

Return Journey to the moon

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factories where, by a force-and-suction system, it clears the atmosphere of steam, dust, or of local fogginess due to a damp and misty geographical situation.

But the possibilities of future developments in the machine for use, if only a limited use, in the open air are obvious. At some not distant date it may be possible by the use of such a machine to eliminate fog, under favourable wind conditions, from streets or from outside theatres or railway stations where fog is hampering street traffic.

This year's Basle Fair is the most comprehensive of the series that has yet been held. Since 1923 the number of entrance cards issued has risen from 32,000 to 70,000. The Fair is of particular interest to British exporters in view of the vast import necessities of Switzerland for her rapidly increasing manufactures.

And still another one, not quite Swiss, seeing it comes from our one and only "Protectorate" is mentioned in the *Revue* of 4th May:

The little mountainous Principality of Liechtenstein, which, with its romantic hill-top castles and unique political independence, has been the basis of many a "Ruritanian" novel since the "Prisoner of Zenda" was first published, is exhibiting a remarkable building device at the Swiss Industries Fair, which is now being held at Basle and closes on Tuesday next.

By means of walls made of pressed wood shavings complete isolation from changes of temperature is obtained for a house. Rooms remain warm in winter and cool in summer. By a process, now patented over most of the world, the shavings are pressed to such a hardness as to take a stucco or rough cast interior covering where desired.

Swiss Buses.

The interesting development of Diesel Engines in Motor Cars is illustrated by the following from the *Commercial Motor*, 29th April and incidentally shows how up-to-date our friends at Berne are:

We learn from Berne, Switzerland, that the municipal authorities of that city have decided to add 10 vehicles to their fleet of motor-buses. Two of the vehicles are to be supplied by F. B. Broznovic and Co., of Wetzikon—one being a six-wheeler—whilst eight are to be supplied by the Saurer Co., of Arbon, a feature of the Saurer vehicles being that they will have Diesel engines.

Writing of Motoring, I take it that some of our friends of the Colony here may venture to visit the Alps with their cars and the following from "Stock Exchange Gazette" 2nd May, may interest them:

In a circular letter to the Cantonal Governments the Federal Council publish the new road traffic regulations to be observed in Switzerland.

As well over a hundred thousand foreign motor-cars pass the Swiss frontiers during every travelling season, special care was taken to make the road signs as simple and as intelligible to foreign tourists as possible.

All red signs mean that roads are totally or partially blocked, whilst the best roads are indicated with blue signs. No more boards with inscriptions are to be used, as many foreigners would not understand them, and a commonly accepted international terminology does not yet exist.

Entrances and exits of villages and hamlets where reduced speed is required will be marked with boards bearing the names of the localities. Sign posts will be known by their white tops, and bear only the name of the nearest larger place with the distance given in kilometres. In the cities blue boards mean "parking allowed," and blue boards with a red edge "no parking."

Dangerous curves and crossings will still be marked as such, but other sorts of danger will not be specialised, but simply indicated by an exclamation mark, meaning "Look out!" In order to prevent misunderstandings no advertisements will be allowed to make use of the forms and colours of road signs.

THE SWISS PAVILION AT THE LIEGE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION 1930.

The visitor who enters the exhibition grounds at Liège at the present time can already see the complete timber framework of the Swiss Pavilion standing in front of the Palais de l'Electricité on the main artery of the "Mustache."

The builder of the pavilion is the architect Hofmann who had previously achieved great success in his arrangement of the Swiss sections at the International Exhibition of the Press at Cologne and also very particularly at the International Exhibition in Barcelona.

A large part of the outside wall of the pavilion being of glass, the visitor is enabled to gain some idea of the interesting contents of the building from outside.

A photo frieze, 120 m. long, visible from outside, gives an insight into Switzerland's productive capacities. The frieze, is composed of views of waterworks, railways, bridges, tunnels, factories, electric works and power stations, workshops, engine rooms, etc., and forms a valuable supplement to the exhibits in the Pavilion.

The visitor to the Pavilion first enters a large hall. His attention is at once arrested by the large diorama exhibited by the various Swiss companies, railways, etc. interested in the promotion of tourist traffic. This Diorama is 50 m. long, and 5 m. high, and gives a grand conception of the scenic beauties of Switzerland. On entering the interior of the Pavilion, we see the "Bureau de renseignements" immediately to the right, where experts in the different branches, who have been carefully selected for the purpose, give visitors detailed information concerning the various Swiss exhibitors. Special conference rooms are at the disposal of visitors wishing to discuss the question of commercial connexion with Switzerland. Further on we find the Exhibition of the Federal Polytechnic at Zurich. Special sections for engineering, overground and underground building, architecture, chemistry, agriculture and forestry show the aims of the studies in the different divisions of the school by means of clear schedules and illustrations. Models of electric power stations, of the geological formation of the Swiss Alps, etc. complete the show. Opposite the Polytechnic Exhibition is the section for time-pieces and textile goods. There is a dim light in the room, and 6 bright horizontal glass show-cases attract the visitor's gaze. They contain the richest treasures of the Swiss watch-making trade. To the right and the left of this case there are horizontal show-cases, 15 m. long each, containing products of Swiss textile industries. About 10 firms take part in the textile exhibition, and 30 in the exhibition of time-pieces.

The remainder of the Pavilion is occupied by the engine-room which measures over 500 sq. metres. Machine-engines of the most varied kinds are systematically placed, such as machinery for mills, electric apparatus, a Diesel motor and a compressor, and, in the section for metal industries, fittings, files, precision instruments, etc. Here too, the room is not divided into separate stands and therefore represents Swiss machine-building as a whole. S.I.T.

ECONOMIC NOTES.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The figures for foreign trade for the month of February show a slight rise, not only compared with the month before but also in comparison with the corresponding month of 1929. In fact, for February 1930 the total for imports and exports reached 362 millions as against 355 millions in January, and 351 millions in February 1929. For this last-mentioned month, however, it is necessary to bear in mind the unusually cold winter of 1929 which proved a great obstacle to imports.

Imports show a total of 205 millions (208) spread over the following different groups of products. (The figure in brackets refers to the month of January 1930):

Foodstuffs, beverages and tobaccos: 38 millions (39). Agricultural raw material: 10.5 millions (11). Fuel: 14 millions (17). Raw material for industries: 49 millions (51.5). Manufactured articles: 48.5 millions (47). Other Goods: 45 millions (43.5).

Exports, the total for which in February was 157 millions (146.6) may be split up into following chief categories of products:

Foodstuffs: 11.1 millions (12.3). Textiles: 57.4 millions (51.3). Machinery and metallurgical products: 39.1 millions (11.6). Chemical products and colouring matter: 13.7 (13).

The increase makes itself felt particularly in clock-making and textiles. The figures for these two groups, however, show a certain backward movement as compared with the month of February 1929.

Allotted to different countries, the export-figures are as follows:

Germany: 27.4 millions (24.8). France: 15.9 millions (16). Italy: 10.2 millions (9.7). England: 20.4 millions (20.3). United States: 13.6 millions (10.4).

The increase may be said to be general for the most important countries, except in the case of exports to France, which have fallen off, though only to an insignificant extent.

THE HOME MARKET.

The condition of the home market has hardly undergone any change from one month to the other. The labour market shows, so to speak, only weak signs of change. In most districts its condition may be regarded as being satisfactory, and in nearly all skilled trades, except that of textile products and certain branches of the machine-building trade. Demands for employment have decreased in number, from 14,800 to 13,400 whereas offers of employment have risen from 3,600 to 3,900.

The *Hotel Industry*, during February, has continued to have a relatively favorable season, 46.9 per cent. of the beds in the census having been occupied up till the middle of February, in the roughly, 1,200 establishments submitted to regular enquiry; the proportion falling to 38.7 at the end of the same month, a rate which we may consider satisfactory. Indeed the latter includes not only the resorts most sought after during the winter months, and whose coefficient of occupation by visitors has even been known to exceed 90 per cent., but besides these, also the places which at this time of the year slow down in their work. Generally speaking, the month of February has been particularly favorable to localities situated at an altitude exceeding 1,000 metres and which in mid-February showed an average percentage of 61.9, and at the end of February, one of 43.6.

SOCIAL LEGISLATION.

The work of social insurance schemes is gradually making headway in Switzerland, after its constitutional principle having been accepted by popular vote on December 6th, 1925. A scheme of legislation is at this moment under examination by the Federal Department of Public Economy, limiting this insurance to old age. The system will probably cost up to 190 millions per annum, half of which will be defrayed by the State.

The part payable by the State will be found by means of taxation, notably of alcohol and tobacco. S.I.T.

ANCIENT CEMETERY IN SWITZERLAND.

An important archaeological find has been made in Canton Zurich, near Oerlikon, not far from the industrial town of Winterthur. A cemetery dating from the seventh or eighth century A.D. has been discovered, and 53 tombs have been investigated, 38 of which contained funerary equipment.

The tombs have been plundered—a most uncommon circumstance in this part of the world—which accounts for the absence of valuable articles and jewels, and for the fact that the bones are either missing or tossed about. The violation apparently took place during the ninth or tenth century, as one of the plundered tombs lies at a depth of 10-in. below another tomb, of a more recent date, which has not been violated. The cemetery is that of some early Germanic tribe and appears to have been plundered by another tribe of the same race.

Several finds were made in one tomb which escaped the plunderers. In it were found a skeleton whose head and feet are surrounded by flat stones; a necklace of 125 small glass beads, some green, others brown, white, or red; and an iron belt buckle and a bone comb, as well as a curious bronze disk surrounded by a tubular bronze ring. The disk—which was undoubtedly an ornament—had been broken, and was repaired by means of four iron rivets. It is adorned with concentric engraved circles and with the engraving of an animal repeated four times on the centre part. The feet of the skeleton still wore a well-preserved pair of leather sandal fastenings. Many Roman tiles and pieces of charcoal have been recovered from most of these tombs.

In a vineyard at Monthey, Canton Valais, a lead coffin was recently dug up containing a well-preserved skeleton of a man lying on oak leaves. The leaves are in excellent condition but their colour has completely faded. The coffin is similar to those discovered some years ago in the same region, and it is supposed to be the sepulture of a Burgundian chief of the sixth century.

The Times.

RETURN JOURNEY TO THE MOON.

In the 'Vaterland' for April 19th we read the following story of heroic deeds which, however, have conveniently been postponed until the next century.

"Hundert Jahre nach Fritz Lang wird es auch den übrigen Sterblichen vergönnt sein, eine Spazierfahrt nach dem Mond zu machen. Der Professor für Astronomie an der Universität Princetown, John Y. Steward, hat es dieser Tage im Institut für Künste und Wissenschaften in Brooklyn verkündet. Der Reisende wird in einer Rakete Platz nehmen, die mit Telephon, Radio und den allerneuesten Erfindungen des 21. Jahrhunderts ausgerüstet sein wird. 40 Meter

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Tube—Clapham South



Durchmesser wird die Rakete haben und gegen 70,000 Tonnen wiegen; 72 Mann Besatzung einschliesslich 12 Gelehrten werden die erste Mondreise antreten. Zwölf Rakengeschosse um die eigentliche Rakete herum werden für den nötigen Antrieb sorgen. Mit 80,000 Kilometer Stundengeschwindigkeit wird man durch den Weltraum sausen. Die Rückreise wird in gleicher Weise vor sich gehen, versicherte der Gelehrte. Waffentragen an Bord wird verboten sein, auch Eifersuchtsdramen auf dem Monde können im Interesse der Sicherheit der Rakete und der Allgemeinheit nicht geduldet werde.

POURS NOS TIREURS.

La Société suisse des Carabiniers lance, avec l'assentiment du haut Conseil fédéral, un appel au peuple suisse pour constituer un "Fonds de matches." Les matches internationaux de tir qui ont débuté en 1897 sont devenus une institution et chaque année presque nos champions de tir sont appelés à aller défendre nos couleurs ici ou là. Vous savez l'impatience, la confiance aussi avec laquelle les résultats sont attendus et quel enthousiasme soulevé, dans la population tout entière, l'annonce de la victoire. On sent qu'il y a là un héritage à sauvegarder, une vieille réputation à maintenir, celle de premiers tireurs du monde. Toute renommée est bonne pour un pays et celle-là en particulier jette un lustre sur notre armée que nous voulons forte et respectée. Pour la conserver il faut que nos tireurs soient soutenus. Les dépenses qu'entraînent actuellement l'entraînement et les frais de déplacement ne peuvent pas toujours être supportés par les matcheurs, il serait d'autre part fâcheux de se voir privé de valeurs par suite de conditions économiques défavorables.

La Société suisse des carabiniers a besoin, pour parer à cela, d'une somme annuelle de 20,000 francs. Elle ne peut la distraire de son budget et désire donc constituer un capital inaliénable de 500,000 francs, qu'elle gèrera sous la surveillance du Conseil fédéral. Pour trouver cette somme, elle s'adresse avec confiance au peuple suisse. Son appel rencontre un accueil favorable dans la Suisse allemande; il est nécessaire que Genève ne reste pas en arrière, pour son bon renom d'abord et ensuite parce qu'il y a eu presque constamment des Genevois dans les équipes internationales. La Fédération cantonale genevoise des sociétés de tir a constitué un comité d'action chargé de travailler dans ce sens. Elle ne doute pas que le public s'intéressera à la chose en souscrivant au "Fonds des Matches." et elle lui en exprime à l'avance toute sa reconnaissance.

T.G.

SOCIETE SUISSE D'ANVERS.

The Members of the Swiss Rifle Association will be interested to hear that the above Society has founded a "Section de Tir" under the Presidency of Mr. Steiner.

We are wishing our compatriots a hearty success in their new undertaking and hope to see them one of these days at Hendon.

A member of the Cercle Suisse at Brussels has offered a challenge cup for competition amongst the Swiss rifle clubs in Belgium.

Doings in Our Colony.

UNIONE TICINESE. SERATA FAMILIARE.

Many are the pleasant and very successful social evenings which the Society has recorded in the past, but by general consent the one we had at Pagan's Restaurant on the 29th of April proved the most enjoyable and excellent of them all.

About 120 members and friends sat down to dinner in the Alexandra Room just after 8 o'clock and it was soon evident that Pagan's had set their heart on giving the members and friends of the Unione Ticinese their best, both in food and in service. The traditional very friendly atmosphere could not fail to show itself at its brightest in such surroundings and circumstances, and no banquet could have been more enjoyable.

Towards the end of it Mr. Notari, President, rose to thank those who had accepted the invitation of the society and wished everybody a very pleasant evening. He particularly mentioned our compatriots Signor C. Rezzonico of the Swiss Legation and Signor R. Motta (son of the Federal Councillor) whom we had the pleasure of entertaining. Mr. Notari did not forget to add a few words in connection with the forthcoming collection on behalf of the Fonds Dimier and expressed the firm hope that when the list is passed round, in the course of the next few months, it will meet with a good response.

Mr. Gambazzi, Secretary, then heartily thanked the Meschini family for the opportunity they had afforded to the society to meet under such a hospitable roof and for the very generous and splendid way in which they had treated us. Very special and sincere thanks are due to Madame Linda Meschini, who had personally attended to the floral decoration and arrangement of the

Alexandra Room as well as of the dance hall and vestibule. None could have done it better.

It was a great pity that Mr. Arturo Meschini, our Hon. Vice-President, being in Switzerland, was not present in person to see how deeply his fellow Ticinesi appreciated his hospitality. We know, however, that his heart was certainly with us.

Our faithful friend, Mr. G. Marchand, having spent the day in Manchester on business, was prevented from attending the dinner, but had made a point of returning to London the same evening and was with us from 10 o'clock onward. On this occasion also he brought a bracelet watch with him, which was instrumental to collecting £5 for the benefit of the Delicate Children's Welfare Centre of Blenio, to which object is being devoted also the nett profit of the evening.

The dancing in the hall on the ground floor proceeded with great animation for the rest of the evening, and 2 o'clock came round all too soon for most of us. Let us hope, however, that this will prove to be only No. 1 of a long series of such social evenings. O.B.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Mr. J. Towilson, Langenthal: "Should Capital Punishment be Abolished?" Miss M. Schweiter, Horgen: "Journey Impressions." Miss A. Krattiger, Kerzers: "Our Excursion." Miss M. Benz, Zurich: "In the Mountains." Miss B. Brawand, Grunewald: "An Accident in the Mountains." Mr. H. Weber, Zurich: "Football." Mr. H. Rentsch, Biel: "On learning Foreign Languages." Mr. A. Mahler, Zurich: "Protection and Free Trade." Mr. A. Lehmann, Zofingen: "A Bull Fight."

The debating classes dealt with the following ject:

"Do you believe in the League of Nations?" Proposer: Dr. R. Reinacher. Opposer: Mr. E. Thomann.

On Friday May 2nd F. Day, Esq., delivered a remarkably interesting and instructive lecture on "My Impression of America." He livened his speech by a number of extremely amusing anecdotes that gave us more insight into the American character than anything else could have done. He also made some very lucid comparisons between the languages of the two nations. An unusually large and enthusiastic audience greeted his stimulating speech with prolonged applause. Mr. J. W. Klein proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker.

On Saturday May 3rd the students, under the expert leadership of Mr. Klein made a delightful whole-day excursion to Epping Forest, visiting High Beech, and the Old Tombs, particularly the fragmentary one of King Harold, awakened great interest. The excursion ended with a walk through the wildest and most beautiful part of the forest and the students reached London at 7 o'clock, happy and pleasantly tired, at the end of a most enjoyable day.

"A TRAVERS LA SUISSE."

A second show of Swiss Films was given to the Colony by the London Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique last Saturday at King George's Hall.

Five short films representing Geneva, the lake of Geneva, the Rhone Valley, Berne and the Bernese Oberland and finally a more or less technical film of the St. Gotthard Railway were shown on the screen and, we believe, highly appreciated. Appropriate music was given on the gramophone by Mr. Newman and the whole performance provided a carefully thought-out and well balanced entertainment. The name of "A Travers La Suisse" we understand will be retained for all future shows.

Short explanatory comments were made by the President of the London Group of the N.S.H. at each interval and particular stress was laid by the speaker on the deeper meaning of the presentation of these Swiss scenes. They are, in his opinion, admirably fitted to keep awake a keen sense of patriotism and pride in our own country, apart from the fact that they provide entertainment of useful educational value.

Mr. de Sonnenberg, who represented the Minister, made an excellent speech in English and spoke very appreciatively of this activity of the N.S.H. in London. The Rev. Hoffman-de Visme also addressed the audience at the end of the first performance, welcoming the presentation of these Swiss films to the London Colony.

Drink delicious "Ovaltine"
at every meal—for Health!

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which are issued in denominations of £2, £5 and £10, should prove of great convenience to all who contemplate travelling abroad. The cheques can be obtained at our

City Office, 99, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

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West End Office, 11c, Regent St., S.W.1,

which is situated next door to that of the Swiss Federal Railways.

Swiss Rifle Association

Headquarters: 1, Gerrard Place, W.1
Shooting Range: Opposite Welsh Harp, Hendon



Swiss Sports Shooting Competition

(NO ENTRANCE FEE) NOW IN PROGRESS

All Swiss cordially invited to participate

SHOOTING EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Snacks at the bar provided. New members welcome

Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE (1762),

(Langue française.)

Temporairement: 83, Endell Street, au 2e étage du bâtiment d'école.

Dimanche 11 Mai 11 h.—M. Marcel Pradervand.

7 h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

8 h.—Répétition du Choeur.

Dimanche 18 Mai 11 h.—Sermon de Charité.

Heure de réception à l'église: le mercredi de 10.30 h à midi.

SERMON DE CHARITE.

Nous profitons de l'existence du journal pour rappeler à tous les amis de l'Eglise Suisse et du Fonds de Secours que la vieille tradition du Sermon de Charité sera observée cette année encore, pour la 151me fois, dimanche 18 juin.

Comme à l'ordinaire, toute la collecte sera réservée aux pauvres de la Colonie.

Rev. HOFFMAN-DE VISME.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.
(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 11. Mai 1930

11 Uhr vorm. Konfirmation u. Feier des Heilig.

Abendmahls Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

Mittwoch, den 14. Mai 1930. Abends 6.30:

JAEHRliche ORDENTliche GEMEINDE-VERSAMMLUNG

im "Foyer Suisse," zu der die Gemeindeglieder herzlich eingeladen sind. 15, Upper Bedford Place, Russell Square, W.C.1.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Thursday, May 15th, 1930.—A.O.F.B., "Swiss V.A." Outing from Swiss Hotel, 53, Old Compton Street, W.1., at 10 a.m.

Friday, May 16th at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Annual Dinner at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Wednesday, May 21st at 8.30 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Monthly Meeting at Swiss House.

Wednesday, May 21st at 7.45 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Monthly Meeting at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1. Mr. Th. de Sonnenberg and Mr. L. H. Micheli, of the Swiss Legation, have kindly consented to be present and open the discussion on a patriotic subject. Members and friends are very cordially invited.

Saturday, May 24th.—SWISS SPORTS at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

Saturday, May 31st.—SWISS COLONY DINNER to MONSIEUR PARAVICINI; at the Monaco Restaurant, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1.

Thursday, June 19th, at 7 p.m.—FETE SUISSE at Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1.

SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION: Shooting Practice every Saturday and Sunday at the Range (see advert).