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The Swiss Observer

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Where are you going next Saturday ?
to the Swiss Sports at Herne Hill, of course !



HOME NEWS

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FEDERAL.

SWISS CURRENCY CONFERENCE.

An important meeting of members of the Federal Government, the principal Swiss bankers and financial representatives from all the cantons was held in Berne over the week-end to discuss the general financial and economic situation in Switzerland, and especially means for the defence of the franc.

It is learned that the situation was thoroughly explored, and there was an unanimous determination on the part of the Government authorities to maintain the franc on gold and to oppose any tendency either to inflate or devalue.

The banks were urged not to lend themselves to any speculation that might weaken the franc.

A well-known Swiss professor of economics gave a review of the effects of currency depreciation in all the principal countries where changes have taken place—Gt. Britain, the United States, France, Italy and Belgium. He himself was inclined to a policy of devaluation of 20 per cent., which he declared would represent a rise in the cost of living of about 5 per cent., but would bring other advantages in its train.

The opinion of the meeting was strongly against him.

SWISS TRADE IN APRIL.

Swiss imports in April were 3,300,000f., higher at 109,200,000f., compared with March, but exports dropped by 4,100,000f., to 68,300,000f.

There is thus an adverse balance amounting to 40,900,000f., against 33,500,000f. for the previous month.

CHANGES IN THE SWISS DIPLOMATIC SERVICE.

The Federal Council has made the following changes in the Diplomatic Service:

M. Philippe Zutter has been nominated secretary of Legation in Bucarest. M. Béat de Fischer, *attaché* at the Legation at the Hague, is going to Buenos-Ayres as second secretary of Legation. M. Fumasoli, 1st Secretary at the Legation in Buenos-Ayres has been transferred to Rome, to replace M. Rezzonico who returns to London. M. W. Rüfenacht, 1st secretary of Legation in London has been transferred to the Political Dept. in Berne. M. Pierre Micheli, *attaché* in Paris has been appointed to the Legation at the Hague. M. Alfred Brunner, at present Councillor of Legation in Bucarest has been appointed "Chargé d'Affaires" *ad interim* at the Swiss Legation at Cairo.

PROTOCOLS OF ZION.

M. Meyer, the presiding Judge, denounced the so-called Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion—a document that has been the subject of bitter controversy for nearly 30 years—as a forgery. The Protocols were said to be a record of a secret meeting of Jewish Elders held in Basle in 1897, at which a plan for securing complete world domination by Jews was drawn up and approved.

They have been used for a quarter of a century as the basis for anti-Semitic campaigns in many countries, and although their authenticity has been frequently challenged, no definite decision has been taken until now.

A year ago, however, a number of Swiss Jewish communities, in view of the publication

of the Protocols by Nazi organisations in Switzerland, decided to bring the matter before the Swiss courts, taking advantage of a clause in the penal code prohibiting the publication of literature likely to lead to a breach between different sections of the population.

Experts were called who declared that the Protocols were written by a Russian notorious for his anti-Jewish sentiments, at the beginning of this century. The Swiss judge, delivering judgment at Bern, described the Protocols as "grotesque nonsense," and refused to accept their authenticity.

SWISS LIBERALS AGAINST THE "KRISINITIATIVE."

On the occasion of a Delegates Meeting of the Swiss Liberal Party, which took place last Sunday at Olten it was decided with 205 votes against 8 votes to oppose the referendum for the "Krisensteiner," which will be put before the Swiss people on the 2nd of June next.

FEDERAL SINGING COMPETITION.

One hundred and sixty-three choirs with a membership of over 12,000 members will participate at the Federal Singing Competition which will take place in Basle from June 29th—July 9th.

LUCERNE HORSE SHOW.

The 21st International Horse Show at Lucerne will take place from July 6 to 14.

The Prix des Nations, won last year by the French Army team, is open this year to teams of three, but four horses must enter, as before.

LOCAL.

BERNE.

Dr. Rudolf Wegeli, head of the Historical Museum in Berne has celebrated his 25th Jubilee as Director of this institution.

BASLE.

Dr. A. Brenner (Liberal) since 1919 a member of the cantonal government, and Dr. R. Niederhauser a member for the last 16 years of the cantonal executive have left the government; as reported in a previous number they were defeated at the last elections, their seats having been taken over by two Socialist members.

LUCERNE.

The death is reported from Lucerne of M. Franz Moser, National Councillor at the age of 63. The deceased entered Parliament in 1911, and since 1914 he was a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Lucerne, over which he presided in 1921. M. Moser was a prominent member of the Peasant Party, and occupied many posts with great distinction, such as President of the "Schweizerischen Bauern Verbandes," and the "Verband Landwirtschaftl. Genossenschaften," etc., etc.

The elections in the canton of Lucerne for the cantonal government, and the Grand Council have brought victory to the Catholic-Conservative Party. So far, the strength of the Parties in the Grand Council are as follows: Liberals 56 (58); Catholic-Conservatives 82 (80); Socialists 13 (13); various results are still outstanding. All the five candidates of the Conservative Party for the cantonal government have been elected, viz. Schneiper (26,327); Dr. Egli (26,326); Renggli (26,248); Dr. Wimiker (26,227); Dr. Walther (26,199); a second ballot for the two liberal candidates will have to be taken. Dr. Egli was elected a member of the States Council (Ständerat) in succession to the late M. Sigrist.

ST. GALLEN.

Dr. Jos. Schöbi (Conservative) "Bezirksmann" in Altstätten has been elected a member of the States Council (Ständerat) in succession to Mr. Messmer who recently vacated his seat. M. Löpf-Benz (Liberal) was re-elected for a further term as a member of the same Council.

ZÜRICH.

Pastor Paul Eppler, who was for many years head of the Evangelical seminary in Zurich and since 1922 a preacher at the cathedral in Zurich, has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary. M. Eppler is a *doctor honoris causa* of the University of Basle.

VALAIS.

A large fire which broke out at Orsières has destroyed 20 houses, the damage caused is estimated to exceed 150,000 frs.

Four people were killed, when a lorry left the road near the village of Mase; one of the victims is M. Pannatier, a former President of the community of Vernanège.

VAUD.

M. Charles Haegler, a member of the editorial staff of the "Nouvelliste" has been appointed prefect of the district of St. Maurice. M. Haegler is a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Vaud, and a "juge de paix" of the district of St. Maurice.

GRISONS.

Dr. Gustard Nussberger, for forty years a teacher of Chemistry at the "Bündnerische Kantons Schule" has died in Sent, where he was living in retirement for the last three years, at the age of 71.

THURGAU.

The accounts of the canton of Thurgau for 1934 show a deficit of 230,928 frs.

APPENZELL.

The firm of Zürcher & Cie., Dyers, have closed their works at Speicher and Buhler owing to lack of work, the staff amounting to 160 have been given notice.

FOOTBALL.

12th May, 1935.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Carouge	.....0	Grasshoppers	.....6
Chaux-de-Fonds	.....0	Lugano	.....2
Locarno	.....3	Biel	.....0
Nordstern	.....4	Bern	.....1
Basel	.....3	Servette	.....2
Young Fellows	.....2	Lausanne	.....3
Young Boys	.....2	Concordia	.....0

The season is drawing to a close; Young Boys have saved themselves by their victory over Concordia and at the latter's expense. Carouge and Concordia will play in the First League next season.

And the championship? Still in the balance. Servette played football totally unworthy of a champion team and deservedly lost against Basel. Lausanne on the other hand played a clever and fast game in Zurich and although twice a goal in arrears they ran out winners in the end, thereby displacing Servette at the head of the table, with one point advantage and two more games to go. Is Servette to lose on the post that coveted third successive championship?

Of the other results it is interesting to note that Nordstern dealt most effectively with Bern, just to show their supporters that they are in good form for to-morrow's contest in Lausanne, the Cup final. Will a new name be engraved thereon? Or is Lausanne to corner both cup and championship?

Aarau are definitely champions of group West in the First League and therefore entitled to return to the National League. In group East, St. Gall could only draw with Luzern at home, 2:2, though leading at one time by two clear goals. Luzern have one point advantage and their last fixture is against Brühl at home. Brühl might do St. Gall a neighbourly good turn, anyhow, some will hope so. St. Gall's last match is in Kreuzlingen and I am afraid that game is not won yet either! As for relegation, that issue is settled and F. C. Old Boys and F. C. Bellinzona are the respective victims.

M.G.

Drink delicious "Ovaltine"
at every meal—for Health!