

Athletics of the cat

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de M. Logoz a dépassé tout ce que ses compatriotes attendaient du distingué juriste en fait de solidité dans la documentation, de rigueur dans le raisonnement, de force dans l'argumentation.

On a particulièrement remarqué la partie historique de son exposé, dans laquelle il a réfuté la version affirmant que les zones franches n'auraient été instituées qu'en raison de zones correspondantes de libre-échange. Il a démontré qu'en 1815, les puissances ont voulu donner à la région visée un avantage économique en rapport avec sa situation topographique très spéciale. Un fait patent, c'est que les agriculteurs de la zone, dans la mesure où ils ont pu exprimer librement leur opinion, se sont déclarés partisans du régime des zones franches, qu'ils considéraient comme indispensables à leur subsistance.

Pour la première fois depuis que fonctionne la Cour internationale, des juges ont posé des questions aux parties. C'est d'abord Sir Cecil Hurst, qui a demandé des précisions au sujet de "l'abonnement" (sorte de redevance fixe remplaçant les taxes douanières) pour les habitants de Saint-Gingolph. Plus tard, M. Dreyfus, juge français, a demandé à son tour si, avant le transfert du cordon douanier à la frontière politique, des taxes avaient été perçues par la France et si la Suisse avait élevé à ce propos des protestations.

Au cours de la présente semaine, M. Basdevant aura prononcé sa réplique.

Nous ne pouvons pas prévoir la suite des événements et nous nous interdisions tout pronostic. A la Cour de dire ce qu'elle a à dire. Toutefois nous aimons à croire qu'elle ne se dérobera pas à son devoir strict, qui est de rendre un jugement exécutoire et de ne pas se résigner à la dérobade qu'on lui a suggérée. Le conflit des zones ne doit pas s'éterniser. Il est grand temps que l'on sorte de la période d'incertitude actuelle, si préjudiciable aux intérêts des populations des deux pays, dans la région zoniennne.

Les partisans du principe de l'arbitrage ne peuvent pas nier que ce soit une belle occasion de mettre en pratique des thèses générales, souvent défendues avec une éloquence magnifique. Si un jugement arbitral aboutissant à des résultats pratiques et précis n'était pas possible en l'occurrence, il faudrait conclure que le principe même est inapplicable. Et ce serait un aveu de plus de conséquence qu'on ne peut l'imaginer.

Léon Savary.
(Journal Suisse de Paris).

ATHLETICS OF THE CAT.

To say that the financial state of Europe is in one of its periodical messes is not enough. It has been in a perpetual mess for years. The only distinguishing, as well as disturbing, difference about it is its increasing intensity and danger.

The failure of the Four-Power Conference is one of those events always to be expected where optimism prevails. We are forbidden to describe the results of previous efforts as failures — the correct expression we believe is non-success or "postponement." But whatever may be the euphemistic term applied to them, results, so far, do not suggest an excess of the wisdom or political prevision to which Europe is said to be accustomed.

How ridiculous some of the operations seem! Some of the world's greatest minds are repeatedly set to work on urgent problems of vast and far-reaching importance. They just as repeatedly advise measures and advise them *at once*. The powers or authorities, above or behind them, set to work in their turn, on the proposals: the world looks on expectantly and, despite frequent disappointments, hopefully. Then activities begin. The powers aforesaid agitate themselves in their zeal for counter proposals; tumble over each other in their hurry to impose commitments upon their neighbour, and to give as little and to take as much as possible themselves. And the patient or patients, themselves just as zealous each for self, are gradually slipping down the slopes to insolvency, and cleaving wider still the gaps between safety and disaster. An election here; a new Government there; a democratic quarrel somewhere else; are all sufficient for postponing that which everybody knows, can stand postponement no longer. All want to see how the cat will jump, and all seem to be as timid.

A man or men are wanted, just an inch or two over the heads of the present arbiters of the world's destinies. Last century was prolific in them. Napoleon, Wellington, Palmerston, Cavour, Andrassy, Bismarck, Beaconsfield, among those past and gone, are all names with which it would be difficult to link a corresponding contemporary, not because they made no mistakes — we are working out some of them even now — but because of their length of view, depth of insight and force of character. A mistaken decision, they contended, was better than long drawn out uncertainty. And where they couldn't help it, they acted accordingly. The conditions of the ages in which they lived were, no doubt, less complex. The agencies and areas of influences were smaller and fewer than to-day. But there is this to be said — the emergencies of their periods did

produce what, so far as is admitted at present, the necessities of our present years have not done: namely, men of power, prescience and personality. Those necessities may have outrun Nature's capacity for overtaking them: undoubtedly they have been allowed to become more and more formidable. But it does seem true that had there been the extra inch or two of commanding personality among those to whom the world looks for guidance and essential peace, it would not now still be wondering when and where the next calamity will be. Where shall we look for the Deliverer?

The Budget Exchange.

FOOTBALL (Continued)

FIRST LEAGUE.

Solothurn	3	Stade Lausanne	2
Luzern	0	Lausanne-Sports	3
Monthey	2	Brühl	0
Olten	4	Grenchen	0

Groupe 1 have completed their fixtures with the exception of one match (Cantonal v Solothurn). Lausanne-Sports promoted to National League, Stade Lausanne, Fribourg and Monthey relegated to League II. In the second Groupe, Brühl now lead the table with 22 points, equal with Concordia. The latter have still to visit Brühl who in turn have also to play Wohlen away. Next Sunday the Finals were due to commence, but here too we shall have to wait to see whether Brühl or Concordia are entitled to participate.

M.G.

PERSONAL.

M. M. Paschoud, who left London recently, and has now begun to settle down in Paris, wishes to acquaint his numerous friends of his address there, which is, 15, Rue Monsigny (2e.). He hopes that some of them will find time, when passing through Paris, to look him up at that address, where he is sure to be found every afternoon.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, May 11th, at 8.15 p.m. — Swiss Choral Society — Concert at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, W.6.

Whit-Monday, May 16th, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. — Société Culinare Suisse — Grand Ball — at Union Helvetia, 1, Gerrard Place, W.

Wednesday, May 18th, instead of May 11th, at 8.15 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd. — Monthly Meeting at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square W.6.

Wednesday, May 18th, at 7.45 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting followed by a causerie by M. Röthlisberger, Esq. on "A Swiss Health Resort," at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Saturday, May 28th, at 2.30 p.m. — Swiss Sports — at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

Thursday, June 23rd, from 6 to 10.30 p.m. — Fête Suisse — at Central Hall, Westminster.

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7h. — M. Charles Merle d'Aubigné, de Paris

— Collecte en faveur de la Société Centrale.

8h. — Répétition du Choeur.

Pentecôte, 15 mai — Ste Cène, matin et soir.

Lundi de Pentecôte: Sortie à Oxshott. Rendez-vous: 10.15 a.m., Platform 3 Waterloo.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux instructions religieuses, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann de Vismes, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6. (Téléphone: Archway 1798). — Heure de réception à l'église: Mercredi de 10.30 — 12 h.

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St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2
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Sonntag, den 8. Mai 1932.

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst und Sonntagsschule.

8 Uhr Chorprobe.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst.

Anfragen wegen Religions-bezw. Confirmandenunterricht und Amtshandlungen sind erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde. C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W.4 (Tel: Chiswick 4156).