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(Inzeiger für das Limmthal.)

Ein Schirmleihverein.—Wir lesen im "St. Galler Tagblatt": Wie wir vernehmen, soll in St. Gallen ein Schirmleihverein gegründet werden, der zum Zwecke hat, in allen grösseren Ortschaften der Schweiz Depots einzurichten, die bei Bedarf an die Mitglieder leihweise Schirme abgeben. Die Depots werden möglichst in der Nähe der Bahnhöfe, in Tabakläden oder Restaurants der Hauptstrassen errichtet werden. Die Schirme können von morgens 7 Uhr bis zur Polizeistunde, das heisst in den Läden bis 7 Uhr abends und von dieser Zeit an in den bestimmten Restaurants bezogen werden. Mitglieder der Gesellschaft kann jedermann werden durch Kauf einer Abonnementskarte von 3 Fr. 50, die jährliche Gültigkeit hat. Auf der Karte befindet sich auch ein Verzeichnis der Depots. Die Organisation ist sehr günstig für Reisende, die zum Beispiel in St. Gallen einen Schirm beziehen und ihn beim Eintreten in besseren Wetters in Zürich wieder abgeben können.

Die Idee scheint uns gut und sollte auch in Zürich aufgegriffen werden. Alle jene, welche ihr Regendach mit Vorliebe irgendwo stehen lassen oder gerade dann den Schirm nicht bei sich haben, wenn es in Strömen giescht, werden solche Depots mit Freuden begrüssen.

(Zürcher Volksztg.)

Auch ein Jubiläum.—In Menzingen wurde dem Herrn Verwalter Albrich Hegglin in Bethlehem das 25. Kind geboren. Ehre und Achtung vor der braven Mutter, die den Segen in den Kindern sieht!

(Volksblatt.)

BERNARD DE WATTEVILLE. †

Bernard von Wattenwyl, a noted explorer and keen big-game hunter, was attacked and lacerated by a lion in Uganda on Nov. 6th, when endeavouring to follow and shoot a white rhinoceros. His untimely death means a great loss to natural science: the Bernese Museum of Natural History possesses already an extensive collection of rare specimens presented by him and secured during his many expeditions in Africa, where he was generally accompanied by his daughter, who is barely out of her teens. Mr. de Watteville mostly resided in London and was a cousin of Madame Paravicini, the wife of our Minister.

We reproduce an appreciation, published by *The Times* (Nov. 8th):—

The tragic end of Bernard de Watteville, artist and big-game hunter, will come as a bitter surprise to a very small, but devoted, number of friends. Sprung from an ancient aristocratic family of Berne, in Switzerland, he had preserved in him all the instincts and courtesies of the century that preceded the Revolution. Like his ancestors, who had scorned to recognise the democratic régime which had beggared their family, he had, even as a boy, conceived an intense hatred of modern popular government; he shunned the crowd and its manners as the incarnation of evil. Just as many leaders of his family abandoned their country before the revolutionary tide in 1797 to take service, together with a chosen band of their retainers, as "Watteville's Regiment" in the British Army, so Bernard took refuge in hunting, shooting and fishing to escape all contact with the plebeian world.

At first alone, then later with his devoted daughter, he had roamed throughout Europe in search of sport. A remote and rough little farm in Norway, three days' march from the railway, had been for long his favourite home, where he brought up his only daughter to observe nature, to fish and to shoot. Three times he had visited Africa. On this last occasion for two whole years father and daughter, alone and in the most fearless fashion, had been shooting and collecting photographs of all the fauna of East Africa. The girl herself had been taught by her father to stalk elephants and to take their photographs at a few yards' range.

De Watteville's courage was shown in many ways. On one occasion, while fishing along the Italo-Swiss frontier, he was accused of murdering a smuggler found dead on a lonely pass. He was threatened with a vendetta, whereupon, dragging with him a trembling policeman, he boldly went and entered the victim's home, where the relatives were in the act of preparing to sally forth to take the supposititious murderer's life. Abashed by the dramatic entry of their intended quarry, they were left by Bernard convinced of his innocence. Again, on the snow-covered Alps, father and daughter have been seen every winter since the war skiing alone, he always without hat and sticks. No slope, however rough or steep, deterred the pair; not even sprains and painful falls interrupted what had become a contest against nature. Life to Bernard, in fact, was but an opportunity to prove that the aristocrat of the 18th century was the superior of the modern man. To him the ordinary citizen of a so-called democratic State was but a despicable slave of his demagogic master. Like the nobleman of France who smiled at the

howling proletariat, so it is easy to imagine Bernard de Watteville facing his end, for he was true to type.

He had married, some 25 years ago, Beatrice, of the well-known Shropshire family of Belldoes. His daughter has declared her intention to continue his unfinished collector's work in Africa.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

The following cutting from the French watch trade journal "L'Horloger" has been sent to us by a correspondent: in looking through our own advertisement columns, we incline to agree:—

Il paraît que nos voisins d'outre-Jura n'auraient pas le sens de la publicité! Et ce manque de sens serait la cause que la Suisse industrielle n'occupe pas dans le monde la place à laquelle elle aurait droit. C'est du moins ce qu'affirme un journaliste commercial anglais cité par le "Journal suisse d'horlogerie." Et ce journaliste raconte une anecdote typique: "Il y a deux ans, on proposa à un des principaux journaux de l'Orient de faire paraître une série d'articles sur les Etats européens. La proposition fut acceptée et on cita des noms de pays. A quelqu'un qui parlait de la Suisse le rédacteur en chef répondit: 'Il ne vaut pas la peine de la mentionner. Elle n'a du reste pas d'industries à part celle du chocolat et du fromage.' Et on n'écrivit rien sur ce pays.

Il me semble que le rédacteur en chef en question exagérât un peu. Il avait probablement dans son gousset une montre de Genève, de Bienne ou de la Chaux-de-Fonds et, s'il ignorait que la Suisse est la grande pourvoyeuse de montres de l'univers, c'est qu'il n'avait pas mis ses lunettes le jour où il lança cette boutade! En tout cas, si la Suisse ne fait pas autant d'affaires qu'elle en ferait si elle faisait plus de publicité, il nous faut souhaiter qu'elle en reste là. Nos maisons françaises n'auraient plus qu'à fermer leurs portes. Et celles d'Angleterre et des Etats-Unis de même.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND.

The consolidated debt of the Swiss Confederation at the end of September, 1924, was computed at Frs. 2,205 million. The budget for 1925 provides for interest service on the debt to the amount of Frs. 108,500,000.

The budget of the Postal Service for 1925 foresees a surplus of Frs. 6,300,000 and a profit of Frs. 3,500,000 on the year's accounts, as shown in profit and loss account. For the Telegraph and Telephone services, which are carried on as a separate department, there should be a surplus of Frs. 28,000,000 and a net profit of Frs. 303,800. These figures are most satisfactory and form a very favourable addition to the list of improving Government services, of which the Federal Railways form the outstanding example.

Reporting on the results of the year ended 30th of September, 1924, the Directors of the Entreprises Sulzer in Winterthur state that, after providing Frs. 2,750,000 for writing off depreciations on foreign participations and covering the debit balance of Frs. 724,000 from last year, a debit balance of Frs. 1,500,000 is to be reckoned with. To cover this, the reserves of Frs. 2,000,000 will be drawn upon. The Directors believe that, unless any extraordinary circumstances now interfere with the normal course of business, they should now be able to continue working on a satisfactory basis. The amount of orders at present on the books is satisfactory.

Imports into Switzerland in the third quarter of the present year amounted to Frs. 619,000,000, as compared with Frs. 514,000,000 in the corresponding period last year. Against this, exports have only increased from 440 millions to 490 millions, so that the quarter's deficit of exports is 129 million francs, as against 74 millions for the September quarter in 1923.

Over the first nine months of the year considerable improvement is, however, noticeable in the case of certain important lines of export. Watches have advanced from Frs. 145,900,000 in 1923 to Frs. 183,300,000 in 1924, silk from 133 to 150 millions, machinery from 107 to 122 millions and cotton textiles from 75½ to 104½ millions.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES.

	BONDS.		Nov. 4		Nov. 11	
Swiss Confederation 3% 1903	...	73.87%	...	73.50%	...	73.50%
Swiss Confederation 5% 1923	...	99.00%	...	98.80%	...	98.80%
Federal Railways A-K 3½%	...	77.07%	...	77.80%	...	77.80%
Canton Basle-Stadt 5½% 1921	...	100.12%	...	100.65%	...	100.65%
Canton Fribourg 3% 1892...	...	69.75%	...	69.50%	...	69.50%

	SHARES.		Nov. 4		Nov. 11	
Swiss Bank Corporation	...	500	...	641	...	661
Crédit Suisse	...	500	...	675	...	690
Union de Banques Suisses	...	500	...	537	...	555
Fabrique Chimique ci-dev. Sandoz	...	1000	...	3015	...	3080
Société pour l'Industrie Chimique	...	1000	...	1905	...	1935
C. F. Bally S.A.	...	1000	...	1150	...	1180
Fabrique de Machines Oerlikon	...	500	...	598	...	606
Entreprises Sulzer	...	1000	...	647	...	640
S.A. Brown Boveri (new)	...	500	...	277	...	290
Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Cond. Mk. Co.	...	200	...	197	...	197
Choc. Suisses Peter-Cailler-Kohler	...	100	...	147	...	145
Comp. de Navig'n sur le Lac Léman	...	500	...	500	...	500

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