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SWISS NATIONAL ARMS.

Many volumes have been written on the origin of armorial bearings and it would be filling columns to little purpose to discuss the introduction of an art that has existed in some degree in all countries whose inhabitants have emerged from barbarism to civilisation.

In all ages men have made use of figures of living creatures, trees, flowers, inanimate objects and monstrous animals, as symbolical signs to distinguish themselves in war, or denote the bravery and courage of their chief or nation.

When armies of different nations engaged in the expeditions to the Holy Land, they were obliged to adopt some symbol or ensign in order to marshal the vassals under the banners of the various leaders. The ornaments and regulations were sanctioned by the sovereigns engaged in the Crusade, and hence the origin of the present system of Heraldry which prevails in every country in Europe.

Swiss arms, most particularly those of cantons and cities, are of varied origin. They descend from or bear some analogy to the arms of ruling families who have founded them, or they are direct concessions conferred by emperors and popes as a mark of esteem or as a reward for the performance of some noble act. The origin of many can be linked with legends, spiritual patrons, notable war achievement or historical event.

What struck us in the first instance, is the extreme simplicity of our cantonal arms compared with the majority of armorial bearings of other nations. A beautiful simplicity of lines and opposition of colours distinguished the most ancient, those of the XIII Cantons, which often are formed by the arms of the chief town or of charges borrowed from it. Emblems of cantons brought into the Helvetic Republic by the Act of Mediation bear traces of revolutionary turmoil. During that period of wide-spread rising, the art of heraldry felt strongly the old rule, it fell somewhat into neglect and contempt and many armorials on monuments, paintings, and even official seals, were badly emblazoned and full of heraldic errors.

The cantonal arms which were painted in the Chamber of the Council of the States in the Federal Palace in 1860, rescued for a time Swiss heraldry from the incertitude with which it had been interwoven. Previous to this important work great controversy existed as to the correct bearings of several cantons, not only concerning modern escutcheons like those of Aargau and Thurgau, but even ancient arms like those of the Leagues of High-Rhaetia.

Exactitude is at the root of heraldry. Our national arms are worthy of respect. They are great by origin and the subsequent modifications that our national strife, political and moral, has brought them.

The recent publication of the Federal Chancery puts to precision that which was still lingering in the vast domain of fantasy. This reliable work, ably executed by the late Rudolph Münger, determines that which was still uncertain. Although there may be one or two secondary points with which we cannot entirely agree, these arms must be considered correct, and the escutcheons heading these future columns are in compliance with the official types of the Chancery.

P.S.

(To be continued.)

SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

It will doubtless interest the numerous friends of this most active institution of the Swiss colony to hear that a definite step has been taken towards realising a long cherished hope. The Home for the aged and necessitous amongst our compatriots is to become a reality.

Thanks to the fund created by the great generosity of the late George Dimier, a home has been purchased freehold in the immediate vicinity of Fitzroy Square. It is hoped to accommodate there fifteen to seventeen persons and to enable them to pass their last years in the surroundings to which they have become attached.

The house is at present entirely occupied and the leases have still some time to run. The opening of the Home cannot, therefore, be foreseen for the immediate future, but the intervening period will be used in preparing the organisation of the Home. The task has already been taken in hand by a small committee whose aim it will be to make the inmates of the future Home as comfortable and happy as possible. But, as means are limited, the attention of the members of the Swiss colony is earnestly called to this most deserving scheme and they are reminded that much valuable assistance may be given by them. Furniture, such as tables, chairs, beds, linen, carpets, linoleum and household goods of all kinds will be chiefly wanted. In practically every family it occurs from time to time that some such

articles are no longer wanted and if they are sent to the.

Swiss Benevolent Society,
34, Fitzroy Square,
W.1,

they will be gratefully received.

Our compatriots, it is felt, will want to contribute in this practical way to the successful launching of the future Home and thus to add to the amenities it will be able to offer to some of the less fortunate members of the Swiss Colony.

XYZ.

JOURNÉE DES SUISSES A L'ETRANGER,
BADEN (Argovie) 24/25th. August 1935.

The Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad, 40, Bundesgasse, Berne, has issued a very hearty invitation to ALL SWISS ABROAD to take an interest in, and be present at, the Meeting at Baden in August.

We produce the invitation as we have received it, with the recommendation that all Swiss from England who are spending their August holidays in the home country should regard it as their duty to attend the Meeting. Only by personal attendance will it be possible for them to appreciate the wonderful progress in the spiritual relations between the Swiss Abroad and the Swiss at Home, — a revelation for all those who are interested in the movement.

The London Group of the N.S.H.
A. Fred. Suter.

Nous invitons les Suisses à l'étranger et tous ceux qui s'intéressent aux problèmes, qui sont leurs et qui sont nôtres en même temps, à la Journée des Suisses à l'étranger qui se réunira au Kursaal de Baden, le dimanche 25 août.

Le développement, dans certains pays, d'un nationalisme exacerbé menace de plus en plus nos colonies. La fidélité à la patrie est aujourd'hui devenue plus difficile que jamais: elle exige de milliers de nos compatriotes de gros sacrifices. Nous ne doutons pas de la fermeté de leur caractère. Mais nous craignons qu'à la longue, même ceux qui sont le plus attachés au pays, ne finissent par se laisser entamer, si la patrie n'intensifie pas ses efforts pour la sauvegarde des biens spirituels qui constituent leur raison d'être Suisses.

C'est là, comme on le voit, une question qui n'intéresse pas seulement les Suisses à l'étranger, mais en somme tous les milieux du pays. Nos autorités politiques et militaires, nos écrivains et nos artistes, nos industriels et nos commerçants, le simple particulier, tous ont un intérêt vital à ce que ce dixième de notre population qui lutte vaillamment au loin, ne se voie pas frustré du ravitaillement spirituel nécessaire au maintien de son existence. Il n'est pas indifférent, pour notre pays, de savoir si, oui ou non, nos colonies pourront continuer à être les avant-postes de notre expansion économique et de l'expansion de notre culture. Il n'est donc pas indifférent, non plus de savoir comment se fera l'éducation de la jeunesse suisse à l'étranger, si et dans quelle mesure nous entendons la conserver au pays.

Des représentants qualifiés des milieux suisses de l'extérieur, qui travaillent depuis des années au développement du sentiment national dans nos colonies — spécialement au sein de la jeunesse — viendront nous dire ce que la patrie pourrait faire pour les aider davantage. Des personnalités compétentes du pays, voire un représentant du Conseil fédéral, montreront ce que la Suisse a déjà fait dans ce domaine et ce qu'elle pourrait faire encore.

Le public suisse sera amené, de la sorte, à mieux comprendre que conserver nos colonies n'est pas seulement un problème d'ordre matériel, mais une question d'entraide spirituelle à laquelle chacun peut et doit collaborer.

Pour la Commission des Suisses à l'étranger de la N.S.H. A. Lätt, président.

Pour le Secrétariat des Suisses à l'étranger de la N.S.H. A. Briod. G. Schürch.

Programme.

Dimanche 25 août 1935 :

9h.30 Assemblée publique au Kursaal de Baden : La Défense de notre Patrimoine National à l'étranger. Colonies Suisses et culture suisse.

13h. Dîner en commun au Kursaal de Baden. Programme récréatif organisé par le groupe N.S.H. de Baden.

OBITUARY.

The Committees of the Sick Society and Swiss Club "Schweizerbund" very much regret to announce the death of their honorary Member and late President respectively, CONRAD GENTTSCHI who passed away on June 16th after a very short illness at the age of 82 years.

The deceased was Secretary and President for over 40 years, and one of the Founders of the Sick Society in 1879 and of the Swiss Club in 1887.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his relatives.

The Committees of the Sick Society, and Swiss Club ("Schweizerbund").

FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL.

London's most picturesque convention has assembled during this week, when representatives of 18 foreign countries are joining British enthusiasts in the first European International Folk-Dance Festival ever held.

More than 500 dancers and dance enthusiasts from abroad were received at Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park by Lord Rennel of Rodd, one of the vice-presidents of the Festival, of which the Queen is patron and Viscount Halifax the president.

The Swiss contingent, numbering 32 folk-dancers, arrived last Saturday, and received a cordial welcome at Victoria Station. The "Daily Express" writes :

Strange behaviour by porters at Victoria Station, London, yesterday afternoon — passengers returning from abroad wondering if the heat was responsible.

Porters were raising their heads, opening their mouths wide, and crying to each other like banshees'.

From further along the platform came the high, full-throated voice of a girl, yodelling at the top of her lungs.

It was answered by a man: then a chorus took up the queer carying call of the mountains.

Startled passengers went over to investigate.

They found, in a circle of Swiss peasants, edelweiss tucked in soft round hats, enormous cowbells slung on yokes across their shoulders, a girl and man, greeting London with heads thrown back.

The girl is Fraulein Riolfi, champion yodeller of Switzerland. She has come over with thirty-two folk-dancers to take part in the International Folk Dance Festival which opened last Sunday afternoon with a procession in Hyde Park.

The yodelling was too much for the porters. They answered back.

The Swiss grinned and replied.

For five minutes the station resounded to a comedy of cries, while the crowd laughed and clapped.

Another train arrived, discharging a picturesque load of leather-clad Bavarians and fierce-eyed Hungarian gipsies.

The porters looked at them and took up their joyful yodelling once more.

SPORT.

Un match triangulaire international a eu lieu dimanche dernier au stade de l'Exposition à Bruxelles entre une sélection d'athlètes belges, français du Nord et suisses.

Les Suisses sont sortis les premiers dans les épreuves suivantes :

110 mètres haies, 100 mètres, 200 mètres. Lancement du javelot, Saut en hauteur. Saut en longueur, Saut à la perche, Relais suédois :

et sont en outre au deuxième rang aux 400 mètres haies, et au troisième rang au lancement du poids et du disque ainsi qu'aux 400 mètres.

Classement final :

Suisse 119 points,
Belgique 110½ points,
France 77½ points.

Le grand journal bruxellois "Le Soir" termine le compte-rendu de cette rencontre sportive comme suit :

"Du point de vue purement sportif, nos prévisions se sont réalisées. La Suisse a remporté une victoire méritée et applaudie. Le public a sportivement ovationné le team suisse vainqueur qui lui fut présenté en fin de réunion."

E.W.

"SWISSAIR" DOUBLES ITS SERVICE.

Since the 13th of this month the "Swissair" are running daily two of the Douglas D.C.2 machines on the route Zurich-Basel-London. The large number of passengers necessitated this additional service.

MONTHLY REPORT ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF ZURICH,

(by Leu and Co's., Bank Limited, Zurich).

Zurich, July 2nd, 1935.

During the month of June the stock-exchange business has continued to calm down, due partly to seasonal influences and partly to more settled political conditions within certain European countries. Parallel with this new situation the public interest for Swiss first class securities began to rise again and the average yield of 12 such gilt-edged bonds was slowly decreasing from its highest stand of 4.83% to 4.47%.

Freed from the immediate danger of further cabinet troubles also the French securities profited, while Italian bonds were offered on account of the difficulties this country has in East Africa. Since the beginning of June, 7% Società Meridionale di Elettricità dropped from 48½% to 41%. An improvement of recent date brought them up to 45½% again. German bonds found little attention as no regular interest-payments

are obtainable. 5½% Young Loan quoted as low as 19½%, compared with 23½% one month ago.

Among the Swiss industrial securities, public utilities kept in good demand and small advances could be registered on the whole line.

5% Bernische Kraftwerke 1928 improved from 100½ to 103%
5% Centralschweiz. Kraftwerke improved from 100½ to 101%
5% Kraftwerk Wäggital improved from 99½ to 101%
5% Nordostschweiz. Kraftwerke improved from 100½ to 103½%
5% Kraftwerk Laufenburg improved from 95½ to 97%
5% Kraftwerke Oberhasli improved from 100½ to 101½%

On the stock market the reduced activity which is quite common at this time of the year, was even more pronounced. Besides falling turnovers the general trend was downwards too. The stock of well-known trust companies such as Electrobank lost almost 70 francs and is quoted at 375. Indepec dropped from 330 to 310, while Motor-Columbus probably in connection with the Italian markets registered a heavy fall of 40 Francs to 170. More friendly was the atmosphere with the South American electric shares and trading kept well up. Hispano American showed an improvement from 900 up to 930 and cheapened to 910 later on, while Italo-Argentina was fluctuating between 120 and 110.

Much discussed was the case of the Banque Commerciale de Bâle, which owing to her decreased liquidity was granted a postponement of all maturity-dates by 2 years. Although this news was accepted quietly, it certainly did not encourage to buy bank-shares. A trifle weaker were Royal Dutch, while General Mining and Union Corporation, after a setback of a few francs improved again.

Swiss industrials were mostly cheaper than a month ago, especially Aluminium declined from 1670 to 1630 and Nestlé were sold once at 795 to improve later on up to 818. Other enterprises such as Lonza, Brown Boveri, Sulzer, etc., were unable to maintain their top-prices of 72, resp. 65 and 260, while insurance-shares kept steady in small trading.

OF INTEREST TO PARENTS.

"There is a tide in the affairs" of children as well as men, and no one is better aware of this than the modern parent. This tide, "taken at its flood," no matter what kind of a healthy childish interest it represents, often leads directly to a career. Every worthy bent in the life of a child must be early taken into consideration and wisely dealt with, so that the child, once grown up, may reap the full benefit of his abilities. This is the reason I wish to speak to parents about the international education of their children. I feel that every sign they give of interest in foreign languages, in stories about foreign lands, in the sports and games of foreign children, should be encouraged and developed into an interest in world affairs. Such an interest will go far, later on, towards securing for their generation that international understanding and that peace which we all so ardently desire for them.

To further this idea, the Buser Group of sub-Alpine Boarding Schools (two for girls and two for boys) has arranged to take ten or more English children or Swiss children living in England, in each establishment at 2,000 Swiss francs for the scholastic year of 10 months, i.e. from September 15th to July 15th. This sum represents about 40% of the usual fee. Preference will be given to children who show interest in international subjects and who wish to concentrate on modern languages, and who, having taken their Matrik or School Certificate are better able to follow the idea of international understanding than those of younger age.

The Buser Schools are known all over the Continent as a very potent factor in bringing this understanding into the lives of their pupils, for their rolls show a collection of students from almost every country in Europe. The offer which Professor Buser is thus making through me, his representative in England, is open until August 15th. Every applicant must write a brief paragraph in English of not more than 200 words on his or her idea of international co-operation in the cause of peace.

I will be glad to arrange interviews.

(Madame) E. Hugli-Camp,
11, Cornwall Gardens, S.W.7.
Tel: Western 2900.

US DR. HEIMAT.

Die letzte Stärnli si verbliche
Glänzend bricht der Morge a,
Geit im rosa goldig Cheidli
Am eue schöne Tag vora.

Frisch erwachet isch zum Läbe
Wieder alls i Wald u Flur,
Dür Bletter ruscht wie Morgesäge
A weiche Huch vo Gottes Spur.

D'Vögeli zwitschere i de Bäume
D'Sunne lacht zum Fenster i,
Lockt veruse, me fuehlt neume
D'Stube wärdi äng u chly.

I grüne Wald, dür schöni Matte
Dem chline Wägli no,
Wo dir hundert tusig Bluemli
Me meint i Himmelsgarte z'cho.

D'Wiese lüchte grad vo Farbe
Violet, rot, gälb, wyss u blau,
Kornblum, Rittersporn, Schafgarbe
Habermark u Bärechlan.

Pimpernelle, Ankebluemli
Löwemul u Frauendanz,
Espansette Gloggebluemli
Zittergras u Fuchseschwanz.

Fingerhuet, Baldrian
Margerit blauei Selbei,
U der gälb Ruehr mi mid a
Häxegras u Akelei.

J d'Sunne hebets ihi Chöpfli
Und im Dienst vo der Natur,
Wot a jedes chline Chnöpfli
Eifach nur sis beste tue.

Wenn's nur, so prächtig schöni Morge
No rächt viel git in user Schwyz,
Sie tuent de Lüte ihi Sorge
Erlichetere i der schwäre Zyt.

H.E.



HOTELS UNDER SWISS MANAGEMENT

WHAT AN AMAZINGLY CENTRAL SPOT!

AT THE PLAZA HOTEL ONLY you can get a meal at any time of the day or night: you can telephone or listen to the wireless from your bedside: you walk outside the door and you are in the heart of theatredland and shops. Upstairs in your bed room you might be in the heart of the country, so quiet is the situation of

THE PLAZA HOTEL,
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Phone: Whitehall 8641.
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100 rooms. Fully licensed. Single room 10s. 6d.; double room from 19s. per night — inclusive of breakfast and bath. Your enquiry and your visit under the personal direction of J. Jenny, Managing Director.

S. DEVON. Dartmoor Hotel, Bovey Tracey. Ideal sit., sea and moors. Golf, riding, fishing locally; excellent cuisine; h. and c. running, water. Under personal supervision of Propri. Jacques Dubs. Phone: Bovey Tracey 11.

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JEUNE FILLE de la Suisse française, présentant bien, active et intelligente, cherche place pour s'occuper de 1 ou 2 enfants, éventuellement aiderait au ménage, petit gage demandé si occasion d'apprendre l'anglais, pour renseignements écrire à Box H.B., c/o Swiss Observer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Thursday, August 1st, at 8.30 p.m. — First of August Celebration — at Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

Wednesday, August 7th, at 7.30 p.m. — Société de Secours Mutuels — Monthly Meeting, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

SWISS BANK CORPORATION,

(A Company limited by Shares incorporated in Switzerland)

99, GRESHAM STREET, E.C.2.
and 11c, REGENT STREET, S.W.1.

Capital Paid up £6,400,000
Reserves - - £1,560,000
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: : Correspondents in all : :
: : parts of the World. : :

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of beautiful Stained glass belonging to four centuries, consisting mostly of English panels from York Minster, All Saints York, Canterbury, Oxford, Ketton, Salisbury, etc., etc. French glass from Rouen, Evreux, Chartres, Saint Denis, Beauvais, etc., etc., also Flemish, Italian Hungarian and Swiss glass.

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Artist and Expert in Stained glass, Mardley Hill, Welwyn (Herts) (formerly Appraiser at the American Art Galleries, Madison Avenue, and 57th Street, New York City). Situated on the Great North Road, (Route No. 1) 26 miles from London, and at Castle Rapperswil (Switzerland).

The Exhibition is open from now to and inclusive Saturday, July 27th, 1935. Sundays and Holidays included.

How to get there:

Take Green Line Bus to Mardley Hill (Top) Welwyn from Kings Cross (Balldock Line, every hour), or Green Line Bus to Mardley Hill (Top) Welwyn from Polytechnic (Regent Street) or Baker Street (Dorking-Hitchin Line) every hour. (One hour's beautiful run — 3/6 return).

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(Langue française).

79, Endell Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.

(Near New Oxford Street).

Dimanche, 21 Juillet :

11h. — Mr. Emery.

7h. — Mr. Nüesch.

MARIAGE.

Le 13 juillet 1935. Ernest Geiger (Thurgovie) Klara Klaus née Schellenberg (Argovie).

Durant les vacances du pasteur titulaire M. le Pasteur Emery assurera les services. S'adresser à lui pour tous renseignements au actes pastoraux, au Foyer Suisse, 15, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1. (Tel. Museum 3100) où il loge ou à l'Eglise, le Mercredi de 11h. et 12h.30.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 21. Juli 1935.

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst. Predigt

Herr Pfarrer V. Nüesch. Sonntagschule.

Der Abendgottesdienst fällt während der Monate Juli und August aus.

Während der Ferien des Gemeindepfarrers wird dieser durch Herrn Pfarrer Valentin Nüesch von Roggwil bei Langenthal vertreten werden. Alle Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen sind während dieser Zeit erbeten an Herrn Pfarrer Nüesch, "Foyer Suisse," 12, Upper Bedford Place, Russel Square, W.C.1. (Tel. Museum 2982).

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