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#### SWISS INSTITUTE.

#### LECTURE on the EUROPEAN SITUATION by G. P. GOOCH, Esq., M.A

On the 2nd March Mr. Gooch delivered his lecture on "The European Situation," which was eagerly followed by a numerous audience, and was, like last year's lecture, immensely appreciated by everybody present. To do the lecturer justice, we cannot do better than again give a verbatim report of his lecture, and at the same time give those of or nis fecture, and at the same time give those of our compatriots who were prevented from attending an opportunity of benefitting by this unbiassed survey of present-day European history.

Much to our regret, His Excellency the Swiss Minister was prevented by an official function from

taking the Chair at the meeting.

Mr. Gooch said:-

Andr. Gooch said:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is always a pleasure to me to come and speak in this hall to the members of the Swiss Institute. I am going to give you a lecture on the same subject to-night as I gave here a year ago of Europe is fluid; the lines are drawn on the maps, but they are not drawn yet in the hearts of men. The situation, taken as a whole, is even more fluid to-day than it was when I spoke here a year ago. The last twelve months have been rich in events, and the events which are taking place before our eyes at the present time are of such a tremendous character that the wises and the such are seening arong us are unable of the property of the problem, and I shall begin to-night, as I began a year ago, with the East End of Europe, and I will take Russia first.

The position of the Bolshevist Government is stronger to day than it was a year ago. No one now grow than it was a year ago. No one now grow than it was a year ago. No one now grow than it was a year ago. They have not yet been that it was a year ago. From the point of view of the Great Powers of Europe, the Bolshevist Government has also made progress. They have not yet been recognized either by France or England, but recognition has come nearer. I daresay you have noticed shewist and the property of the prope

a year after the signing of the Treaties, the Poles, getting impatient, annexed Eastern Galica and have remained in military occupation of it ever since, and even to-day, four and a half years after the Great War, the victorious Allies have not yet decided the future destiny of Eastern Galicia, which, I repeat, was occupied by Poland, but was never given to them by international law and right.

So much for Eastern Galicia, where, I regret to say, the relations between the Ruthenes and Poles are extremely bad, and, far from Eastern Galicia being a source of strength to Poland, it is a source of weakness.

Now let us come to the porth of Paland.

Now, let us come to ronain, it is a source on Now let us come to the north of Poland, and we come then to the problem of Lithuania. Lithuania say ou know, was an independent kingdom, and in the 14th century, Lithuania and Poland bearmying may call personal union for four centuries, until their partition at the end of the 18th century, when Polish Lithuania and the larger part of Poland were swallowed up, by Katherine the Creat. Since then they formed part of Russia. After the war it was quite clear that sont at all clear what was to mappen to Lithuania. The Lithuanians wanted to be an independent State, as they had been in the Middle Ages. We were not at all sure that the Russian Government would recognize Lithuania as an independent State, because it had the was a mere patch on the map. What did the Polas was a mere patch on the map. What did the Polas want? They wanted Lithuania to be, if not an organic part of Poland, at all events to re-enter the old association with Poland before they had both been swallowed up by Russia. Now, that provided a most dimensional map of the poland before they had both been swallowed up by Russia. Now, that provided a most man and the most difficult point between the two countries was the question of Vilna. This, as you know, was the old historic capital of Lithuania in the days when she and Poland were joined together on the poland were poined together on the poland were poland w

that the League of Nations has at last taken up the burden of looking to and helping the little Austrian Republic.

I come naturally from Austria to Czecho-Slovakia. I said last year in this room that, if I were an insurance office. I would give better terms to Czecho-Slovakia than to any other of the new States—cheaper terms than to Poland, Jugoslavia or Roumania. I say so still. They have their difficulties, and one is the fact that they have got such a lot of people in their State who are neither Czechs nor Slovaks. There are about three million Germans, four million Hungarians, half a million Ruthenes from the southern side of the Carpathians, and there are also over two million Slovaks who, although closely connected by blood and language with the Czechs, are very different people. They are agricultural, clerical, conservative in their sympathies, whereas the Czechs, who really dominate the new State, are industrial, radical and largely Socialist. I think the great danger with Slovakia is that it is so big and contains so many foreign and unadjustable elements within its boundaries.

Italy, as you know, has passed through a most interesting experience—the rise of Fascismo and the seizing of power by Mussolini. We know very well that the whole face and aspect of Italian politics has been changed suddenly. Italy, before Mussolini was not governed; now it is over-governed. Before Mussolini some thought there was so much liberty that the authority of the State had almost ceased to exist, and that is what the Fascist thought; they thought that the State had almost ceased to exist, and that is what they considered, rightly or wrongly, to

# ZENITH

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be danger from the left wing of the working classes. We are all watching Mussolim with the greatest possible when are all watching Mussolim with the greatest possible ment is open to be a failure, since it depends on the life of a single man; others feel that it is impossible to forecast what is going to happen and that, if they cannot applaud what Mussolim has done, i.e., the second of the powers of the control of the con

Some people say we are going back to the policy which we followed before 1903, the policy of what Lord Goschen called "splendid isolation." They say there are only two policies for England, one is, the policy of isolation, and the other the policy of European commitments. I believe there is a third. I am personally opposed to European entanglements or commitments for our country, but I am clearly opposed also to a policy of splendid isolation. We are more intimately connected with the young life of Europe to-day than we were in the nineteenth century, and, what is much more important, we are now members of the League of Nations, and, as such, have responsibilities appertaining to a great Empire; we have a responsibility to Europe as a whole which we must not neglect, and therefore I say, now that the Entente is dead, instead of going back to the policy of splendid isolation and standing aloof from the life of Europe, we must push forward. We must keep ourselves free from one-sided commitments to any one Continental Power or group of Powers. On the other hand, we must of the life of Europe as a whole, and perhaps as the most important members of the League of Nations, important not alone as to wealth, but also by our convictions, bound to take our share in the reconstruction and pacification of Europe.

# Gymnastic Society "Schweizerbund."

Seldom, or, at any rate, not for many years, has the Gymnastic Society "Schweizerbund" shown it-Settom, or, at any rate, not for many years, nas the Gymnastic Society "Schweizerbund" shown itself to better advantage than it did last Saturday, March 10th, in a Gymnastic Display at 74, Charlotte Street. Seldom, also, have they faced an audience who showed more appreciation. I heartily congratulate their leader, Mr. W. Ehrler, and the Organising Committee on their success. The gymnastic features of the display showed that there is talent and good material, which, if made use of in the proper way, should increase individual capability considerably, and if the members of the Club will, now only keep together and show the same enthusiasm as their leader, we may expect to see last Saturday's performance eclipsed before long. The voluntary exercises on the horizontal and the parallel bars were executed in fine style, and although Bader, Nussle, Bertschinger and others showed us some of the advanced work, I personally consider that especially the beginners (and there

snowed us some of the advanced work, I personally consider that especially the beginners (and there are many) did much better than could reasonably have been expected of hem, and it is just the beginner who often becomes the backbone of a society later on. Therefore cultivate young talent and turn it into champions in time. To comment on exercise would take too long.

An item very much appreciated was the wrestling (Swiss style) exhibition, thoroughly well displayed by R. Schmied and E. Schmied. It seemed most easy to copy them after their very excellent show, although some of us should prefer to be on top instead of underneath, when the fall measures some

three or four feet.

The pyramids, both on the parallel bars and others, made me envy the nerve possessed by some fellows. All my criticism can be put into one word: "Bravo!"

others, made me envy the nerve possessed by some fellows. All my criticism can be put into one word: "Bravo!"

In order to vary the programme, the organisers did well to secure the services of Misses Fieldhouse, Rushworth and Hutchinson, who delighted the audience with songs and sketches, which caused roars of laughter. They were in two instances assisted by the trio, consisting of Messrs. Nussle, Brunner and Weber; these latter also acted a scene, entitled "Cinema Sketch," that caused great mirth.

The feature of the evening, however, was undoubtedly the "Tableaux Vivants," which represented historic events which took place in Switzerland hundreds of years ago. The actors for this item excelled themselves, and with the aid of a small searchlight the groups appeared as if they were white marble. I cannot praise this performance too much, knowing full well how many drops of perspiration it must have cost the leader to arrange these tableaux. Every one who has seen it missed something attractive.

The success of the evening was further augmented by the presence of many old friends and sympathisers, who, although they enjoyed themselves extremely well, passed their opinion on many little things which could have been improved upon and which luckily, however, were only visible to such expert eyes as theirs. Among the guests we found Mr. R. Oberholzer, who helped to found the Gymnastic Society 34 years ago; Mr. Rabe, a well-known captain and leader of former days; Messrs. Wetter, Hehl, De Brunner, Sermier, Delaloy, Boehringer, Isler and Manzoni, who gave the evening an appearance of importance, while their presence encouraged the younger generation to their supreme efforts. Many little speeches during the intervals were made, short but sweet, and therefore appreciated.

A word may also be said for Mr. Lampert, who devised and supervised the light effects for the appreciated.

A word may also be said for Mr. Lampert, who devised and supervised the light effects for the pyramids and tableaux, in addition to personally taking part in the tableaux. Charles Studer. The above report has been kindly sent to us by Mr. Charles Studer, who, needless to say, took a very prominent part in the display, his exhibition on the horizontal bar being the gala exercise of the evening. Mr. Studer subsequently addressed the gathering, stating that if the many young Swiss in London who are fond of gymnastics would only communicate with the Secretary of this society, 74, Charlotte Street, W. 1, our Colony would be able to boast of as large and important a gymnastic society as the one in Paris. He was very delighted to say that the two gymnastic sections of the Schweizerbund and the Union Helvetia were already pulling together, and he thought he could predict an early trip to Switzerland in order to take part in a Federal Competition. However, the difficulties of such a venture were very great, and he appealed to every young Swiss to come forward with his support. He had no doubt that the two clubs concerned would be ready to give special facilities to those who were not members, but were keen to attend the gymnastic practices that were held every Wednesday and Friday. Wednesday and Friday.

#### SWISS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB.

SWISS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB.

SWISS BANK Ist XI v. LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK 3rd XI.

(London Banks' Football Association.)

Played on the former's ground at Preston Road on Saturday, March 10th. The visitors were aggressive right from the start, the Swiss defence being kept busy. A nice goal was soon scored by a high dropping shot from the Midland's left winger. This was followed a few minutes later by another goal, engineered by their outside right, who centered the ball nicely in position for their centre-forward to shoot through, with 'the custodian properly beaten. The Swiss forwards seemed never to be dangerous; their finishing up in front of goal was very weak. Two minutes after the interval the opponents increased their lead to 3—0. The heavy ground did not make the game very fast, which was, therefore, not very exciting, although carried on in a spirited manner and more evenly contested than the first half. Before the final whistle went, the Swiss succeeding in reducing the score to 3—1.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

(The figure in parentheses denotes the number of the issue on which the subscription expires.)

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# FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, March 17, at 6.30.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Cinderella Dance at Cattis Restaurant.

Friday, March 23, at 8.30.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Decture on "Abraham Lincoln" by Frank E. Broughton, Esq.

Friday, March 23, at 8 p.m.—SCHWEIZERBUND: Annual Dinner at 74. Charlotte Street. W. 1.

Thursday, March 29, at 8 p.m.—NOUYELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Lantern Lecture by Professor F. Zschokke on "The Swiss National Park" at King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Rd. Saturday, April 7th, at 7 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Banquet and Ball at Midland Hotel, St. Pancras, N. 1.

Tuesday, April 10th, at 6.45.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual General Meeting, preceded by a Supper, at Gatti's Restaurant.

Saturday, April 10th, at 7.30.—UNION HELVETIA: Grand Benefit Concert in Aid of London Hospitals at Wigmore Hall (tickets 3s. and 5s.).

Thursday, April 19th—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Banquet and Ball at Gatti's Restaurant, Strand, W.C.

Friday, May 4th, at 8 p.m.—UNION HELVETIA: Annual Dinner and Ball.

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