The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
- (1923)
90

Rubrik: Home news

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. <u>Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.</u>

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. <u>Voir Informations légales.</u>

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. <u>See Legal notice.</u>

Download PDF: 17.05.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, https://www.e-periodica.ch

he Swiss Observer Published every Friday at 21, GARLICK HILL, LONDON, E.C. 4. Telegrams : FREPRINCO, LONDON

No. 90

PRICE 3d.

About

and

SUBSCRIPTION RATES $\begin{array}{c|c} \textbf{UNITED KINGDOM} \\ \textbf{AND COLONIES} \\ \textbf{SWITZERLAND} \\ \textbf{1} \\ \textbf{2} \\ \textbf{1} \\ \textbf{2} \\ \textbf{1} \\ \textbf{2} \\ \textbf{3} \\ \textbf$ (Swiss subscriptions may be paid into Postscheck-Konto: Basle V 5718).



By a very large majority our people rejected the two measures which were submitted to their judgment last Sunday, the 17th inst. "Preventive arrest" (Schutzhaft) was repudiated by 8 to 1, and this result was a foregone conclusion; the voting on the Zones Convention, however, has astounded even those who anticipated rejection. We reproduce the official figures so far published; with the exception of Fribourg, Ticino, Vaud and Neuchâtel the "Noes" have had it in every canton for both proposals:— Preventive Zones

tor both propos	Pre	Preventive		Zones	
	A	Arrest		Convention	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Zurich	9323	89267	5707	94622	
Berne	9986	61728	8640	64617	
Lucerne	1083	10387	1504	10015	
Uri	79	2829	86	2858	
Schwyz	433	5230	181	5539	
Obwalden	121	1374	314	1157	
Nidwalden	57	1206	166	1086	
Glarus	615	-5140	174	5684	
	227	2638	125	2787	
	1172	16116	11082	6333	
	855	11746	566	12389	
Basel-Stadt	2871	17043	1676	18388	
Basel-Land	968	8917	610	9537	
Schaffhausen	1036	8116	640	8810	
Appenzell ARh	n. 640	8617	588	8618	
Appenzell IRh.	74	1579	72	1579	
St. Gall	3516	44930	1086 Bear	44651	
Graubünden	1395	13675	2185	12935	
Aargau	2789	44860	1933	46333	
	2699	22688	3738	21607	
Ticino	1462	7532	5060	3677	
Vaud	8672	22064	22179	8790	
Valais	1327	11371	5923	5574	
Neuchâtel	1467	8388	7047	2807	
Geneva	2167	13019	8603	8879	
Total	54830	440495	92541	410227	
	a second and a second				

Slightly over half of the voters went to the poll, which, of course, did not reach the figures in the case of the Capital Levy. It is remarkable that in the cantons most interested in the Zones Conin the cantons most interested in the Zones Convention the percentage of votes cast was far below the Federal average (Geneva 45%), Valais 35%, Vaud 38%). Speaking in round figures, the 'Suisse romande' has by sixty thousand votes to thirty-five thousand votes declared herself in favour of the Convention, whilst in the remaining part of Switzerland 370,000 against 30,000 have recorded their veto. The surprising result in the canton Ticino, where only 25% took the trouble of voting, is probably due to the personal influence of Federal Councillor Motta. * * *

* * *

*** Some piquant comments on the voting have appeared in the French Press. The *Gaulois* asserts that the result is due to a systematic and ruthless propaganda, assisted by immense sums on the part of Germany. The *Action Française* opines that it is simply a protest against the French occupation of the Ruhr and that the Alemanic part of Switzer-land is, for this reason, not inclined to entertain friendly relations with its western neighbour! The *Temps*, is more to the point and says that the Trendy relations with its western neighbour! The *Temps* is more to the point and says that the Treaty of Versailles has practically settled the matter. The *fournal des Débats* believes that the considerable adverse vote represents an expression of protest and dissatisfaction over the unsatisfactory control conditions in existence since the armistical economic conditions in existence since the armistical and for which misguided public opinion in Switzer-land is blaming French militarism.

* * * A number of other cantonal legislative measures were submitted to the plebiscite. In the canton of Zurich, out of five proposals only one (Automobil-gesetz) was accepted; the suggested reduction in the number of cantonal councillors and the admission of woman to vote on church and "poor" matters was declined.

The canton Basel-Stadt rejected two initiatives which intended to admit members of radious orders as teachers in the public schools, and to secure financial assistance from the State for private schools. The much-discussed establishment of a

LONDON, FEBRUARY 24, 1923.

public club-house (Volkshaus) was sanctioned by a small majority.

Schaffhausen passed two new laws, one regulat-ing the sale of cattle, and another imposing taxes on motor-cars.

The Grand Conseil of Fribourg proposes to enact a new law to counteract strikes. Civil ser-vants and employees of municipal enterprises will be liable to summary dismissal if they join a strike movement, and anyone inciting State em-ployees to strike may be prosecuted and imprisoned.

Unemployment in Switzerland has shown a slight increase during the month of January, the total figure being 76,143, as compared with 73,892 for the month of December last. The worsening is chiefly due to unfavourable conditions in the textile, wood-working and chemical industries.

* * *

Swiss watch manufacturers continue to hold their own in the world's markets. The official figures recording tests, made by the Naval Observatory at Washington, extending over a period of three years, have just been published. Longines, Nardin and Vacheron et Constantin top the list with their deck-watches and torpedo-boat watches.

Fernand Tavel, a well-known genealogist, died at Lausanne at the age of 67. He was one of the architects employed at the construction of the Eiffel Tower, and the author of many important works on genealogy. * * *

Mistaken jealousy is said to have been the cause of a crime which was enacted on Thursday evening (Feb. 15th) in the Bremgarten Forest, near Berne. Paul Tschudi, a law student of Sissach, was enjoy-ing a walk with his fiancée, Ruth Kocher (from Oberwil), when the latter was accosted by an un-known individual, who pretended to recognize in her an old acquaintance; after a heated altercation he pulled out his revolver, shot her dead on the spot and took to his heels. Her stupefied com-panion, after remaining with the body till dark-ness fell, left for his home to write a report to the police, and subsequently returned to the scene of the crime, where he then committed suicide.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

The Cresta Run

has provided English newspaper readers with two excellent pen-pictures, one, from the sportsman's point of view, by Sir John Fraser in the *Daily Dispatch* (Feb. 9th):—

Dispatch (Feb. 9th):---"It is a fine sight to see the young fellows, in attire somewhat suggestive of airmen, assemble to take their turn. The telegraph signals that the course is clear, and the runner stands ready for the starter to shout: 'Are you ready?' With a few swift strides the toboggan is pushed, the rider thows himself flat, and the invisible thread is broken. With a dull roar the steel runners tear over the ice. There is a grand stand at Battledore-Shuttlecock, where, with the gathered impetus, the racer does not keep to the trough, but swerves up the side of the other icewall. Now the pace is terrific. Like a flash the racer goes tearing down the 'straight', across the road under the railway arch, another violent fling and a throw, next a breathless leap- and then another visible thread has been snapped, the time registered, and the uphtll to a stop. It is all a matter of tenths of seconds. Men practise

rider has his rakes tearing the ground as he is hurled uphill to a stop. It is all a matter of tenths of seconds. Men practise day after day, and are tremendously 'bucked' if, during several mornings, they can cut their time by half a second'' --and this other, from the point of view of the

fair sex, by Lady Diana Cooper in the Daily Mail (Feb. 9th):-

fair sex, by Lady Diana Cooper in the Daily Mati (Feb., 9th):— "If a Victoria Cross and £100,000 a year were the rewards for going down the Cresta, the number of people who do it daily would not be surprising. But that anyone should do it for pleasure is as astonishing as the performance of an Indian fakir who voluntarily buries himself alive. Even to watch it is terrifying. A rattle and clash like the sound of an express train, and round the corner, at an angle of 45 degrees, whizzes into sight a fellow-creature, stretched upon a slab of iron, with anxious face uplitted and waving feet. Before you can recognise him, he is gone, and you wait anxiously for the signal that he has safely arrived at the bottom. The machine on which he travels is grimly called a skeleton." But, lest anyone take fright, let us hasten to add that dancing and the more gentle sporting activities, such as curling, skating and ski-ing, are still going strong in all our Swiss winter sport centres. There is still time, *mes amis*!



We have been licensed to transact the business of Insurance in the U.K. under a warrant of the **Board of Trade**, dated May 5, 1922. In addition to other funds and securities in this country, we have deposited with the **Paymaster General** the sum of $\pounds 20,000$ in accordance with the Assurance Companies' Act, 1909.

We are in the same position as a British Insurance Company in every respect.

ZURICH General Accident & Liability ZURICH INSURANCE COMPANY Ld. 1 & 2, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.2.

Telephone : CENTRAL 2772.

The "White Gentleman."

The "White Gentleman." With our mind fixed on the glorious snow of our mountains, and battling hard to fight down that insensate longing of which the old song "Zu Strassburg auf der langen Brück " reminds us, what more natural than to pass on to one of our com-patriots who achieved the ambition of his youth ? In the *Evening News* (Feb. 9th) we find W. Craw-ford Snowden paying tribute to the memory of Henri Dunant, the founder of the Red Gross, re-telling the glorious fight Dunant started with his terrible " Souvenir de Solferino " and brought to a successful issue when on February 9th, 1863, at a meeting at Geneva of a body devoted to philan-thropic causes, he proposed that voluntary relief societies to help the wounded in time of war should be formed. Thus began the Red Cross. Why is it that our compatriots of Calvin-town do not celebrate this event, surely, as fateful as the "Escalade"?

* * *

Dr. Spahlinger.

Dr. Spahlinger. Another Swiss bids fair to become a great benefactor to suffering humanity, namely, Dr. Spahlinger, for whose Serum Treatment for Tuber-culosis a Doctors' Appeal for \$100,000 is made to provide a Consumption Cure (*Daily News*, Feb.

provide a communi-"An appeal for £100,000, to provide for the de-velopment of the Spahlinger treatment of tuberculosis, is to be made by a number of British medical men who are compelled to remain anonymous owing to the General Medical Council's ban on oblique advertise-ment."

General Medical Control of Medical Structure International Structure Internationa International Structure International Struct

With the knowledge of the enormous ravages, caused by this terrible illness, one dare not even contemplate ultimate failure. So far this treatment has achieved very promising results.

Dr. Röntgen.

Dr. Röntgen. Our little country may justly claim credit for a part, at least, of Dr. Röntgen's scientific equip-ment, for he was educated partly in Switzerland. His death has brought forth a very interesting article in *The Daily Telegraph* (Feb. 12th), which states that "the scientific world, which does not "acknowledge the narrow boundaries of nationa-"lism, will unite in regretting the death of Prof. "Röntgen, the discoverer of the famous X-rays, "which also bear his name." Why can't we all be of a scientific mind and

Why can't we all be of a scientific mind and forget the narrow boundaries of nationalism? If this be Utopia, surely Science, according to the above, moves in Utopian circles! Which is absurd, which etc....until we come to the *quod erat demon*strandum.

Rights of Foreigners in France. According to the *Financial News*, reporting on the Annual Meeting of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris, the French Chamber of Deputies recently passed a Bill, which, if it became law, would make it necessary for foreigners to obtain a special permit to be allowed to possess