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SWISS PARTY POLITICS. A N.S.H. Causerie.

The Nouvelle Société Helvétique opened its winter programme with a most interesting talk on Swiss party politics, followed by a lively discussion. The speaker was Dr. E. Richner, Editor of the "Neue Zürcher Zeitung" for "Inlandpolitik", Liberal leader in the "Kantonsrat" of Zürich, and formerly President of the Liberal Party of Zürich during several years.

On the strength of his unrivalled experience in the political life of his party and his Canton Dr. Richner was in a position to give a vivid inside account of his subject matter. The most interesting contrast to party life in England is of course provided by the fact that the Swiss citizen has to exercise his judgement and democratic will power not only once every four or five years in a general election, but every few weeks or even more frequently by voting for or against positive questions of communal importance, new laws previously approved by parliament and on initiatives for new legal measures, as well as choosing new occupants of public posts and representatives in the various elective bodies that constitute the machinery of the direct Swiss Democracy.

It was both illuminating and reassuring to hear from Dr. Richner how carefully the work of continuing enlightenment of the elector and voter is carried on in Switzerland by all parties. His account of things stimulated his audience so much that the chairman had to break off the discussion at a late

hour although a number of questioners had not yet exhausted their curiosity. It was particularly attractive to most of those present at this meeting that Swiss German was spoken by the lecturer and throughout the discussion.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

Dr. Robert Lucas, Mrs. E. Crack, A. W. Burkhard, F. Ansermoz, W. Schneeberger, Mrs. J. Müller, V. H. Wildi, J. Brunner, R. Schweizer, J. Grueter, C. Bertschi, Miss M. Kottmann, Mrs. R. Wood, B. Frick, City Watch Case Co. Ltd., C. Genoud, R. W. Debaufre, Swiss Youth Club, E. W. Service, E. Hediger, E. F. Burger, H. Brönnimann, F. J. Meier, Dr. V. Umbricht, A. Wettstein, A. Bleiker, M. A. Mauch-Modica, Mrs. Ellis Daepf, W. de Bourg, A. Faes, Mrs. L. Green, Mrs. L. Moehr, W. Preiswerk, E. Dumastier, Ch. Strubin, Miss E. Zurfluh, J. Keller, J. H. Speich, Swiss Club, Manchester, H. Monney, J. Tache, E. Schmid, H. Braun, F. Schuebeler, G. E. Suter, E. A. Gisiger, Omega Watch Co. Ltd., Miss L. Haelder, Silvios Ltd., J. Sermier, Miss Maud Duff Ingram, Mrs. E. P. Fischer, O. Schneider, W. Allenspach, R. Fairweather, René Marchand, L. Rechenwiler, R. C. Leutwyler, A. Altweg, E. A. Doelly, G. Gysi, Miss M. Gfeller, Th. Erb, P. Moehr, P. Haberstich, Oscar Frey, Mrs. B. Kaluza, J. Wild, Chalet Kaese, Rev. Long, P. Odermatt, A. Schmidt, A. R. Tissot, Miss K. Zemp, J. Billeter, C. Illi, S. Brenni, Sisters of Mercy, Dr. G. G. Kullmann, Miss L. Würth, G. Godet, E. Chatelain, W. Meier, J. B. Brutsch, Gottfried Keller, J. Bachmann, Miss Christinat, R. Weisbrod, Zurrer Silks, L. Bouverat, Consulate of Switzerland, Manchester, Walter Weber, W. B. Sigerist, A. J. Portman, A. Diethelm, F. Haegler, O. Brullhard, Ch. Fruh, M. Hobbs-Jaeger, H. Mock, R. J. Keller, C. Kunzle, W. Flory, Mother Francis Gall, O. Rodel, P. Schnetz, W. Fischer, W. R. Gamper, A. Fink, G. Senn, A. Lob, Mrs. R. Williams, Ch. Fer, J. Scheuermeier, M. Landauer.

(to be continued).

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