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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

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## HOME NEWS

### FEDERAL.

#### THE SWISS PARLIAMENT.

The two Houses of the Swiss Parliament assembled last Monday for the summer session which is expected to last from three to four weeks. The President of the National Council (Graber, Soc.) referred to the extremely precarious situation caused to some of our most important industries by the new American Customs Tariff. In the States Council the project to rebuild the Basle Central Post Office necessitating a credit of Frs. 685,000 was ratified after a short discussion.

#### MILITARY AVIATION.

Little sympathy was extended in the National Council to the new proposals of the Federal Council with reference to military aviation. No less than 105 new aeroplanes with 42 reserve motors are to be put in commission at a cost of about 20 million francs. The proposal has also been sharply criticised outside parliamentary circles and sixty resolutions have been forwarded to Berne demanding either the rejection of the official message, or its submission to a referendum suggesting at the same time that the suggested twenty million francs might be better employed in giving relief to watch, embroidery and other industries affected by the present crisis. Speaking on behalf of the majority of the "comité d'étude" National Councillor de Muralt (Lib.) warmly recommended the proposal which was based on modern military requirements and necessary if the independence of our country was to be maintained. For the minority of the commission National Councillor Schmid (Soc.) advanced that the means at our disposal would never be adequate to create a sufficient defence, that in future wars poisonous gasses would be the predominant factor and that above all the proposal was against the spirit of the League of Nations. National Councillor Nicole (Soc.) supported the rejection stating that this was obviously only the beginning of a larger scheme as these 105 aeroplanes were of little use in a war; the socialist party were on principle against any further armaments. Other socialist members followed suit. Councillors Sulzer and Vallotton (both Lib.) represented the other point of view, the latter pointing out that the "Declaration of London of 1920" imposed on Switzerland the obligation to defend its own neutrality.

#### STUDENTS' LABOUR COLONIES.

As in former years labour colonies are being arranged for Swiss undergraduates. In order to encourage the scheme the Federal Council is granting a subsidy of Frs. 2.50 per student, per working day, which amount may even be increased if essential or desirable operations are carried out in poor mountain districts difficult of access.

#### THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

In an address delivered at the Teachers' Conference at Schaffhausen Federal Councillor Motta dwelled on the great importance of the popular vote in 1920 which enabled Switzerland to become a member of the League of Nations; if the people had voted differently the negotiations for the formation of the League would probably have broken down.

#### FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

In the final round for the Swiss Championship Servette beat Basle by three goals to nil and the Genevese Club therefore retains its title, being at the top of the "A" clubs with eight points. Next in order follow the Zurich Grasshoppers who secured a victory against the Young Boys by three to one. Biel also won against Lugano by one to nil. Both these clubs secured five points though the Grasshoppers are second in the list owing to a better goal average. The remaining three competitors in the "A" series—Lugano, Young Boys and Basle—have each secured two points.

### LOCAL.

#### ZURICH.

An unfortunate incident marred the recent races on the Zurich Allmend. The horse "Fruit

défendu," very restive on approaching the starting place, bolted, flinging the two grooms holding it to one side and spreadeagling its rider, Captain Hugo Laubi, on the other side. The animal then cleared the fence, raced towards the open-air café beside the grandstand and jumped over a table at which people were sitting into a group of spectators. A woman and her two children were so badly kicked that, after first-aid had been given by one of the doctors in attendance on behalf of the racing committee, they had to be removed to hospital. The Stewards immediately banned the horse from all races. *St. G.T.*

#### BERNE.

The new General Post Office at Biel was opened on May 26th. The General Telephone Exchange is also housed in the building. *N.Z.Z.*

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The Verkehrs- and Verschönerungsverein Burgdorf had invited Mr. Mittelholzer to hold a lantern-slide lecture on his last African flight. Advertisements and posters announced this lecture, which promised to be of outstanding interest. The public arrived in crowds from far and near and, when the hour fixed for the start of the lecture had arrived, there was not one seat left in the big communal hall. Everything was ready, the screen in place, and the cashier rubbed his hands gleefully behind the overflowing till. Only the lecturer had not yet come, although he had promised to be there by 7.30 p.m. At 8 p.m. he had not yet turned up, and at 8.15, when feelings had reached fever point, it was decided to ring up Mittelholzer's home in Zurich. He himself answered the call! . . . Under pressure of business he had completely forgotten his engagement. Well, a sense of humour and the return of the ticket money saved the situation. All the same, Burgdorf expects Mittelholzer not to forget the new date on which the lecture is to take place. *N.*

#### LUGERNE.

The Cantonal Accounts for 1929 show a surplus of 234,300 Frs., against a deficit foreseen in the budget of 296,500 Frs. This surplus was obtained in spite of again allocating 500,000 Frs. to the fund for reducing the Cantonal Debt and of paying 400,000 Frs. into the Public Welfare Insurance fund. The splendid result is due to a considerably increased revenue from rates and taxes. *N.Z.Z.*

#### GLARUS.

Josue Schmucki, of Linthal, railway conductor, was caught by the Zurich-Chur express at Mühlehorn during shunting operations and killed. He leaves a widow and four grown-up children. Schmucki had 37 years service to his credit and was due to retire on pension very shortly. *N.Z.Z.*

#### AARGAU.

The society "Pro Vindonissa" reports the discovery of thermae which exceed in size any warm-water baths of Roman origin so far discovered in Switzerland. The buildings are so extensive, that 4 to 5 years work will be needed to uncover it all. This new development in the society's researches seems to indicate that, apart from the military station, there was also a civil Vindonissa of importance. *St. G.T.*

#### GRAUBUENDEN.

The Evangelical Grand Council, which is the legislating body in matters affecting the Rhetian Established Church, has for the second time discussed the question of granting the right to elect women as fully-fledged Ministers of the Church. The Synod's report to the Council showed a majority in favour of the proposed alteration. The Grand Council decided to settle this matter in a forthcoming revision of the constitution of the Church. *N.Z.Z.*

#### NEUCHÂTEL.

Mr. Charles-Albert Michel, aged 74, a native of Neuchâtel, has had rather an unpleasant surprise. On the occasion of a trip to Venice he made the acquaintance of two individuals, one a Canadian and the other a Belgian. Under the well-known pretext that they intended to convey to him a large sum in American dollars for the benefit of several charitable Swiss institutions they induced him to return to Neuchâtel and meet them again at Venice with an amount of 50,000 Swiss francs, against which sum the equivalent sum in dollars was to be handed over.

After remitting the 50,000 francs they handed him an envelope which was supposed to contain a similar amount in American currency:

(Continued on back page.)

## Diner de la Colonie

EN L'HONNEUR DE MONSIEUR PARAVICINI.

De toutes les manifestations sociales qui, en cours de saison, réunissent année après année nos compatriotes établis en Grande-Bretagne, aucune n'égale celle qui s'est déroulée d'une façon si imposante samedi soir, 31 mai, au Restaurant Monico et vers laquelle la pensée des Suisses habitant ce pays s'était dirigée pendant des semaines auparavant. C'est que la célébration du JUBILE DECENNAL de la mission d'un diplomate dans une même capitale n'est pas un événement commun. Et lorsque, au surplus, la personne du jubilaire est celle éminente de notre excellent et très sympathique Ministre de Suisse à Londres et la colonie à la bonheur de le fêter entouré de la charmante personnalité de Madame Paravicini, de ses gracieuses filles, Mesdemoiselles Livia et Jacqueline et de son fils, Monsieur Vincent Paravicini, venu expressément du collège pour participer à cet hommage mérité, l'atmosphère est bien naturellement celle des rares et grandes occasions.

Une brillante assemblée, de plus de trois cents personnes, est là réunie, d'abord dans le salon de la réception, puis dans la grande salle des banquets—le Hall International, ainsi qu'elle est nommée—pour préparer à ses invités distingués de la soirée une bienvenue des plus chaleureuses.

Outre Monsieur A. Schupbach, Président de la fête, accompagné de Madame Schupbach, on y remarque les personnalités suivantes: Monsieur Th. de Sonnenberg, Conseiller de Légation, Monsieur le Dr. A. Schedler, Consul de Suisse à Manchester, Monsieur E. Montag, Consul de Suisse à Liverpool, Monsieur W. de Bourg, Secrétaire de Légation, accompagné de Madame de Bourg, Monsieur L. Michell, Secrétaire de Légation, Monsieur Cl. Rezzonico, Secrétaire de Légation, Monsieur P. Hilfiker, Chancelier de Légation, Monsieur E. Werner, Président du Comité d'organisation, Monsieur le Dr. Pettavel, ancien Consul de Suisse à Johannesburg, Monsieur A. Duruz, Directeur de l'agence des C.F.F., Monsieur Perrochet, Directeur de la Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., Monsieur Ch. Barbezat, accompagné de Madame Barbezat, Monsieur G. Wuthrich, Directeur de la Oerlikon Co., Ltd., Monsieur F. Schubeler, Directeur du Bureau de Londres de la Maison Sulzer Frères, Monsieur H. F. Roost, Directeur de la Zenith Watch Co., Ltd., Monsieur A. Brauen, Concessionnaire des Chocolats Suchard, Monsieur Léon Ruff, ancien directeur de la Swiss Bank Corporation, Monsieur H. Jenne, Directeur-adjoint de la même banque, Monsieur F. Haegler, Représentant à Londres de la Banque Commerciale de Bâle, Monsieur le Dr. Hugo Rast, Monsieur le Dr. Schroeter, Monsieur le Pasteur R. Hoffmann-de Visme, Monsieur le Pasteur Th. Hahn, accompagné de Madame Hahn, Monsieur C. Campart, président de la Société de Secours Mutuels, accompagné de Madame Campart, Monsieur Ch. Chapuis, Président du City Swiss Club, accompagné de Madame Chapuis, Monsieur R. Dupraz, Président du Fonds de Secours Suisse, Monsieur W. Notari, Président de l'Unione Ticinese, accompagné de Madame Notari, Monsieur Indermaur, Président de l'Union Helvetia, accompagné de Madame Indermaur, Monsieur Calnorri, Vice-Président du Schweizerbund, accompagné de Madame Calnorri, Monsieur M. Paschoud, Président de la Swiss Mercantile Society, accompagné de Madame Paschoud, Monsieur J. Scheuermeier, Président de la Swiss Y.M.C.A., Monsieur A. F. Suter, Président du Groupe londonien de la Nouvelle Société Helvétique, accompagné de Madame Suter, Monsieur F. Conrad, Président de la Swiss Choral Society, Monsieur H. Senn, Président de la Swiss Rifle Association, Monsieur W. Pellet, Président de la Swiss Institute Orchestral Society, accompagné de Madame Pellet, Monsieur Turiens, de la Swiss Culinary Society, accompagné de Madame Turiens, Monsieur F. Gygaz, du Swiss Club Liverpool, Monsieur P. F. Boehringer, fondateur du "Swiss Observer", accompagné de Madame Boehringer, Messieurs Bertschinger et Meyer, du Foyer Suisse.

A peine le Président, Monsieur Schupbach, les cinq invités d'honneur et les membres du Comité de réception ont-ils pris leurs places que la mignonne petite fille d'un membre de la colonie, vêtue de blanc et portant l'écharpe aux couleurs nationales, se faufile au travers des rangs serrés de l'assemblée pour présenter, en son nom, un

magnifique bouquet de roses rouges et blanches à Madame Paravicini, cependant que les applaudissements qui ont acclamé les invités à leur entrée redoublent de plus fort.

Monsieur le Pasteur Hoffman-de Visme prononce la prière et l'assemblée s'assied pour un repas, à la fois simple et bon, qui fait honneur à la cuisine de nos bons compatriotes tessinois, les frères Monico.

L'on remarque la décoration florale des tables, faite avec beaucoup de goût et offerte avec autant de générosité par un aimable compatriote. Les oeillets rouges et blancs, à profusion, sont de toute beauté et font un effet magnifique et pourtant de sobre dignité. L'élégant programme-menu artistique, dû à la courtoise collaboration de Monsieur Boehringer et de l'artiste suisse Bipp avec le Comité d'organisation, fait, lui aussi, l'admiration immédiate de tous; il suffit de dire que personne ne voulut manquer d'emporter ce souvenir précieux (que la sagesse de l'imprimeur avait fait délivrer sous enveloppe transparente), orné de notre croix fédérale, d'une bordure aux armoiries cantonales encadrant la photographie de Monsieur et de Madame Paravicini et portant la devise: Jubilé Décennal 1920 - 1930.

L'excellent service du Restaurant Monico assure l'expédition du repas et bientôt le maillet du magnifique 'toastmaster' retentit au milieu de la salle et annonce que l'heure solennelle va commencer.

Le toast au Roi Georges V d'abord, puis celui au Président de la Confédération Helvétique et au Conseil Fédéral, proposés par Monsieur Schupbach, sont portés avec ferveur, tandis que l'orchestre du Swiss Institute, qui vient de prendre place sur la scène, joue 'God Save The King', puis notre Cantique Suisse, chantés debout par toute l'assemblée.

C'est maintenant le tour des discours et ainsi qu'il sied, le Président, Monsieur Schupbach, se lève le premier pour prononcer ces paroles:

Monsieur le Ministre, Madame Paravicini, Mesdames et Messieurs,

Le nombre des Membres de la Famille suisse à Londres qui a répondu à l'appel du Comité d'organisation de cette soirée pour honorer le Chef de notre Colonie et sa charmante compagne, Madame Paravicini, est un témoignage éclatant de la haute estime et de l'affection que nous avons pour eux. Ils les possédaient déjà lorsqu'il y a dix ans Monsieur Paravicini fut appelé par nos Hautes Autorités Fédérales à représenter notre pays à la Cour de St. James. Car ils n'étaient pas des inconnus pour nous qui avions déjà eu l'occasion d'apprécier Monsieur Paravicini il y a une trentaine d'années alors qu'il était Attaché à la Légation, et plus tard de 1912 à 1917 qu'il passa à Londres d'abord comme Secrétaire puis comme Conseiller de Légation sous Monsieur le Ministre Carlin.

A peine arrivé à Londres en qualité d'Envoyé extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la Confédération, Monsieur Paravicini débuta dans ses fonctions par un acte de la plus haute importance dans l'histoire de notre pays, la signature de la Déclaration de Londres qui reconnaît que la neutralité perpétuelle de la Suisse et l'inviolabilité de son territoire sont compatibles avec le pacte de la Société des Nations.

Et les dix ans que nous avons vécus depuis dans l'agréable atmosphère de cette amabilité pour tous et de cette activité bienveillante pour le soin de nos intérêts, dont Monsieur Paravicini ne se départit jamais dans la décharge de ses fonctions de "Un pour tous," comme des décrit si bien notre belle devise, sans que jamais un nuage ne vienne assombrir nos relations, n'ont fait qu'augmenter en nous ces sentiments d'estime et d'affection respectueuse, accompagnés d'une vive reconnaissance.

Monsieur le Conseiller Fédéral Motta, lors de la visite qu'il nous fit en février dernier, remercia publiquement, au nom du Conseil Fédéral, Monsieur Paravicini, pour la manière efficace dont il remplit sa mission.

Nous, Suisses en Grande Bretagne, hommes d'affaires pour la plupart, pensons plus spécialement aux arrangements commerciaux qu'il négocia et au développement, qui lui est dû, des Représentations Consulaires—actuellement au nombre de 23 en Grande Bretagne et dans ses Colonies.

Malgré ses occupations multiples et les obligations de sa haute position, Monsieur Paravicini n'a jamais manqué de prendre part à l'activité de notre Colonie. Lors de manifestations patriotiques telles que le "Thé Suisse" ou la "Fête du 1er Août," ses paroles éloquentes font toujours vibrer dans nos cœurs l'amour de la Patrie. Dans nos fonctions sociales telles que Bals et Banquets de Sociétés, la présence de Monsieur et Madame Paravicini rehausse leur éclat et complète leur succès. Puis encore, quand il s'agit de nos oeuvres de charité ou d'intérêt général, telle que l'instruction de nos jeunes gens par la Swiss Mercantile Society, de manifestations sportives

ou musicales, l'aide de ses conseils et ses paroles d'appréciation et d'encouragement nous sont toujours très précieuses.

Nous savons aussi quelle part de notre gratitude est due à Madame Paravicini qui seconde si bien son mari dans sa tâche. Très répandue dans la haute Société anglaise, l'admiration que provoque sa charmante personnalité dans les réunions mondaines, rejaillit sur toutes ses compatriotes. Déjà lors de son précédent séjour à Londres elle s'intéressait aux activités féminines de la Colonie suisse, telles que les réunions de couture, les réunions de jeunes filles etc. et malgré ses devoirs sociaux, plus nombreux depuis son retour, elle n'a pas perdu cet intérêt, et nous nous souvenons au contraire de l'activité qu'elle déploya pour obtenir que les travaux des Suissesses en Angleterre aient une bonne place à la "Saffa," l'Exposition des travaux de la femme qui eut lieu à Berne l'année dernière.

Pour la première fois, si je ne me trompe, nous avons ce soir le plaisir d'avoir au milieu de nous Mesdemoiselles Paravicini et Monsieur Paravicini fils. Qu'il me soit permis de leur dire que nous sommes très heureux de leur présence, et particulièrement à Mesdemoiselles Paravicini que nous souhaitons qu'elles viendront souvent ajouter à l'éclat que donne à nos réunions la présence de leur mère.

Et maintenant, Mesdames et Messieurs, en félicitant encore Monsieur et Madame Paravicini du travail qu'ils ont accompli dans l'intérêt de notre pays, et dans le nôtre, et en leur souhaitant de continuer leur tâche pendant longtemps encore au milieu de nous avec un succès toujours plus grand, je vous prie de vous lever, et de boire avec moi à la santé et au bonheur de Monsieur et Madame Paravicini et de leur famille.

Le second orateur officiel, Monsieur A. F. Suter, Président du Groupe londonien de la Nouvelle Société Helvétique, parle au nom des sociétés suisses en Grande-Bretagne:

The great honour has fallen upon me to address you, Monsieur le Ministre, on behalf of all the Swiss Societies in England, representatives of whom are gathered round you here to-night, to congratulate you upon the attainment of ten years of faithful and distinguished service to our common Mother country; to express to you by their presence their respectful thanks and their good wishes for the further success of your mission and for your health and happiness.

Speaking as President of the London Group of the N.S.H. I ask you to permit me, Sir, to recall to your mind the 19th of February 1920, when Dr. Arnold Latt, our then Secretary, in the name of the Swiss Societies in London, welcomed you as our newly appointed Minister Plenipotentiary in London. In the course of his address he pronounced these words: "The worthy successor of a long line of diplomatists and statesmen who for four centuries have laboured here and at home with the full weight of their official character and the prestige of their position and personal character to the effect that Swiss and British should always be friends, and should feel secure and at home with each other."

The hopes and wishes then expressed by the speaker of the colony—wishes for the success of your mission and for our own prosperity—have come true to a degree of which to-night's gathering of your countrymen is an eloquent proof.

Your noble mission—truly and strongly to interpret Switzerland's needs, her interests and her policies to the Government and the people of this great Empire—was a particularly strenuous one during those long years of war, of turmoil, of social dissolution, of political and economic reconstruction, of inflation and deflation, of violent booms and long drawn out depressions; years of most sincere and promising struggles for world peace, and of rapidly changing constellations of international politics and aspirations.

Where we, the ordinary citizens, find it hard enough merely to follow and understand developments, you, the diplomatist, were expected to know, to see ahead, to prepare or prevent as the case might demand, to advise your Government, and to interpret their policies in the most favourable light to the English.

This great service, Monsieur le Ministre, you have performed in a manner which has earned you the respect and the willing ear of this kingdom's governments, as well as the praise and the gratitude of your home government. We have not forgotten yet an occasion which made a deep impression on everyone of us present, and was no doubt a proud moment in your life, when Mr. Motta, a few short weeks ago, told you himself how much your work and your merits were appreciated at home.

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hand to many a draft, and your signature to many a treaty, of which we as your compatriots have cause to be deeply grateful to you.

Many of us have been privileged to come into relations of the most friendly character with you, thanks to the kind and generous interest you have taken in all those who care for their country. So many of us have enjoyed your and Mme. Paravicini's hospitality, and in the same spirit we know you receive your guests from the mother country. They are full of praise for your unflinching readiness to assist, to advise, to inform, to introduce and to recommend. You have helped the universities here and at home to closer intercourse, and to organise the exchange of professors, students, ideas and examples. Artists and clergymen, historians and politicians, globe-trotters and sportsmen, business men, engineers, capitalists, waiters and musicians—they all are indebted to you as we are.

But to us, Swiss living in Great Britain, your jubilee means more than just a date in your brilliant diplomatic career. It is a festive occasion, a happy event, a moment of reflection and concentration, such as are birthdays and weddings and similar dates in our private lives.

For ten years you have been our guide in matters of political attitude in this land. You have given us abundant proof of good-will and friendship towards all our societies and institutions. We have witnessed your deep and constant solicitude for the troubles of the colony and its less fortunate members. You were with us not only on those formal occasions when duty called you forth, but also—and that is what we particularly appreciate in you, Monsieur le Ministre—but also on the many occasions when we were just "entre nous et sans façon."

We Swiss like our chiefs to be high and mighty and of truly aristocratic bearing in their exalted positions. We admire and honour you, Mr. Paravicini, for the grand manner in which you represent our country in Great Britain, but we love you for your spirit of democracy and brotherhood, when you are in our midst. We feel proud to be at ease in the presence of our chiefs, to shake hands with them, to see eye to eye, to even have an argument with them or a friendly joke, as the moment might demand.

We thank you for meeting us in this spirit of homeliness and simplicity. The societies represented here thank you for coming to their meeting to attend our functions, to enjoy our concerts, to take part in our sports and athletics, our festivals and social gatherings, to encourage our religious and philanthropic institutions, to approve of our well-meant efforts, and our good, bad or indifferent performances.

We rejoice in your great gift of speech in all our country's languages, and particularly as we always eager to enjoy your British humour grafted on to a sound inheritance of Baslerwitz, without the malice of the "Baslerbeppi." Your charming after-dinner speeches are the delight of the colony, and even to-night on this solemn occasion, your wit, I know, will refresh us again.

And yet, what we know is but a small fraction of all the cares and labours, the responsibilities and difficulties you have to deal with in your official capacity. For each of us, it is a full man's job to make our own ends meet, and to keep our families and businesses going, and, just because we recognise it, we do all the more gratefully appreciate what you are doing for others; what you are doing for us, whatever our station in life may be, for our colony, for our country.

May this demonstration of loyalty and attachment be agreeable to you, Monsieur le Ministre, as a tribute of our feelings which, as the Speaker for the Colony, I am but indifferently fitted to express adequately. But may you none the less accept it as a token of our gratitude, a proof of our confidence and good wishes.

May the success of your mission, the health and happiness of yourself and your family be assured for many years to come, so that in another ten years we may meet again for a gathering as brilliant and a record as glorious as to-night's.

Gentlemen, all of you who belong to one or more or all of our Swiss Societies in Great Britain—and I do not suppose there is one here who does not—will you please rise and charge your glasses. The toast is to our Chief Patriot who is our leader and yet is one of us, a Swiss.

Nous n'avons malheureusement le texte du troisième discours, celui de Monsieur Th. de Sonnenberg, Conseiller de Légation, qui, lui, apporte au Ministre et à Madame Paravicini le tribut de ses collaborateurs principaux et de tout le personnel de la Légation de Suisse à Londres.

Voici, par contre, le discours prononcé par Monsieur le Dr. A. Schedler, Consul de Suisse à Manchester, qui parle au nom du corps consulaire sous la juridiction de la Légation de

Suisse à Londres et qui comprend les consulats non seulement de Manchester, Liverpool et Glasgow, mais encore les consulats de Suisse dans tout l'Empire Britannique, au nombre de 23 comme dit plus haut :

I have been asked to say a few words on behalf of the Consuls and our collaborators, and it gives me the greatest pleasure to discharge this honourable duty, and to offer our Chief our heartiest congratulations on the anniversary of his appointment, and to assure him of our loyal devotion and support.

I should like to remind you, however, that not all our countrymen are so fortunate as to live in the bright and gay metropolis; about one third of them—spread all over the country—are living chiefly in drab towns and working in dreary shops in the North. They also feel that they are at a disadvantage compared with Londoners, in so far as they very rarely have the opportunity of addressing themselves directly to the Minister. Will you therefore excuse me if I avail myself of this festive occasion to bring to you Sir, also the patriotic greetings of your countrymen in the provinces, and to assure you on their behalf, of their loyalty and devotion.

Since times immemorial, the post of Ambassador has been surrounded with a glory that is denied to other positions of similar importance. This glory has not lost any of its brilliance even in modern times. This is due chiefly to the prerogatives and to the nature of the duties of an Ambassador, duties not always pleasant. He is the representative of a foreign nation; he has to work for the establishment and maintenance of friendly relations between different countries, and especially in modern times, must have regard to the practical needs of the respective countries for the betterment of trade and industry.

It is clear that the qualification required for such an office, embracing as it does, moral, intellectual, social, and even financial standing, must be very high, and we may congratulate ourselves on having a man who possesses these qualifications to such a high degree.

We are only a small country, and as such are dependent more than others on the good-will and friendship of the great powers. If our Minister has a diplomatic mission to fulfil or anything to say, we cannot send a warship up the Thames to give emphasis to his words. His personality and our reputation are our only credentials and resource. We all know our Minister has fulfilled great expectations. He has served his country well, and deserves our thanks.

The difficult position of Ambassador however, is not a "one-man job." It requires a consort equally capable of sharing his honours and his duties. These celebrations would not be complete without our offering our compliments and thanks to Madame Paravicini, who fulfils her representative duties with dignity, her social obligations with charm, and her charitable duties with motherly affection. How could it be otherwise for a descendant of one of those families whose representatives were equally famous as leaders of men on the battlefield, as advisers to Kings, and as Statesmen directing the destiny of their native town with such success that it became the capital of our country.

It is a happy coincidence that this celebration falls at the same time as the anniversary of the "Declaration of London," but there is also another anniversary of much longer standing. It is exactly 75 years since the first Commerce Treaty between England and Switzerland was concluded. This Treaty established in 1855 is remarkable in several respects, chiefly because it laid the foundation for the friendly relations between this country and ours, and because this Treaty has never been revoked, altered, or superseded by any other. Many things have changed during this time, especially in the diplomatic world, but this Treaty has endured all the time, and is still in force to-day.

Could there be any better proof of the friendly understanding between two nations. I have no hesitation in stating that England has always been, not only our best friend but also one of our best customers.

This traditional friendship and good-will is to a great extent the achievement of our Ambassadors. The reason for our friendship is mutual esteem and the recognition of what we owe to each other. Switzerland owes to this country even the beginning of its culture and civilisation, in so far as Christianity was first brought to it from the British Isles through the Irish monks.

We have always gratefully recognised our debt to this country. I know of only one instance when the Swiss have been ungrateful to England. That was on the occasion of the appointment of the patron Saint of winter sport. Instead of conferring the honour upon St. George, in recognition of the fact that the British people invented the winter sport, they appointed St. Moritz, as their Saint. They were much more considerate however, a century

ago when they renamed one of their most famous mountains after an Englishman. He was one of those early pioneers of Alpinism, and when he beheld the great peak bathed in the glory of the setting sun, he was so overwhelmed by the vision that he exclaimed, "What's the matter with that Horn," and it was henceforth called the Matterhorn.

As a technical man I have always been a great admirer of the decimal system, and I also admire the consequent application of that system even for the purpose of this gathering, because it enables us to enjoy such a pleasant function after only 10 years instead of having to wait for 21 or 25 years. If the latter were the case probably many of us would not be able to attend. This system also gives me exactly ten minutes for my speech, and having dealt with exactly ten subjects I know what I have to do.

I conclude by once more expressing in the name of the Consular service, and our compatriots in the provinces, our most hearty congratulations to our Minister and Madame Paravicini.

Lecture est donnée par Monsieur Ch. Chapuis de très nombreux télégrammes de félicitations à l'adresse de Monsieur Paravicini, parmi lesquels nous signalons ceux de nos Conseillers Fédéraux Motta et Schulthess, de plusieurs collègues du Ministre dans les autres capitales européennes, des différents consulats de Suisse aux Indes, au Canada, en Australie, etc., d'anciens collaborateurs épars dans le monde entier; il signale aussi les lettres d'excuse et de félicitations de quelques membres bien en vue de la colonie, empêchés par l'âge ou par la maladie ou par les affaires d'être présents. Cette suite presque interminable de messages si pleins de bienveillance—il fut impossible de les lire tous et en entier—montre une fois de plus combien le distingué représentant diplomatique de la Confédération Helvétique près la Cour de St. James est respecté et estimé partout où il est connu.

Le Président, Monsieur Schupbach, se lève à nouveau, cette fois pour la présentation d'une adresse et d'un souvenir de la colonie suisse à Monsieur Paravicini et d'un souvenir à Madame Paravicini. Voici ses paroles :

Monsieur le Ministre,

La Colonie Suisse en Grande Bretagne a tenu à vous exprimer ses sentiments d'une façon plus durable que par des paroles. Elle les a résumés dans une adresse énumérée contenant le texte suivant :

Les Suisses du Royaume-Uni d'Angleterre, d'Ecosse et d'Irlande, reconnaissants et fiers, honorent

MONSIEUR CHARLES R. PARAVICINI et lui délivrent ce témoignage de respect, d'estime, d'affection et de gratitude.

En souvenir de ses dix ans de fonctions d'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la Confédération Helvétique près la Cour de St. James.

Au Dîner donné au Restaurant Monaco, à Londres, le samedi 31 mai 1930.

Au nom du Comité d'Organisation :  
E. WERNER, Président. JULES ZIMMERMAN, Secrétaire.

et que j'ai le plaisir de vous remettre en son nom.

Elle a désiré aussi que vous ayez un souvenir tangible de la fête qu'elle se fait du 10<sup>ème</sup> anniversaire de votre entrée en fonctions d'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la Confédération Helvétique près la Cour de St. James et vous prie d'accepter cette coupe comme témoignage très modeste de sa reconnaissance.

Cette coupe porte au-dessous de l'écusson fédéral l'inscription :

1920 — 1930

Les Suisses de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande à leur Ministre

MONSIEUR C. R. PARAVICINI en témoignage d'estime et de reconnaissance.

Madame Paravicini,

Habitée à vous associer toujours en pensée à Monsieur le Ministre dans la tâche qu'il accomplit, le Colonie Suisse en Grande-Bretagne désire aussi vous offrir un témoignage de sa gratitude et vous prie d'accepter cet écrioire sur lequel elle a fait graver ces mots :

Hommage de la Colonie Suisse

à

MADAME PARAVICINI.

Londres, le 31 mai 1930.

Elle espère qu'il vous sera donné de l'employer pendant de nombreuses années et que son usage n'évoquera en vous que de bons souvenirs du temps que vous avez passé au milieu de nous.

(Lack of space forced us to hold over the remainder of this report, including the speech of the Swiss Minister, for our next issue; this also applies to a message of thanks received from Monsieur Paravicini, and the first instalment of "Five Weeks in America," by Dr. K. E. Eckenstein.—Ed. S.O.)