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HOME NEWS

Mr. Emile Montag, a corn broker in Liverpool, has been appointed honorary Swiss Consul in that city by the Federal Council.

Lively scenes characterised the special meeting of the Basle Grosse Rat which was convened to discuss a number of interpellations arising out of the recent bomb outrage. The public galleries were crowded, and detachments of police guarded the building. The Socialist and Communist speakers blamed the Bourgeois Parties for refusing to assimilate the mentality of the working classes in protesting against the Sacco-Vanzetti judgment, and the Radical-Democratic group, on the other side, accused the leaders of the left of undermining the authority of the State, generally ascribing to them the moral responsibility for the outrage. The sitting terminated at midnight with the acceptance by 64 to 55 votes of a Bourgeois interpellation endorsing the Government's policy in their measures against municipal employees who struck work in sympathy with the demonstrations organised by the Communists.

The States Council of Aargau has issued an official appeal for funds in favour of the commune of Dietwil, where the recent hailstorms, in addition to heavy damage to the crops, have swept away the roofs of about 250 houses.

Other cantons affected, notably Berne, Lucerne and Zug, are also inviting public subscriptions, and the Federal Council is contributing from Frs. 8,000 to Frs. 15,000 to the respective funds.

In little over two hours 12,000 telephone subscribers were connected with the automatic exchange which was opened early on Sunday morning in the Füsslistrasse in Zurich. The new exchange controls over half of the total lines.

A novel competition is being organised for September 21st on the occasion of the forthcoming "Comptoir Suisse" in Lausanne. The visitors to the exhibition will have the opportunity of winning a silver goblet and several diplomas. The successful prize-winners will have to correctly guess or determine the origin, i.e., the particular vineyard, of ten different white vaudois wines which they will have to taste one after the other. The competition is open to every visitor, but entry forms will have to be obtained beforehand.

Noisy demonstrations bordering on riots in connection with the Sacco-Vanzetti protests are reported from several centres in Switzerland. In Geneva the trouble started at a mass meeting in the Plaine de Plainpalais (the Hyde Park of that town) where violent speeches calling the American Government a band of murderers were delivered. The excited crowd then marched to the American Consulate, and on the police proceeding to clear the approaches they were pelted with stones; it looked as if they had lost control of the situation until reinforcements were rushed to the scene in taxis, when they were able to restore a semblance of order. Five demonstrators who had actually attacked constables were arrested, but subsequently liberated on the assurance of National Councillor Leon Nicole, the well-known Socialist leader, that his supporters would induce the crowd to disperse. However, the processionists appeared in other parts of the town smashing windows at cinemas, shops and cafés wherever American interests were thought to be present; the stores of the Walk-Over Co. were looted and cases containing boots and shoes were opened and carried away or thrown into the Lake. Any American car that the mob were able to get hold of was smashed. In the meantime the fire brigades were mobilised in order to assist the police, and a section of the crowd congregated before the League of Nations buildings shouting "here is another American swindle." A fusillade of stones was followed by a rush for one of the entrances, but an Alsatian watchdog kept the attackers at bay until police reinforcements arrived. On the whole, with the exception of one man accidentally shot, the casualty list was remarkably small; fifteen arrests were subsequently made (a good proportion of Italians) and the tiny municipal

force of 200 police seemed to have effectively managed the crowd estimated at 10,000. The following day, on Tuesday, the States Council at a special meeting called out, as a matter of precaution, the three battalions of the Third Regiment which remain confined to barracks.

In Zurich, an address delivered by an American lecturer on bible research at the municipal theatre, supplied a welcome pretext for a demonstration. The police who arrived in a motor lorry cleared the place without much trouble, and on the demonstrators re-appearing later on, in increased numbers, sabres were drawn which restored order for the rest of the evening. In Basle, apart from peaceful meetings, nothing untoward happened though the American Consulate was heavily guarded.

The heirs of the recently deceased Friedrich Merker, a manufacturer in Baden, have made a donation of Frs. 70,000 to local philanthropic institutions.

National Councillor Jakob Freiburghaus died on his estate at Sprengelried (Berne) at the age of 74, after a prolonged illness. A Liberal in politics, he was for no less than 50 years a member of the Bernese Grosse Rat and represented the interests of the Farmers' Party in the National Council since 1896; his place in the latter Chamber will be taken by Mr. Jakob Leuenberger, a manufacturer in Huttwil.

The six occupants of a large car travelling along the Axenstrasse had a miraculous escape. The road was littered with boulders which the storm had swept down from the rocks between Brunnen and Sisikon, and the driver, in an endeavour to pass, ran his car against the stone wall. Car and passengers were plunged into the lake, which is exceptionally deep at this particular spot. Luckily a motor lorry was following close behind and the men on the latter were able to render assistance without delay, thus saving the party from drowning.

EXTRACTS FROM SWISS PAPERS.

Bundesbeitrag.—Der Bundesrat hat beschlossen, der Auslandschweizerorganisation der Neuen Helvetischen Gesellschaft jährlich einen Bundesbeitrag von höchstens 10,000 Fr. zukommen zu lassen, der jeweils ins Budget einzustellen ist. Die Auslandschweizerorganisation unterhält ein ständiges Sekretariat in Freiburg. Dieses veranstaltet Vortragsreihen bei den Gruppen der Neuen Helvetischen Gesellschaft im Ausland, versendet Rundschreiben, verteilt schweizerische Zeitungen, gibt Broschüren heraus, vermittelt Filme und vertritt die Auslandschweizerinteressen im Inland. Die Unkosten betragen im letzten Jahr 70,353 Fr. Der Bundesbeitrag, der bereits letztes Jahr in der Höhe von 10,000 Fr. ausgerichtet wurde und von nun an regelmässig in Aussicht genommen wird, deckt also nur den kleineren Teil der Ausgaben für das Auslandschweizerwerk. Die Beschaffung der übrigen Mittel bleibt weiterhin der privaten Initiative vorbehalten.

La vaccination, invention nègre.— Dans une de ses dernières lettres, notre con-citoyenne, Mlle. Dr Debarge, en mission médicale au Cameroun, raconte qu'avant de pouvoir recourir aux soins des blancs, les noirs s'appliquaient une médecine, dont certains principes témoignent d'un rare esprit d'observation et de déduction: "Par exemple, lorsque quelqu'un avait la variolo, on commençait par l'isoler dans une hutte bâtie dans la brousse. Puis si quelqu'un dans la famille avait déjà eu la variolo, on le choisissait pour soigner le malade, car on avait remarqué que celui qui avait eu la variolo ne l'attrapait plus. Si personne de la famille ne l'avait eue, on choisissait quelqu'un d'autre qui ouvrait une des pustules, se faisait une incision au poignet et y mettait le pus de la pustule; cela lui donnait la variolo au bras, mais la maladie n'entrait pas dans le corps."

La récolte des abricots.—La récolte des abricots qui va commencer très prochainement, s'annonce magnifiquement.

Déjà les premiers de ces fruits savoureux viennent d'être expédiés de Saxon qui, seul fournira de 600 à 700,000 kilos.

Mais les prix seront-ils abordables aux bourses modestes?

Voilà la question! *Le Travail, Genève.*

Celle des fraises.— Il y a une dizaine d'années, seul Saxon s'occupait de la culture des fraises, mais depuis l'assainissement de la plaine du Rhône, cette culture a pris de l'extension, notamment à Fully et à Saillon.

Cette année, la gare de Saxon a expédié en

ANNIVERSARIES OF SWISS EVENTS.

August 29th, 1799.—Graubünden joins the Helvetic Republic.

August 30th, 1352.—Duke Albrecht lays siege to the town of Zurich, to revenge the cruel expedition of Zurich under Brun at Rapperswil. But when 2,000 Confederates join Zurich to oppose the 35,000 strong Austrian army, and are victorious in several engagements, Duke Albrecht raises the siege, and withdraws from the town. The Markgraf of Brandenburg then tries to negotiate a peace by which Zug and Glarus are again to become Austrian. This the two Cantons refuse to do, and they are encouraged by the other Confederates who will not sanction their leaving the Confederacy. Duke Albrecht then appeals to the Emperor, Karl IV, who in August, 1354, advances with a powerful army to the attack of Zurich. 4,000 Confederates join Zurich to defend their town. In their distress, Zurich hoisted the imperial standard to show to the Emperor that they were still an imperial town and only at war with the Austrian army. The Emperor, to the chagrin of Duke Albrecht, thereupon withdrew his army, and left Albrecht to carry on during the next year. Through the Emperor's agency, the Regensburg Peace was concluded, which, however, contained the same demands as those put forward by the Markgraf of Brandenburg. Brun betrayed the cause of the Confederates by concluding peace with Austria. Only after Brun's death did Zurich stop this double part, for henceforth she became a true Confederate.

August 31st, 1359.—Alliance of the forest Cantons with Gersau and Weggis.

September 2nd, 1806.—Landslip near Goldau, 457 lives being lost.

September 3rd, 1856.—Revolt in Neuchâtel. Fight between Republicans and Royalists, who had occupied the castle at Neuchâtel and Locle. Recovering of these places by the Republicans.

chiffres ronds 76,000 kilos de fraises, la fabrique en a absorbé autant si ci n'est plus.

Ajoutant les expéditions faites par la gare de Charrat et par camions, on arrive à 200,000 kilos payés en moyenne 70 centimes le kilo, soit près de 140,000 francs. *Le Travail, Genève.*

Le jubilé de M. Henri Rosat.—Le 11 juin dernier, au cours d'une cérémonie qui groupait tout le personnel de la fabrique, la direction de la S. A. Ulysse Nardin, au Locle, remettait à M. Henri Rosat, son vieux collaborateur, un souvenir bien mérité. Il y avait cinquante ans exactement que M. Henri Rosat—alors Henri Rosat "fils"—était entré comme technicien dans la fabrique où travaillant déjà son père. Est-il besoin de dire qu'il ne l'a plus quittée, qu'il lui a voué le meilleur de son talent, de son temps, de sa persévérante activité, et que l'illustre maison des chronométriers loclais lui est, pour une bonne part, redevable des centaines de prix d'observatoires suisses et étrangers qu'elle fait connaître fièrement—et à bon droit.

La vie de M. Henri Rosat, toute de dignité et de sérieux, n'a été qu'un long labeur. Lorsque le jeune technicien entra dans la maison, M. Paul-David Nardin, alors régleur, put se consacrer plus entièrement à la direction commerciale. Ce poste de confiance qui lui avait été remis dès le début, M. Henri Rosat le tint avec une conscience parfaite, avec un sens très sûr des progrès indispensables. En 1904, lorsque la fabrique Nardin organisa la production mécanique de la montre, il participa très activement à l'établissement des divers calibres d'ébauches. Et, dans ces dernières années, il assumait toute la direction technique de la société nouvelle, avec le titre de l'emploi.

Un tel cinquantenaire honore le savant chronométrier autant que la fabrique Nardin elle-même. Il est rare, en effet, que, dans une même fabrique, trois générations de régleurs se soient succédées. Disons mieux: Dès 1866, Henri Rosat père, Henri Rosat fils, le digne jubilaire d'aujourd'hui, et son fils, Auguste Rosat, en pleine jeunesse, ont fait mieux que se succéder: tout le temps qu'il leur a été donné d'agir, ils l'ont mis en commun, pour l'oeuvre commune. Et la persistance de ces dynasties de régleurs est, dans le temps troublé où nous passons, une des plus sûres forces de l'industrie horlogère.

Le *Journal Suisse d'Horlogerie* tient à s'associer aux chaudes félicitations qui, de toutes parts, ont entouré, lors de cette belle cérémonie, M. Henri Rosat et la société Ulysse Nardin.

Journal Suisse d'Horlogerie.