Les citoyens qui ont repoussé l'initiative de crise ont entendu signifier du même coup au Conseil fédéral qu'ils voulaient que ce dernier gouverne. Car le mal dont nous souffrons a pour cause initiale, médiate, la carence de l'autorité.

*Edgar Junod.
 (Tribune de Genève).*

SOME OF THE FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1935.

August

World Jewish Congress at Geneva.

50th Anniversary Festival of the Nautical Society of Ouchy-Lausanne.

Fourth International Exposition for Art Photography at Lucerne.

August 1

Swiss Independence Day Celebrations everywhere.

August 4

Swiss Rowing Championships at Lucerne (Rotsee).

Golf Contests, “Colburn Cup” and “Martens Cup,” at Lucerne.

August 4, 11, 18, 25

Open-air William Tell performances at Interlaken.

William Tell Performances at Altdorf.

August 10

Venetian Night Festival with Gondola corso at Thun.

August 12-September 4

Vacation Courses for Modern French at the University of Neuchâtel.

August 17

Golf Match, “Morgan Cup,” at Lucerne.

August 18-24

Course of the Geneva Institute of International Relations at Geneva.

August 23 and following days

Swiss National Amateur Golf Championship at Lucerne.

August 25

Second Grand Prix of Switzerland for Automobiles at Berne.

August 26-September 2

International Tennis Championships at Lucerne.

August 26-October 5

Vacation Courses for Modern French at the University of Lausanne.

August 27-September 3

Journalism Course Organised by “International Student Service” at Geneva.

August 31

Golf Match, “Rigi Cup,” at Lucerne.

September

Sino-European Conference (International Student Service) at Geneva.

Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva.

Inauguration of the New Palace of the League of Nations at Geneva.

Vineyard and Wine Congress at Lausanne.

Probably in September

International Costumes Festival on the occasion of the inauguration of the League of Nations Buildings at Geneva.

September 1, 8

Open-air William Tell performances at Interlaken.

William Tell performances at Altdorf.

September 1-15

International “Golf Week” at Lucerne.

September 4-18

International Glider-pilots' Meet on Jungfrau-joch.