

Business News

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Dr. Obrist then concluded by reading in German and French the message of the President of the Confederation, Mr. W. Spühler.

The singing of the "Prière patriotique" rounded off this part of the evening. A barbecue and bonfire provided a welcome continuation in the gradually darkening evening. As the fire lost some of its intensity it provided a focal point for the singing of some of our well-known native songs.

On going to press, we also received a report from Bournemouth which will be published in our next issue.

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BUSINESS NEWS

A Portable High Power Slide Projector

A Swiss firm has just launched on the market a new apparatus with a great future ahead of it in a vast number of fields. This new appliance is a portable high power slide projector, looking somewhat like a gun barrel, some 6 inches in diameter and roughly 26 inches long, and weighing less than 22 lb. Extremely compact, it can easily be carried and operated by one man. This projector uses 85 mm. square transparencies, and can project images and texts, in black and white or in colour, to distances up to several hundred yards, with linear magnifications of 20 to 1,000 times. This new projector provides public departments and private undertakings with a means of broadcasting news, warnings, appeals and instructions to the public, propaganda, etc. It could be of considerable assistance to the police and the army. [O.S.E.C.]

The First Crude Petroleum Arrives at the Rhône Oil Refineries

In the middle of June, the Rhône Oil Refineries received via Aigle station in the Rhône Valley, 24 tank cars loaded with Libyan petroleum transported overland from Genoa. This first consignment is to be followed by others until a total of approximately 30,000 tons of crude petroleum have been imported. These first imports are intended to allow the refineries in the Rhône plain to carry out refining trials. From the middle of the summer, the crude petroleum will be despatched from Genoa to the refinery via the pipeline through the Great St. Bernard

Road Tunnel, thus permitting the refineries to start up production and make their first deliveries of the finished product on the Swiss market. [O.S.E.C.]

American Interest in Sulzer Marine Diesel Engines

While most railroads in the United States have changed over from steam to diesel traction, the diesel engine has so far made little headway in American ship propulsion. However, in a report recently drawn up by an American Research Committee, the opinion was expressed that "In the construction of diesel engines, the highest ratings of which are limited in the U.S.A. to about 10,000 h.p., development should be left to European countries, which are further advanced in this field." An American shipping company recently took a first step in this direction by ordering a big six-cylinder 13,000 h.p. turbocharged engine from Sulzer Brothers in Winterthur. [O.S.E.C.]

Big Foreign Schemes under Swiss Supervision

In the Sudan, the last stage in the Sennar-Burri electrification scheme has just been inaugurated, after four years of work. Two Swiss engineering offices were responsible for the co-ordination and supervision of the work valued at some 45 million Swiss francs. Gruner Bros. in Basle handled the civil engineering side of the project, while the General Industrial Company in Geneva acted as consultant engineers to the Sudanese government for the planning and supervision of the electro-mechanical equipment. [O.S.E.C.]

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