

Bishop Herbert Bury's lecture on Russia

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Premier round: Le Russe, dont on avait dit tant de bien, prend la tête du combat, touchant durement, et du gauche et du droit à répétitions. On remarque cependant que son style reste primitif et qu'il est loin de la souplesse féline avec laquelle son concurrent se débrouille continuellement.

2me round: Après un "time" à la vérité plus prolongée qu'on ne l'aurait pensé, le tenant du titre international prend à son tour l'avantage et, par une série de feintes alternées, de coups puissants, "knock-out" en due et bonne forme son challenger, qui n'est sauvé que par le gong (que de bateaux par un pareil hiver!) final.

3me round: Le géant muscovite ne se relevant pas le délégué de la Fédération allemande de boxe bondit sur le ring et, par le mouvements respiratoires les plus appropriés, le ramène heureusement à la vie. Le Russe de demander immédiatement une revanche dans un avenir aussi rapproché que possible et le président de la commission de désarmement... pardon de boxe, d'accéder à cette prétention.

La foule, plutôt déçue (on s'attendait certes à mieux), s'écoule lentement tandis que les journalistes (dont je suis) s'entretiennent aux abords du télégraphe.

L'homme qui transpire.

EIDGENÖSSISCHE GLOSSEN.

Das kleine Land—das doch zu gross ist.

In Beantwortung einer Interpellation hat der Regierungsrat von Zug grundsätzlich die Erklärung abgegeben, dass eine volkswirtschaftliche Notwendigkeit, die blühende Industrie im Kanton noch zu vergrössern, nicht bestehe. Man habe eher Grund, zu untersuchen, ob nicht das erwünschte Mass von Industrialisierung (Rückgang der selbständigen Existenzen) bereits überschritten sei.

Man ahnt die Vermengung von wirtschaftlichen und politischen Überlegungen, eine Vermengung, die nie von gutem ist. Und man schaut wieder einmal in die seltsame Zwergwirtschaft einzelner Landesteile, in eine Zwergwirtschaft, die so tut, als ob sie auf einem bestimmten, von un-natürlichen Grenzen umschlossenen Gebiete entscheiden könnte, ob die Industrialisierung zu fördern oder eher zu hemmen sei. Müsste diese Entscheidung nicht eine Angelegenheit des ganzen Landes sein? Ganz abgesehen davon, dass die Wechselbeziehungen zwischen Industrie und Landwirtschaft noch nicht schöpferisch gestaltet sind, und dass die Lösungsversuche bäuerlicher Probleme im Sinne industrieller Unternehmungen erst in den Anfängen stehen. Man kann den Rückgang selbständiger Existenzen, das heisst des Mittelstandes, beklagen, aber lösen kann man ein europäisches Problem nicht auf dem Gebiete eines kleinen Kantons. So tun, als ob man das könnte, heisst sich einer Illusion hingeben, deren Tage gezählt sind, ob man nun will oder nicht!

Man hat dann und wann den Eindruck, dass die Schweiz sehr klein sei. Wenn man jedoch den Bericht über die Oltener Sitzung der Hafraba liest, kommt man angesichts des Kampfes zwischen Lötschberg- u. Gotthardgruppe zur Überzeugung, dass die Schweiz immer noch viel zu gross ist.

Billigere Milch.

Die Untersuchung über die Art des Zürcher Milchverschleisses hat ergeben, dass bei radikalen Massnahmen eine entsprechende Kostenverminderung eintreten könnte. Nur glaubt die betreffende Kommission, dass sich der Konsument für einen rationelleren Milchvertrieb, der mit alten, bequemen Methoden bricht, nicht gewinnen lassen werde.

Immer der gleiche Pessimismus. Man traut dem Schweizer nichts zu—und darum geschieht nichts. Die Zürcher Frau wird begreifen—wenn man es auf die rechte Weise sagt—dass wir nicht ein Interesse daran haben, die Zwischenhandels-existenzen zu mehren. Es handelt sich in erster Linie darum, dass die Bauern leben können! Sonst muss man nicht erstaunt sein, wenn die Bauernsöhne lieber Milchhändler werden als Milchproduzenten!

Flugzeuge und Motoren.

Ein in der Schweizer Presse vielbeachteter Aufsatz der in Berlin erscheinenden "Lustwacht" über "Die Schweiz als Lustmacht" kommt zur Schlussfolgerung, dass die Ausrüstung der an sich schwachen Lustverbände veraltet und modernen Anforderungen nicht mehr gewachsen sei. Diese Verkündigung ist nichts Neues, wenn es auch selbstverständlich ist, dass sie in dieser Berliner Formulierung einen grösseren Eindruck macht, als wenn sie vom "Bund" (9. August), vom "Neuen Winterthurer Tagblatt" (12. August) oder von der "National Zeitung" verkündet wird.

Das Unsympathische an dieser "Lustwacht"-Veröffentlichung ist der Umstand, dass man sich des Eindruckes nicht erwehren kann, Schweizer hätten die willkommenen Gelegenheit benützt, um auf dem Umwege über Berlin bestimmte persönliche Anschauungen zur Geltung zu bringen. Man könnte sich wahrhaftig einen direkteren und würdigeren Weg denken!

Ferners: Oberst Immenhauser, der Chef des Militärflugeswesens, hat vor einem Jahr in der "Aero-Revue" die Erklärung der "Subkommission I (1915)": "Von einer weiteren Selbstfabrikation von Flugzeugen wird nach dem Kriege kaum mehr die

Rede sein," mit dem Satze kommentiert: "Das ist vielleicht zu weit gegangen." Oberst Immenhauser war der Meinung, dass es möglich sein dürfte, ausländische Flugzeugmodelle in Lizenz zu bauen, desgleichen ausländische Motorenmodelle. Das "Neue Winterthurer Tagblatt" formuliert etwas schärfer: "Wohl sind wir imstande, tüchtige Flieger und Beobachter auszubilden, aber die Einsicht musste sich aufdrängen, dass wir für die Beschaffung moderner, leistungsfähiger Apparate auf das Ausland angewiesen sind." Kein Wunder, dass die "Lustwacht" verkündet, die Schweizer Militärbehörde stehe auf dem Standpunkte, dass eine weitere Selbstfabrikation nicht mehr zu rechtfertigen sei, dass die Erfahrungen, die die Schweizer Militärfliegerei mit den in der Schweiz konstruierten Flugmotoren gemacht habe, nicht die besten gewesen seien und dass es darum nicht zu verwundern sei, wenn man nunmehr auch den Lizenzbau ausländischer Motoren aufgenommen habe. "Damit dürfte die leidige Motorenfrage in der Schweiz endlich gelöst sein."

Eine schöne Lösung! So leicht geht man über die einheimische Motorenkonstruktion hinweg, so beflissen gibt man ein einseitiges ungünstiges Urteil ans Ausland weiter. So dankbar lohnt man schweizerische Arbeit!

Wahrhaftig, es ist leichter, gute Motoren zu bauen, als die guten Schweizer zu finden, die jene Motoren wenigstens vorurteilslos prüfen. Obwohl schliesslich ein gewisses Vorurteil gegenüber schweizerischer Qualitätsleistung gar nicht so unverständlich wäre!

Felix Moeschlin in "N.Z."

BISHOP HERBERT BURY'S LECTURE ON RUSSIA.

Our Swiss Pastor, the Rev. C. T. Hahn, is surely to be congratulated on securing a record audience in his church again this month. It is decidedly an excellent testimony to his work and influence in the Swiss Colony—not to mention the miracle of filling St. Anne's with our compatriots on a Wednesday evening. We were greatly favoured in having such an authority on Russia as Dr. H. Bury (Asst. Bishop of London). He held us spellbound for one and a quarter hours as he narrated his personal experiences in that dark country, and the following points are worth recording. Russia impresses one on account of its vastness—7,238,000 square miles—not a country but a Continent. Its resources cannot be estimated and the people are the most fascinating. Russia was christianised 1000 years after us and her isolation in Europe is further due to the fact that she has always been told to 'look the other way,' as she was not really a Western but an Eastern nation. Yet she is a great country in her appeal and charm, able to stir us to the depth of our being; think of her literature, her art, her music, her drama. She makes a great contribution to the common stock of civilisation and the Kingdom of God—but so far she has never had her full opportunity in the world. Here the speaker quoted the great Bismarck, whose first duty on becoming German Chancellor was a visit to St. Petersburg, as it was then called, and the impressions of that visit remained and kept him a lifelong friend and believer in Russia.

Up to the revolution of 1917 Russia was a truly communist country: 90% of the population living in villages, holding the land in common, governing themselves by a village assembly, women having the vote, i.e., on the lines of the first Christian church in Jerusalem. There was no party spirit and no lobbying to contend with. True, the old Tsarist system was autocratic, but it respected the voice of the people. For instance, when the drink (Vodka) problem became acute—although a national monopoly—the Emperor had a vote on it taken in department after department, again women voting. Local option was thus introduced and vodka voted out on the same lines as asinthe was prohibited some years ago in Switzerland. That was the old régime and surely the country was on the way to self-government!

What is the position to-day? Instead of the village communities we now have 90% of the population as peasant proprietors, the most conservative constituent in any country, a Soviet government representing a minority Communist Party of only 300,000, chiefly from the towns. Under Soviet rule individual liberty is considerably less than in the time of Tsardom, while freedom of speech and the liberty of the Press are definitely denied to the people. The darkest feature of the present system is the "Tcheka," the Russian secret police. They are responsible to nobody and act as they please, and no citizen is secure against arrest. But the most venomous poison spreading from Bolshevism is the idea of class war, the Bishop stated. It is a new thought, a horrible thought and most destructive in its influence. Thus we find the proletariat pitted against the bourgeoisie, and the "have nots" against the "haves." For example, if you wore a nice overcoat in Russia any man you met you in the street would think it his right to ask you for it and if you refused his request he would take it from you by force. Dr. Bury called all class divisions a foreign idea, as we are all bound up in the same bond of humanity and in this connection he referred to the Coronation-ser-

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Die Schweiz. Lehrzeitung schreibt: Es ist nicht auszu-denken, welchen Segen der Pestalozzikalender verbreitet. . . . er ist ein Mitzieler erster Güte.

Bundesrat Dr. G. Motta: Reicher, praktischer Inhalt, weite und grossmütige Anerkennung anderer Überzeugungen, sowie das offene Bestreben, zur Liebe der Schweiz und ihrer Einrichtungen zu erziehen, machen die immer grössere Verbreitung des Pestalozzikalenders in höchstem Grade nützlich und wünschenswert.

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vice of King George V, in which His Majesty said "I am among you as he that serveth." That is the Christian position, and the greater the possession the larger the stewardship, the higher the rank the greater the responsibility.

Fortunately there is the brighter side of Soviet Russia, and in his concluding remarks the Bishop mentioned his stay of last year when he visited the Opera House in Petrograd. It was filled with well-behaved working men and women and children listening to "Salome," while on another occasion he found a crowd of children in the picture gallery listening attentively to a guide's explanations. The Soviet's endeavour is to bring the best things within reach of all and no Government in Europe does more in the way of bringing art and music before the masses than they do.

While Bolshevism declared war on all religion, closed the churches, confiscated their property and made the teaching of all and every belief illegal under the age of 18 years, it has not succeeded in stamping out the Christian faith. Millions of Russian mothers will go on teaching their children to pray and to read the Bible, and as such the country is really fighting the old battle of Christendom. By filling its prisons with these "law-breakers" it is but putting a martyr's crown on the head of its best citizens and the true Christian faith must shine forth the clearer. In this Russia will follow the Roman Empire and discover that the death of the martyrs will become the seed of the Church.

Dr. Bury's references to "what the Commissars said about Switzerland" were of special interest to the audience and have shown the Doctor, as we have already proved him, to be an ardent friend of our country. X.

Pianoforte Recital by Juliette Wihl.

Our numerous readers will be interested to learn that Madame Juliette Wihl, the Belgian artist now resident in London, is giving her only recital this season at the Wigmore Hall on Wednesday, December 14th, at 8.30 p.m.

Juliette Wihl is no stranger to us. For several years after the war Switzerland was the home of this brilliant pianist, and whilst she was with us we had repeated opportunities of listening to the glorious music she culled forth from her instrument. Madame Wihl very rapidly created a large number of friends for herself throughout our Republic, and each successive visit has steadily swelled the ranks of her admirers, who flock to hear her wherever she plays.

Only a few weeks ago in Zurich and Berne, *en passant* for England, Madame Wihl gave two recitals and her cultured programme awakened unusual interest in musical circles, as she devoted part of the evening to the older school of composers who wrote for the cembalo. Purcell, England's great musician of the days of the Stuarts, Couperin, Rameau, Scarlatti, were among those to whom she rendered homage and a glowing interpretation, and her forthcoming London programme will again contain the delicately chiselled, enthralling works of these early Masters of Music. César Franck's "Prelude, Choral and Fugue" is likewise included in the evening's recital, which closes with the great Polish composer, of whom Juliette Wihl is acknowledged to be one of the leading exponents of the day—Chopin. Several études, his beautiful Nocturne in E Major, opus 62, and Ballade in F Minor, opus 52, complete the itinerary for December 14th, when Juliette Wihl will be only too happy to welcome those of her Swiss friends who are now in London.

Reverting to her Swiss recitals, the following extracts from some of the leading Swiss papers afford interesting reading:—

The *Berner Bund* says "We know of old that the artist possesses very considerable powers of interpretation and a highly developed technique. She seems to be at the very apex of her abilities. Juliette Wihl offered us a sparkling selection of small and exquisite writings by an older generation. Chopin's works were most magnificently reproduced by the artist, who gave them with all the wide and spiritual culture she possesses."

The *Neue Berner Zeitung* writes "Her present recital served to corroborate the impression made by her earlier appearance. Juliette Wihl is an interpreter of extremely rare qualities...Absolute technical purity and artistic beauty."

The *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* writes "Her powerful pianistic gifts have endowed her with an amazingly wide range of expression which she commands in a truly sovereign manner."

The *Zürcher Post* writes "How greatly Juliette Wihl is capable of coping with the works of a more profound nature she proved in César Franck's splendid Prelude Choral and Fugue, where the grand interpretation held the audience spellbound."

BACK NUMBERS OF THE "S.O."

Subscribers ordering back numbers are requested to remit the usual 8d. per copy, provided that those required do not date back more than twelve months; for earlier issues, some of which are out of print, an extra charge is made.

BÜCHER-BESPRECHUNG.

Der *Pestalozzikalender* für das Jahr 1928. Bestellungen nimmt der *Swiss Observer* entgegen.)—Von ganzem Herzen möchten wir diese Enzyklopädie unserer Schweizerjugend empfehlen. Es ist unseres Erachtens das beste Werk seiner Art. Belehrend, ergötlich, unterhaltend, anspornend. Erschienen ist es wie sonst in den 3 Landessprachen; die deutsche Ausgabe bereichert durch das Schatzkästlein. Warum nicht auch in den anderen Landessprachen? Es besteht ferner eine besondere Ausgabe für die Mädchen. Aus dem Inhalt belehrender Art greifen wir nur die dem Kalendarium beigegebenen Biographien bedeutender Persönlichkeiten heraus, die mathematischen Tabellen, die unregelmässigen Verben, die Schilderung der Wasseranlagen im Wallis, etc. Also sei unseren Lesern der Pestalozzikalender nochmals herzlich empfohlen auf den Weihnachtstisch ihrer Kinder. Niemand wird es bereuen. (Preis 2/9, 2/10 postfrei.)

Das *Werk*. Verlag Gebr. Fretz A.G., Zürich. —Wir empfehlen die Oktober- und Novembernummern dieser Zeitschrift. Hauptsächlich letztere, die uns besonders wertvoll erscheint. In ihr nimmt die Besprechung des Neubaus des Bundesgerichts in Lausanne den Hauptplatz ein. Lausanne ist um ein wirklich schönes Gebäude reicher geworden. Das Aeusserer wie das Innere verdienen alle Beachtung und reiches Lob. Einfachheit der Fassade, vorzügliche Ausnützung der Baufläche. Das Treppenhaus ist grossartig, und eines Grand-Prix würdig die Skulpturen des Bildhauers Casimir Raymond, besonders die Karyatiden am Eingang des grossen Audienzsaales. Wegen der trefflichen graphischen Wiedergabe verdient der Verlag Gebr. Fretz alle Anerkennung. Weiter macht uns diese reichhaltige Nummer mit zwei schweizerischen Künstlern bekannt: Surbeck und Théophile Robert. Da ist keine Künstelei sondern echte Kunst zu sehen. Der Aufsatz "Eine grosse Epoche" soll die Grundlagen eines von der Architektenschaft herbeigewünschten Aufschwunges klarlegen. Das beigegebene Bild, Le Corbusier's Phantasie entspringend, vermag uns nicht für derartige Zukunftskunst zu begeistern. Die Landschaft wird aber in Zukunft wahrscheinlich vom Flugzeug aus betrachtet werden, deswegen muss man "grossartig" bauen.

IN THE COURTS.

Rupert Wolf, 36, described as a shirt-maker of Porchester Place, Marble Arch, was remanded in custody by Mr. Fry at Bow-street Police Court on Nov. 17th on a charge of making a false statement for the purpose of procuring a British passport.

Wolf, a Swiss citizen, was arrested at the British Passport Office, Westminster, on Wednesday. He is unable to speak English, and the evidence had to be interpreted.

Detective-Sergt. Campion, of Scotland Yard, said that Wolf had no occupation in England. The police knew of his activities, which were not at all satisfactory, and they wished to make further enquiries. After his arrest he was shown a passport application form and a birth certificate, both in the name of Henry Hyams. He then said: "I met a man a few days ago who asked me if I would like to be naturalised. I said I would. He told me I should need a British passport, and it would cost me £15. A few days later he brought that form, which I signed, and I gave him two photographs. I have never seen the birth certificate."

Wolf now denied that he signed the application form.

In reply to the Magistrate, Sergt. Campion said that the police objected to bail.

SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Choral Society was held on Saturday, 26th November last, at the Swiss Club.

In a short address the President, Mr. J. Manzoni, expressed the Committee's best thanks for the kind support the Society had again received during the past business year, from the Swiss Club, the Foyer Suisse and anew from the Union Helvetia Club. All the three Institutions had put their halls, free of charge, at the disposal of the Society for the Choir's weekly rehearsals. Words of thanks the President continued, were also due to the Contributing Members of the Society: in extending their support to our Society they had greatly assisted the Committee in carrying out their duties. The President hoped that the Society could always count on the former's kind support.

Following the President's address the Annual Report and the Financial Statements were read and accepted.

According to the Report, the Choir gave the Annual Concert at the end of April last at Mortimer Hall. Furthermore, it assisted at the Concert on the 29th October last at Wigmore Hall in aid of the George Dimier Fund. The Treble Quartette assisted at the Fête Suisse at Caxton Hall and, on the 19th June last, sang at the League of Nations Union Festival at the Crystal Palace.

The members contributed Frs. 75.25 towards the Collection made annually by the 1st August Committee in Zurich.

Owing to poor support, the net proceeds of the Concert in aid of the George Dimier Fund, organised in conjunction with the Swiss Institute Orchestra, amounted to some £5 only.

The General Meeting elected the Committee for 1927/28 as follows: President, J. Manzoni;

Vice-President and Hon. Secretary, E. Bommer; Hon. Asst. Secretary, E. Weber; Hon. Treasurer, E. Ritzmann; Hon. Asst. Treasurer, W. Wyss; Hon. Librarian, O. Michel; Associate, J. Gerber.

At the Ordinary General Meeting which followed it was agreed to hold the Annual Banquet and Ball on Friday, 24th February, 1928, at the First Avenue Hotel. The Choir's Annual Concert was fixed for Thursday, 19th April, 1928. Bo.

SWISS GYMNASIUM SOCIETY.

The National Amateur Wrestling Championship of Great Britain (Featherweight, Catch-as-catch-can style) was staged at the Union Helvetia Club on Thursday evening last, and a fairly good attendance witnessed some excellent wrestling for the coveted honour. Without any attempt at exaggeration, the best wrestling of the year was seen on Thursday night, as this country has always been, and still is, strongest in the Featherweight class. Our Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, was in the chair and distributed the medals and Challenge Cup to the winner, Mr. Munro, of Edinburgh, and the runner-up, Mr. Sansum, of the London Amateur Wrestling Society. The 11 stone 3lbs. Tournament Competition was won by Mr. Johnson, of the Stadium Amateur Wrestling Club. A most enthusiastic audience cheered our Minister to the echo for the interest he took in this truly excellent sporting demonstration.

LADIES' SECTION.—As already announced in these columns a Ladies' Section is in the course of formation. All Swiss ladies or daughters of Swiss parents are cordially invited to send in their names and addresses to the Hon. Secretary, C. L. Schlaeppli, 47, Ebury Street, S.W.1. Practice will take place shortly at the Paddington and Maida Vale High School, Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, W.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

An interesting Lantern Slide Lecture, "From Geneva to Angora," was given at Swiss House on Friday, the 2nd inst., by Monsieur Henri Martin, Swiss Chargé d'Affaires in Turkey. Monsieur C. R. Paravicini honoured the meeting with his presence, and opened it by expressing everybody's pleasure at seeing M. Martin back in London again after an absence of eighteen months and that, although his visit would unfortunately be only of short duration, M. Martin had already mentioned that he hoped he would be able to come to London at least once a year. A prospect which was applauded by all present.

M. Martin then showed, by means of the magic lantern, a great number of excellent photographs taken on his journey to the East, starting at Geneva and passing by way of Venice, Athens, Salonica, Constantinople, Brussa to Angora, the new capital of Turkey. The many pictures and the lecturer's description of the latter town evoked special interest, as it is a little off the map when people travel, and Cook's have not been tempted to extend their tours so far.

To conclude, the President, Mr. A. C. Stahelin, thanked M. Martin very heartily in the name of the S.M.S. and Mr. Thomas expressed in a few words high appreciation on behalf of the guests.

As a grand finale, some records of Turkish melodies were enjoyed, thus ending a very pleasant evening at Swiss House. O. Jaeggi.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week:—

Miss Hanna Storrer, Winterthur: "Aquariums in house and school." Mr. Max Michel, Basle: "The Barberine-work in Switzerland." Mr. Her. Jeanrenaud, Basle: "International Economic Conference." Mr. E. Filter, Zurich: "Winter, pleasure and Sport at St. Moritz." Mr. E. Walder, St. Gallen: "Remembrance of the South of France." Mr. M. Racine, Bienne: "The Iron Mask." Miss Elsy Tschopp, Basle: "The Romance of the 'Posthorn.'" Mr. André Burdet, Yverdon: "Gothic Art." Miss Hanna Storrer, Winterthur: "How to Read Books."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Are you in favour of mixed national marriages?" Proposer, Mr. L. E. Fessina, Lignoretto (Ticino); Opposer, Mr. Rene Perret, Geneva.

"Do you think there is a possibility of war during the next five years?" Proposer, Mr. A. Lorenzelli, Yverdon; Opposer, Mr. Ed. Steiner, Zurich.

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