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HOME NEWS

By a decision of the Zurich Grosse Rat, families with at least three children under the age of sixteen are considered large, and, in case of necessity, are entitled to special consideration at the hands of the State. Considerable money grants have been voted for the purpose of supplying proper housing accommodation for such families.

The budget for 1925, as submitted by the States Council of Geneva, foresees a deficit of five million francs, i.e., about two millions less than in the present year.

The Federal Tribunal in Lausanne has rejected an appeal by missionaries belonging to a religious Society against a decision of the Governments of St. Gall and Nidwalden under which they were prevented from visiting private houses and leaving or selling tracts and other similar literature.

The lawsuit (referred to in our last issue) in which Col. Borel successfully pleaded before the Federal Tribunal on behalf of the Confederation, dealt with a claim for over 30 million Swiss francs damages by a Paris engineer—Georges Lakhowsky—on the ground that the Swiss Government had withdrawn from a contract made in 1918 under which he was to supply shipping space for 25,000 tons.

At an extraordinary meeting of the St. Gall section of the Schweiz. Kaufm. Verein it was decided to institute legal proceedings against its former president, who is already under arrest, defalcations to the amount of about Frs. 27,000 having been discovered.

President Ebert of the German Reich has offered, as a token of friendship, a special prize in connection with the shooting festival in Aarau. It is a reproduction, cast in bronze, of a statue in the Sanssouci Park in Potsdam, representing an archer.

A novel strike has been announced in the nursing and convalescent institution "Friedmatt" (Basle), where the hundred attendants are in this way protesting against some old house regulations, one of them debarring them from getting married whilst in service.

The council of the Swiss Schiller Foundation has awarded the following prizes:—Frs. 2,000 to Walter Siegfried, of Zolingen, whose works have recently been collected and published; a similar amount to Robert de Traz, of Geneva, for his works of fiction entitled "Fiançailles" and "Complices," as well as for the exemplary way in which this writer is editing the "Revue de Genève"; Frs. 1,000 to Jakob Wiedmer, of Bern; and Frs. 500 each to Karl Friedrich Wiegand in Zurich, René Louis Pichaud in Geneva, and Emmannel Buenzod in Lausanne.

At Arbaz, a village about five hours north-east from Sion at the foot of the Wildhorn, nine houses have been destroyed by fire, rendering thirteen families homeless.

Another fire, rendering five families homeless, occurred near Jouschwil (Lower Toggenburg), where a group of four houses was reduced to ashes; one of the inmates, an old carpenter named B. Meier, perished in the flames, and it is supposed that the conflagration originated in his dwelling.

Three persons who, during a thunderstorm, took refuge under an oak tree near Laufeln, were struck by lightning; one was killed on the spot and the other two paralysed.

Damage to the amount of several hundred thousand francs was caused by a fire which broke out last Saturday morning in the artificial wool factory of Möschingen, Gross & Co. in Albisrieden (Zurich).

An excursion train on the Centovalli railway left the rails last Sunday at the Masera station, one lady, a Miss Rossi from Lugano, being killed

and about 30 other persons more or less seriously injured. Mr. Borioli, of Lugano, died subsequently in hospital.

Several fatal motor accidents have occurred during these last few days. A motor lorry, on which seats had been mounted for 10 excursionists, got out of control last Sunday just outside Reigoldswil. For some unknown reason the brakes refused to act, and the lorry dashed down the steep road leading to the Frenkenbrücke, where it was arrested on colliding with the stone masonry. The occupants were thrown out for a considerable distance; Mrs. Henzi, of Günsberg, was killed on the spot, while six other passengers were conveyed to the hospital in Liestal. Gemeindevammann Strausack, a son of Mrs. Henzi, and Mrs. Flury, all from Günsberg, are said to be in a precarious condition. — Another accident, also due to some fault in the brakes, took place on Saturday night in Gelterfingen, near Belp, when an automobile turned turtle on dashing against a farm house. All the occupants suffered more or less serious injuries, a Danish lady and Mr. Berthele, a manager of Winkler & Fallert in Berne, subsequently dying in the hospital at Berne.

During a descent from the "Tödi" two climbers lost their lives last Sunday morning. Their names are Jacques Bachmann, from Tann-Rüti (Zurich), and Ferdinand Bodmer, from Dürnten (Zurich).

National Councillor Dr. Alfred Wyrch died on the 9th of July in Baden at the age of 52 after a prolonged illness. Well known as a local lawyer, he, at an early age, took a keen interest in the politics of his canton (Aargau) and was the leader of the Catholic-Conservative party.

EXTRACTS FROM SWISS PAPERS.

On baptise. — Une série de nouvelles artères ayant été créées à Lausanne, il faut leur trouver des noms. Une nouvelle série de grands hommes à cette occasion, acquerront l'immortalité, si c'est être immortel que de donner son nom à une rue, dont la bonne partie des habitants ignorent souvent tout du parrain.

Donc il y aura une rue Voltaire, en souvenir du séjour à Lausanne de l'illustre écrivain; une rue Jean-Louis de Bons, du nom du chef de la première Légion helvétique en 1799; une rue Jean-Jacques Cart, du nom du sénateur de la République helvétique, député en 1803; un passage François Bocion, en souvenir du peintre du lac; enfin un chemin Auguste-Pidou, qui rappellera la mémoire de l'un des premiers landammans du canton de Vaud. *(La Suisse.)*

Der Festzug der Berner. — Der historische Zug der Berner Schützen nach Aarau dürfte einen imposanten Auftakt des Eidgen. Schützenfestes bilden. Er umfasst acht historische Hauptgruppen und zählt über 1200 kostümierte Darsteller. Wehr und Waffen aus sieben Jahrhunderten werden dabei zur Schau getragen. Der Umstand, dass anlässlich des Aargauer Festes das hundertjährige Bestehen des Schweizerischen Schützenvereins gefeiert wird, veranlasste die Berner Schützen, die die eidgenössische Zentralfahne nach Aarau geleiten, "der Jugend und dem Alter unserer Zeit neu zu zeigen, dass die Freiheit und Unabhängigkeit, die als Vorbedingung aller politischen Errungenschaften und Rechte der Gegenwart betrachtet werden müssen, nur mit Opfern an Gut und Blut erreicht worden sind." Mit diesen Worten wird die Durchführung der ganzen Veranstaltung begründet, und mit grosser Hingabe hat man sich seit geraumer Zeit in Bern an die grosse Aufgabe gemacht. Sehr viel Schwierigkeiten bereitete die Wallenbeschaffung. Luzern stellte zuvorkommend seine Sem-pacherpiessie zur Verfügung, und in zahlreichen kleinen Posten wurden Hellebarden und rund 180 Feuerstingeweire zusammengebracht. Murten stellt von den letzteren 18 Stück aus seinem Museum. Auch werden Geschütze aus alter Zeit aufmarschieren. Die Originalgeschütze aus der Zeit des 14. Jahrhunderts sind zwar nicht mehr transportfähig, doch wurden Imitationen in genauer Nachbildung gegossen.

Vornehm und solid zugleich werden die Banner und Wimpel sein, die von Rudolf Mürger entworfen sind.

Eben wird uns das von der Verlagfirma A. Francke A.-G., Bern, herausgegebene, prachtvoll illustrierte Album vorgelegt, das Kunstmaler R. Mürger gezeichnet hat. Der historische Zug der Berner Schützen defliert darin vor uns, und die Erwartungen für den 18. und 19. Juli, wo der Zug in Bern und Aarau vorgeführt wird, werden

ausserordentlich gesteigert. In drei Extrazügen erfolgt der Transport nach der Feststadt.

(National-Zeitung.)

Die Zürcher Brandwache und der Bienenschwarm. — Die Schwanenkolonie beim Helmbaus in Zürich bildete kürzlich Gegenstand grossen Interesses. Aber nicht die bunte Gesellschaft des niedlichen Wassergeflügels, das sich fröhlich im Wasser mummelte, lockte die Hunderte von Leuten an, es war ein mächtiger Bienenschwarm, der sich an einen Baumast festgesetzt hatte und als wimmelder Zapfen über dem Wasser hing. Die Stadtpolizei wurde von dem ungewohnten Besuch in der Schwanenkolonie benachrichtigt, und ihre Hauptwache bemühte sich, einen Inker in der nahen Schöffelgasse zu benachrichtigen, um das verirrte Volk zu bergen. Aber die Rettungsaktion gestaltete sich schwierig, weil der Zugang zu dem Ast nur durch eine lange Leiter zu bewerkstelligen war. Wenn irgendetwas an Mann ist, dann weiss die Zürcher Brandwache stets Rat. Auf Anfrage erklärte sie sich bereit, helfend einzugreifen. Im Augenblick war die mechanische Leiter an Ort und Stelle. Sie wurde wagrecht ausgezogen und ermöglichte dem Inker, der mit Pfeife und Kiste bewaffnet war, sich zu dem Bienenschwarm zu begeben und diesen kunstgerecht mit nur geringem Verlust abzutropfen. Die Beute, die ihm als herrenloses Gut in den Schoss fiel, konnte so unter Mitwirkung der Brandwache in kürzester Zeit geborgen werden. Dem Schauspiel wohnte natürlich eine nach Hunderten zählende Menschenmenge bei.

(Neue Zürcher Nachrichten.)

Origineller Schulhausbau. — Die Schulgemeinde Felsberg und Zizers hat die Frage des Schulhausbaues auf eine einfache und originelle Weise gelöst. Schon längst hatte sich in dem Kinderheim "Gott hilft" der Raummangel fühlbar geltend gemacht. Die Schulinspektion hatte das auch wiederholt betont und Abhilfe gewünscht. Aber wie machen? Man sann hin und her und kannte keine andere Lösung als die, einen von der Verwaltung der Rhätischen Bahn schon im Sommer überlassenen ausrangierten Salonwagen in ein Schulhüschen umzuwandeln. Unverzüglich wurden die nötigen Arbeiten in Angriff genommen, und bald konnte die Schule eröffnet werden. Das gewiss originelle Schullokal gehört nun zu den Sehenswürdigkeiten des Kinderheims. *(Neue Einsiedler Zeitung.)*

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents and cannot publish anonymous articles, unless accompanied by the writer's name and address, as evidence of good faith.

Position of Swiss Citizens born in England.

To the Editor of *The Swiss Observer*.

Monsieur,—Quarante ans en Angleterre, a été très mal renseigné, concernant les lois et règlements qui régissent le status des enfants Suisses nés à l'étranger. La loi suisse déclare que tout enfant né de "père" Suisse et enregistré en Suisse, qu'il soit né en Suisse ou à l'étranger, est "Suisse." Donc le fils de "Quarante ans en Angleterre" est "Suisse" et lorsque l'Angleterre l'a appelé pour l'armée, il n'avait qu'à aller à la Légation Suisse où on lui aurait donné un passeport suisse et il n'avait qu'à présenter ce passeport aux autorités anglaises et on l'aurait tout de suite exclus de l'appel, malgré qu'il était né ici. Il y a eu nombre de cas semblables et les autorités anglaises se sont toujours montrées très justes dans ces cas.

La Loi Anglaise déclare: "Tout enfant né en Angleterre est Anglais." Toutefois si les parents sont étrangers, l'enfant a le droit jusqu'à l'âge de 21 ans de déclarer qu'il veut suivre la nationalité de ses parents.

Mais toutes les ordonnances anglaises de ce genre sont élastiques et même après 21 ans l'enfant de parents Suisses peut obtenir un passeport de la Légation Suisse et se déclarer Suisse en payant son impôt militaire et l'Angleterre a toujours reconnu ce passeport et la nationalité Suisse.

La notion qu'un citoyen Suisse né en Angleterre est Anglais hors de la Suisse et seulement Suisse quand il est en Suisse n'est pas correcte. Car avec un passeport Suisse on peut aller n'importe où comme "Suisse."

Quant à la question d'élever les enfants de Suisses dans la mentalité nationale, avant de s'occuper des enfants il faudrait d'abord s'occuper des "parents." Comme romancier j'étudie la sociologie et j'ai étudié la question posée dans ce journal depuis longtemps et j'ai trouvé que le 80% des Suisses en Angleterre marient des "Anglaises" et pour moi un Suisse qui marie une Anglaise n'est plus Suisse. Comment en serait-il autrement? L'Anglaise devient le chef de son intérieur, elle préside au foyer domestique, elle élève les enfants dans sa mentalité, dans ses habitudes dans l'esprit

de son pays natal. Elle ne pourrait faire autrement car alors elle ne serait pas Anglaise, surtout quand elle n'a même jamais vu la Suisse. Le mari Suisse dans ce ménage mixte est toujours regardé par sa femme et ses enfants comme un étranger (foreigner) et lorsqu'il y a quelque petite querelle, on est sur de le lui dire.

Lorsque le mari et la femme sont Suisses, il y a toujours une association avec la mère patrie, avec des parents, des cousins, des neveux, des anciens camarades d'école qui sont restés en Suisse. Dans le foyer domestique on garde de petites coutumes suisses, on a des mets des friandises suisses, on parle de connaissances et des faits qui se produisent en Suisse, surtout puisqu'on est républicain, on reçoit des lettres du pays, on va ensemble en Suisse, on y envoie ses enfants faire un ou plusieurs stages, ils ont fréquentés des camarades et camaraderesses Suisses, ils ont parcouru le pays, ils y retournent pour leurs vacances, ils savent les langues nationales et malgré qu'ils travaillent et gagnent leur pain en Angleterre, aiment et chérissent l'Angleterre, il y a aussi un coin dans leur cœur pour le pays de leurs ancêtres.

Mais il y a aussi quelques parents Suisses qui venant d'humbles villages sont éblouis par la volupté anglaise et dans cet éblouissement, ils veulent imiter les frivolités qui les entourent et ils s'imaginent qu'en méprisant les traditions Suisses, ils peuvent reconquérir leur nouveau genre de vie avec le précédent.

Dans n'importe quel pays où l'Anglais habite, il élève toujours ses enfants dans sa mentalité et ses habitudes, il les fait toujours enregistrer comme Anglais, et il leur donne toujours une éducation anglaise du moins en grande partie. C'est tout naturel que si les parents oublient les traditions suisses, les enfants seront complètement détachés de la Suisse. Ce que je ne comprends pas chez des Suisses c'est leur allure pour l'esprit monarchique, dans leurs fêtes, leurs réunions, on entend rarement des paroles ou des vivats pour la République, on boit même à la santé du roi des Anglais, quelle différence avec les fêtes républicaines françaises.

Quant à la taxe militaire, je suis d'accord avec "Quarante ans en Angleterre." Quelle absurdité de vouloir faire payer une taxe militaire à un Suisse né à l'étranger, où il gagne son pain et ne va en Suisse généralement que pour y dépenser son argent; il est bien différent de celui qui quitte la Suisse pour courir l'étranger.

Comment les législateurs ont-ils été si aveugles à ne pas les classer dans une autre catégorie.

A. ALTHOUSE.

To the Editor of *The Swiss Observer*.

Sir,—As the matter under discussion is perhaps of particular interest to many of your readers, I should like to thank Mr. Stutz for the information he has given us, which, however, rather confirms my statements than detracts from same.

We see that a young man, born in England of Swiss parents, is:—

- (1) a British subject all over the world;
- (2) a Swiss citizen . . . with the limitations of: Article 6, i.e., no Swiss protection in England; Article 46, "dans un Etat tiers la protection doit être refusée aux Suisses qui possèdent une seconde nationalité, s'ils se sont placés jusqu'à ce moment sous la protection du pays de leur second indigénat," etc., etc.

Can this be called "fully qualified and recognized Swiss citizenship all over the world, wherever he is, both in Switzerland and abroad, and enjoying the privileges and rights of a Swiss national"—as Mr. Stutz tells us?

In my opinion it is by far more in keeping with what I stated: "Swiss in Switzerland, and outside left to the care of another nation."

It follows that, to obtain Swiss nationality with full benefits, etc., he would have to "opt," or, in other words, give up his British nationality (if he can), which surely no boy, bred and born in England and most likely remaining in England, would do.

On the other hand, if he is not willing to fulfil the duties imposed on him by Switzerland in return for citizenship with the limitations, he ought to say so at 21, to have things in order.

The original question was: "How to animate the Swiss children born in England for Switzerland?" Considering it all through—is there enough inducement for them to keep their Swiss nationality?

Yours faithfully,
"QUARANTE ANS EN ANGLETERRE."

EURHYTHMICS AT WEMBLEY.

Under the auspices of the Dalcroze Society of Great Britain and Ireland, a lecture demonstration of Eurhythmics was given by Monsieur Jaques-Dalcroze on Thursday, July 10th, in one of the large conference halls at the British Empire Exhibition.

The Rt. Hon. Chas. Trevelyan, President of the Board of Education, having been detained at the House of Commons, the Chair was taken by Mr. Percy Alden, M.A., who is Labour M.P. for St. Tottenham, and an enthusiast in matters of educa-

tion and other forms of progress. In his remarks he suggested that the ancient Greeks may have originated Eurhythmics, and certainly had some knowledge of them. He spoke highly of this movement, and of M. Dalcroze as a great teacher.

M. Dalcroze, who received an enthusiastic reception from the large audience, asked the latter to collaborate in the exercises which would be shown, and which he proceeded to explain. Each child has difficulties within itself, and he aims at developing absolute control and freedom of mind and body. His method falls into three divisions: Rhythmic Movement, Solfège (ear training), and Improvisation (practical harmony), and exercises under these heads were carried out with the acme of graceful charm by a number of young lady students. One might have been pardoned for assuming that these were being trained with a view to becoming classical dancers, but their preparation is for a musical education only. The grace and beauty of movement is not sought—it follows harmony naturally.

It was interesting to observe that there is no sacrifice of individuality of character, no absolute uniformity; each moved in a way natural to herself, but with others moved in harmony.

The young ladies were students from the London School of Dalcroze Eurhythmics, and were dressed in short tunic dresses of green, their arms, legs and feet being bare.

As stated in a former issue of *The Swiss Observer* (Jan. 19), M. Emile Jaques-Dalcroze began his teaching career in 1892 as Professor of Harmony at the Geneva Conservatoire, and it was here that he originated the system now known as Eurhythmics, and which is now being taught in many parts of this country, on the Continent, and even in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

R. D. M.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND.

The note circulation in Switzerland, which at the end of 1922 amounted to over 976 million francs, had at the end of June this year fallen to 877 millions. The reduction has been slow but steady. The metallic covering of about 70% may be regarded as excellent, and the bank are making efforts to reduce the circulation still further. Not long ago it was known that very large amounts of Swiss notes were being held in Germany, but the shortage of capital which has since overtaken that country has led to considerable liquidation and to the return of large quantities of Swiss notes to their place of origin.

The general economic state of the country has certainly been improving of late, even though the revival is slow and the unsettled state of Europe still makes any confident return to prosperity impossible. Unemployment is declining, in the case of several important classes of goods exports are going up, the Federal Railways show improved traffic, clearing figures are increasing, and the banks report an increasing business in current accounts—which all goes to indicate a greater intensity of business activity during the half-year which has just concluded.

Following upon the recent somewhat sensational fall in the shares of Brown, Boveri & Co., which attracted much attention in business circles in Switzerland during the last few weeks, comes the announcement that the losses incurred during the business year 1923-24 have necessitated a reorganization of the Company's finances. The capital will be reduced by 30 per cent., and 9 million francs will be taken from reserves. The nominal value of the shares will be reduced from 500 frs. to 350 frs., or in the case of the shares of 1,250 frs. to 875 frs.

The City of Geneva propose to issue a new 5½% loan, redeemable in 25 years.

The Allgemeine Maggi-Gesellschaft in Kempthal closed their year to the end of March, 1924, with a net profit of Frs. 1,346,000, which is slightly below that of last year, and are again paying a dividend of 6 per cent.

The Neuchâtel loan, particulars of which were recently given in these columns, was largely subscribed, and allotments were made on a basis of about 20 per cent.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES.

	BONDS.		July 8		July 15	
	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.
Swiss Confederation 3% 1903	72.25%	72.00%	72.25%	72.00%	72.25%	72.00%
Swiss Confed. 9th Mob. Loan 5%	100.37%	100.35%	100.37%	100.35%	100.37%	100.35%
Federal Railways A—K 3½%	77.17%	76.90%	77.17%	76.90%	77.17%	76.90%
Canton Basle-Stadt 5½% 1921	101.07%	100.30%	101.07%	100.30%	101.07%	100.30%
Canton Fribourg 3% 1892	67.12%	67.25%	67.12%	67.25%	67.12%	67.25%
SHARES.						
	Nom.	July 8	July 15	Nom.	July 8	July 15
Swiss Bank Corporation	500	633	634	500	633	634
Crédit Suisse	500	681	670	500	681	670
Union de Banques Suisses	500	530	537	500	530	537
Fabrique Chimique ci-dev. Sandoz	1000	3410	3390	1000	3410	3390
Société pour l'Industrie Chimique	1000	2142	2097	1000	2142	2097
C. F. Bally S.A.	1000	1192	1116	1000	1192	1116
Fabrique de Machines Oerlikon	500	625	600	500	625	600
Entreprises Sulzer	1000	617	590	1000	617	590
S.A. Brown Boveri (new)	500	259	258	500	259	258
Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Cond. Mt. Co.	200	185	185	200	185	185
Choc. Suisses Peter-Cailler-Kohler	100	135	135	100	135	135
Comp. de Navig'n sur le Lac Léman	500	560	560	500	560	560

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