

Home news

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Enfin, nous savons tout l'intérêt que M. Paravicini porte à la vie sociale, intellectuelle et sportive des Suisses établis en Angleterre, combien il voue de sollicitude aux institutions charitables existant au sein de la colonie et quelle part il prend à l'activité des Sociétés suisses. Chacun de nos compatriotes sait qu'il trouvera chez le Ministre un accueil courtois et bienveillant. Et puis, il faut le dire aussi ici, dans sa résidence de Bryanston Square, où règne une charmante vie de famille, c'est un défilé continuel d'amis et de connaissances, de compatriotes de passage, de personnalités anglaises en vue, de membres de la colonie, etc. On y a entendu fréquemment des artistes de renom jouer ou chanter. Il y a peu de foyers plus hospitaliers et accueillants. La maison de notre Ministre est en outre ornée avec le meilleur goût et contient maints tableaux, gravures et bibelots qui témoignent du talent de collectionneur de leur propriétaire. Les avis de M. Paravicini comme amateur de livres et d'objets d'art sont d'ailleurs fort recherchés et il passe à Londres pour un connaisseur de mérite. Mme. Paravicini relâsse de sa présence élégante et sympathique les nombreuses manifestations auxquelles elle prend part et tous nos compatriotes sont flattés d'être si bien représentés dans une grande capitale qui se pique d'être encore l'arbitre de la distinction.

En terminant, nous ne saurions omettre de mentionner un des actes les plus importants auxquels notre Ministre a eu à participer au cours de sa carrière: L'établissement de la célèbre Déclaration de Londres, faite à St. James's Palace le 13 février 1920—il y a également dix ans—déclaration qui reconnaît que la neutralité perpétuelle de la Suisse et la garantie de l'inviolabilité de son territoire telles qu'elles sont acquises au droit des gens, sont justifiées par l'intérêt de la paix générale et compatibles avec le pacte de la Société des Nations. Au cours de sa visite de cet hiver, M. le Conseiller Fédéral Motta, adressant à M. le Ministre les chaleureux remerciements du Conseil Fédéral pour la manière efficace dont il remplit sa mission, a souligné l'importance de cette Déclaration, à la négociation de laquelle M. Paravicini a assisté avec MM. Ador et Max Huber, rappelant qu'elle est devenue la base nouvelle de notre neutralité active au sein de la Société des Nations.

Nous souhaitons à M. le Ministre et Madame Paravicini de rester encore de nombreuses années à Londres et nous leur disons, à cette occasion, combien tous les Suisses de Grande-Bretagne apprécient l'atmosphère de sympathie et de considération qu'ils contribuent largement à entretenir dans ce pays à l'égard de notre Patrie.

Dinner to Monsieur Paravicini.

A full report of the speeches delivered in connection with to-night's presentation to Monsieur and Madame Paravicini will appear in our next issue.



HOME NEWS

FEDERAL.

THE WAR TAX.

The extraordinary war tax levied in Switzerland for the purpose of amortising the mobilisation expenses during the Great War was stated to fulfil its object in 1932 when the third taxing period would have terminated. An error of twenty million francs has now been discovered in the figures which were officially compiled in 1923 and the difference will have to be made up by further taxation.

NEW BANKNOTES.

New 20 franc notes showing the image of Heinrich Pestalozzi are being printed and will be put into circulation in August next.

"CLEANER" INSURANCE.

The practice of a few Swiss Life Insurance Offices to hold out specially attractive terms to large concerns whose staff placed their insurances with these particular companies has been declared illegal by a decree of the Federal Council. This step has been taken at the instance of the insurance companies concerned.

FOOTBALL.

The Geneva club "Servette" scored another victory on the ground of the Lugano F.C. which latter was beaten by three goals to one; Servette has therefore secured this year's championship as the final games to be played next Sunday will not affect their present position. In the other

two matches played last Sunday Grasshoppers were successful against Basle by one to nil and the Young Boys at Berne lost to Biel by the only goal scored. The position to-date is: Servette 6, Grasshoppers 3, Biel 3, Lugano 2, Basle 2 and Young Boys 2.

LOCAL.

ZÜRICH.

Colonel Johann Isler died at Klein-Andelfingen aged ninety years. Born at Kaltenbach (Thurgau), he qualified as teacher and Notary Public before he entered the Corps of Instructors of the new Swiss Army. From 1875 until his retirement some years ago, he was Chief Instructor first of the old 7th and then of the former 6th, now 5th, division.

For many years he was Chief Recruiting Officer in Zurich: "der alte Johann" as he was nicknamed by the troops will be remembered by many Zürübeter for his outspoken ways and as a typical officer of his time.

150 girls wearing national costume and coming from the Zürcher Weinland paid a visit to poet Huguenberger at Gerlikon to thank him with words and songs for his active support of the movement to maintain the "Tracht." St. G.T.

Initiated by Horand (Democrat) and supported by others, a proposal to study ways and means of relieving the hardships inflicted on textile workers by the present crisis has been declared urgent by the Zurich Cantonal Council.

St. G.T.

Entering his home at the Kraftstrasse in Zürich, Dr. Siegfried Rhonheimer-Abraham was fatally wounded by three shots into his back. His murderer, Heinrich Bachmann, Director of the Regana Ltd., in Zurich, committed suicide afterwards in a Hotel. It appears that Bachmann and Rhonheimer were, some considerable time ago, opponents in a libel action, Rhonheimer acting as Counsel for the defendants. Bachmann lost his case and since then has uttered threats against Rhonheimer. A few days ago, Bachmann was again before the Court, and the presence in court of Rhonheimer seems to have re-opened old sores. Bachmann was notorious as an unscrupulous business man, offering posts to people who were willing and able to buy an interest in his undertaking.

N.Z.Z.

(Bachmann was black-listed by the S.K.V. as an undesirable employer for the last years.)

A 12-year-old boy was, by order of the Zurich Board of Guardians, placed with a family named Pleitser in Guntalingen. He did not like his new abode and, three hours after his arrival, he set the house on fire.

St. G.T.

BERNE.

A Bernese rural commune has protested against the result of the recent election of the Grand Council. It appears that the Mayor of that commune was under the impression that only citizens could vote, so that 16 residents who are citizens of other Cantons were not allowed to vote.

St. G.T.

LUCERNE.

Going home from school, the 10-year-old daughter of secondary school teacher Dahinden-Schaffhauser in Flühl ran after a ball and fell into the Emme. The river being in flood, the poor child could not be saved.

N.Z.Z.

Farmer Karl Nigg, aged 61 years, of Stockli-Gersau was gored to death by a bull belonging to a neighbour.

N.Z.Z.

URI.

In July, August and September the traditional Tellspiel will again be enacted at Atdorf with new scenery and costumes. The arrangements are in the hands of Kunstmaler August Schmid (Diessenhofen) and Regisseur Eugen Aberer (Zurich). All the actors are residents of Atdorf, so that a uniform interpretation based on the correct local colour is to be expected.

N.Z.Z.

OBWALDEN.

The new Wirtschaftsgesetz, which was accepted by a 200 majority (only about 30 per cent. of the electors went to the poll), shows various improvements on the old regulations, improvements which deserve special mention. The increased licence charges are paid entirely into the school funds of the communes, for the maintenance and further improvement of all matters educational. The closing hour for public houses has been fixed at midnight; but latitude is given to the councils of recognised holiday resorts to grant a prolongation to such licensed premises which are exclusively, or mostly, frequented by foreign visitors. This is in recognition of the fact that the requirements of those guests must be met in a reasonable way.

N.Z.Z.

GLARUS.

Professor of Geology Staub from Zurich and the Communal Council of Linthal have viewed the part of the Kilchenstock from which the landslide caused by the recent heavy rains started. The expert's opinion is, that a further landslide will take place, but that the slate-like nature of

the material will not endanger the village, as the fall will be of sufficient force to break up the stones. It is necessary, however, to increase the watch kept on the spot, and a special telephone line will be laid. To prevent damage in future, a substantial dam will be built along the foot of the Kilchenstock, so that further falls will not reach the village.

N.Z.Z.

SCHAFFHOUSE.

Georg Stamm-Bruckner in Thayngen has given 50,000 Frs. for the creation of a fund, the interests on which are to be used to help necessitous resident citizens of Thayngen from the age of 65 years.

St. G.T.

AARGAU.

The Federal Gymnastic Association resides now in its own home at Aarau in the villa presented to the Association by Rudolf Zurlinden, an 80-year-old manufacturer who lives in retirement at Luzern.

St. G.T.

GRAUBÜNDEN.

The Association "Auslandsschweizer Ferienheim Schloss Rhäzüns" has held its first general meeting on May 17th. Executive Councillor Vieli represented the Canton Graubünden, and Director Bemer attended on behalf of the Rhätische railway. The President of the Association reviewed shortly the history of the home and the result of the first year's existence. The accounts show a small surplus, but the appeal for donations has not brought in sufficient money to meet the capital obligations. At the present a mortgage amounting to 50,000 Frs. weighs rather heavily on the undertaking. Although the management of the home is in the hands of the "Volksdienst," an excellent and highly satisfactory arrangement, the home is a creation of the Auslandsschweizerkommission of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, the secretariat of which society looks after the business side of this ideal holiday home. As its name implies, it has been brought into being as a residence for Swiss living abroad and spending their holidays at home.

N.Z.Z.

VAUD.

The first telephone conversation between Lausanne-Melbourne (about 19,000 km. distance) took place last week. High government officials at both ends exchanged greetings.

T.G.

NEUCHÂTEL.

The "Grand Conseil" of the canton of Neuchâtel discussed at their recent meeting the serious financial position, both of the canton and the Cantonal Bank. Different speakers belonging to various parties severely censured the Management of the Bank. National councillor Graber presented to the Council a motion inviting all electors to vote for the new taxation laws in view of the alarming position of the cantonal treasury.

N.Z.Z.

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