

# News from the colony

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the note circulation so high in relation to the population as in Switzerland, except in France, and it is possible that this in itself would have an inflationary effect in the event of the abandonment of the gold standard. We must anyhow be prepared for a still greater and more rapid depreciation of our money than the English after the abandonment of the gold standard, and France, Belgium and Holland where the note circulation is also very large in relation to the population are faced with the same fate. In these countries, too, there would be, in all probability, a very great depreciation of the national paper money soon after the abandonment of the gold standard. This would result in a great decrease of the purchasing power of these countries on the world market. The world depression would be accentuated. There would be fresh unrest. Prices would be forced down again on the commodity market, while there would be utter uncertainty on the money and credit market. The uncertainty as to the fate of the currencies and of the prices of goods weighs on the world trade like a mill stone. What is to happen when in the last countries where money could take refuge, monetary safety disappears.

The gold countries can only derive apparent advantage from the abandonment of the gold standard, in view of the fact that they can take part better than before in dumping on the world market. Even now this exchange dumping has become nearly unbearable on the world market and no one who knows the conditions can have any doubt as to the fact that things would be much worse if the gold standard was universally abandoned. Then, all countries can start a fight in the export trade to the last extremity. They can sell lower and lower below their actual costs and saddle the unsuspecting masses of the people at home with the losses of this cut-throat competition. Whether the economic system of the world can recover under such impossible principles, is a matter that can be doubted, in spite of the advice given by the "Economist."

\* Translation of an article in the "Neue Zürcher Zeitung" of the 20th and 21st March, 1935. No's 481, 485 and 488.

NEWS FROM THE COLONY.



J. BILLETER  
President  
City Swiss Club

We have great pleasure in publishing here with the portrait for Mr. J. Billeter, the newly elected President of the City Swiss Club.

Mr. Billeter was born in Mannedorf (Zurich) and left home at an early age.

After having spent 3 years in Geneva, and two years in Florence he came over to this country in 1900, where he has remained ever since, with the exception of two years which he spent in Germany after the war. Mr. Billeter has travelled quite extensively on business, he has been several times to Canada, U.S.A., also to Australia, and three to the Argentine, Brazil, Chili, Peru and Ecuador.

We are wishing him a very pleasant and successful year of office.

CITY SWISS CLUB.  
Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting took place on Tuesday, April 9th, at Paganini's Restaurant; the President, Mr. Henry Senn, being in the Chair.

Over fifty members and guests were present. After the usual toasts had been drunk, the President welcomed Mr. de Bourg, Conseiller de Legation, who, in a short speech, said that the Minister deeply regretted being unable to be present. Mr. de Bourg also referred to Colonel Obrecht, who has recently been elected Conseiller Fédéral.

Mr. Suter proposed that a telegram congratulating Colonel Obrecht should be sent to him, on behalf of the Members of the City Swiss Club.

The President also welcomed Pastor Hoffmann-de Visme, who is an Honorary Member of the Club, and congratulated Mr. Pfendler who that evening had reached the 25th anniversary of his election as an Active Member of the Club. The President then declared the Meeting formally open.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and approved, three new members were elec-

ted. There were no resignations.

Donations were voted to the Fonds de Secours, and to the French and German Hospitals.

The Auditors then presented their report which was accepted unanimously.

The President read his Report which was received with acclamations.

The election of the Committee for 1935-1936 then took place and in the absence of Mr. Boehringer, on account of illness, Mr. Pfendler took the Chair during the election.

After the votes had been counted Mr. Pfendler announced that the following members had been unanimously elected.

- President: J. Billeter.
- Vice-President: G. Marchand.
- Treasurer: R. de Cintra.
- Vice-Treasurer: W. Deutsch.
- Secretary: R. Ryl.
- Vice-Secretary: R. Kaiser.
- Librarian: A. Stauffer.
- Auditors: G. Jenne and H. Pfürter.

The Trustees and the Press Reporter were re-elected as before.

Mr. J. Billeter was then installed as President for the coming Session amid great applause.

The arrangements for the Summer Meetings were left to the discretion of the Committee.

The meeting was closed at 10.45 p.m. *etc.*

SWISS GYMNASTIC SOCIETY LONDON.

The Annual General Meeting of the society took place on Wednesday, April 10th, 1935, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1, after the usual gymnastic practice. As customary a satisfactory state of affairs and the sound position of the Society were revealed both by the Chairman's Report on the year's activities as well as by the Hon. Treasurer's balance sheet, the latter showing that the society, the same as in former years, has paid its way with a small balance on the right side, to be carried forward to new account.

The Officials and Committee for 1935 are as follows:— President, J. Christen; Leader, H. Knoll; Vice-Presidents, G. Kummier and A. Isenschmidt; Vice-Leader, C. L. Schlaeppli; Hon. Secretary, C. Ferrari, 57, Whitfield Street, W.1; Hon. Treasurer, C. L. Schlaeppli, 64, Thurlow Park Road, Dulwich, S.E.21; Guards of Implements, A. Deubelbeiss and W. Sterki. The Swiss Minister, Mr. C. R. Paravicini and Mr. W. De Bourg, Conseiller de Legation, were with acclamation re-elected Président d'Honneur and Vice-Président d'Honneur respectively. After 19 years continued service as active member of the Society, Mr. C. L. Schlaeppli has been elected an Honorary Member of the Society in succession to the late Mr. C. H. Senn, and well deserves the honour for his unobtrusive and efficient work during many years, as Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Vice-Leader, Vorturner, etc.

It was decided after some discussion to commence training forthwith for the next Swiss Gymnastic Festival in Winterthur, July 1936, but to leave a decision as to whether participation is possible and advisable to the next Annual General Meeting at the beginning of next year. — It was further decided to give the Ladies Section — in response to numerous applications from Ladies — a further trial and to revive it forthwith. Training evening-Friday, 7.30 p.m. at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1. Will applicants kindly send their names and addresses to Miss H. Deloff, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

The Veterans Section will also be revived and persevered with. Gentlemen wishing to join are invited to please send their applications to Mr. A. Isenschmidt, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1. *X.Y.Z.*

SWISS SALVATION ARMY BAND'S VISIT TO LONDON.

We are pleased to inform our readers, that the Salvation Army Zurich Band is coming on a visit to this country.

The Zurich Band of thirty-eight members, together with a female sextet in national costume, will be at Clapton Congress Hall, on Saturday and Sunday, April 27th and 28th; Chalk Farm, on Monday, 29th; Norland Castle, on Tuesday, 30th; Salisbury, on Wednesday, May 1st; Southampton, on Thursday, 2nd; Portsmouth, on Friday, 3rd; and Brighton 1, Saturday and Sunday, 4th and 5th.

The Festival at the Citadel, Chalk Farm Road, will be under the Chairmanship of Mr. A. Brauen, he will be supported by Monsieur de Bourg, Counsellor of Legation and other members of the Swiss Colony. We hope that a good many of our readers will attend the concert of our compatriots from Zurich.

There will be yodelling too, as well as "Alphornblasen," the band is conducted by bandmaster H. Hollenweger. (Price of Tickets 1/- and 6d.).

SKATING.

At the World pair-skating championships for professionals which were competed for at the beginning of this week in Manchester, the Swiss skater Miss Frieda Meerkämper of Davos with her partner Mr. Mikeler of Vienna, both attached to the skating rink Streatham, were placed second in competition with the elite of professional skaters. Miss Meerkämper, who is well-known to many of her compatriots in London through the exhibitions which she gave during the recent ice-hockey matches, is one of the leading pair-skaters in Europe, and with Mr. Mikeler was placed in the same position at last year's championships. We extend our heartiest congratulations, coupled with our best wishes for the future, to both.

T.A.

MITTELHÖLZER LECTURE.

A full report of the very successful lecture of Mr. Mittelholzer on the 15th inst. will appear in our next issue.

NEW HONOURS FOR SWISS.

Sir Arnold Theiler, our famous countryman, who has collected most of the academic and scientific honours which could be bestowed upon him, by America, France, Great Britain, Belgium, Switzerland and various other countries, has received the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science, by the University of the Witwatersrand. (S. Africa).

DIE AUSLANDSCHWEIZER IN GEFAHR.  
Ihre Probleme — unsere Aufgaben.

Von Gerhart Schürch.  
("Bund" 3. Febr. 1935).

Dreihundertdreissigtausend Schweizer leben heute im Ausland. Dreihundertdreissigtausend Inhaber des Schweizerbürgerrechts und eines Schweizerpasses. Manch ein anderer Schweizer mag ausserdem noch in diesem und jenem Erdwinkel sich der konsularischen Inmatrikulation, der Militärsteuer und der statistischen Erfassung absichtlich oder aus Nachlässigkeit entziehen. Und viele Frauen, die durch Heirat mit einem Ausländer ihr altes Bürgerrecht verloren haben, sind ihrer Heimat im Herzen so treu geblieben wie irgend einer. — Heute lebt der zehnte Teil aller Schweizer im Auslande!

Es gibt wenige Völker der Erde, die zu einem so hohen Prozentsatz wie das Schweizervolk auf fremdem Staatsgebiet wohnen. Mehr als die Bevölkerung des ganzen Kantons Waadt! Die Hälfte aller Einwohner des Kantons Bern! Und doch steht das Interesse des Inlandschweizer an seinen Mitbürgern in der Fremde in keinem Verhältnis zur Bedeutung des Auslandschweizeriums. Da haben schon die Italiener kommen müssen mit ihrer intensiven Fürsorge für die Angehörigen in andern Ländern und die Deutschen mit ihrer politischen, volks- und rassenkundlichen Propagierung des "Deutschtums jenseits der Reichsgrenzen," bis auch bei uns sich weitere Kreise daran erinnern, dass für das Schweizertum im Auslande mehr getan werden sollte.

Die hohe Zahl macht die Auslandschweizerfrage heute nicht dringender als bisher; denn diese Zahl war in früheren Jahren noch höher. Es ist die besonders schwierige Lage, materiell und geistig, in der sich die Auslandschweizer heute befinden, was auffordern macht, Schweizer, passt auf: das Auslandschweizerium ist in Gefahr!

Es ist in Gefahr, im Drange

Nationalistischer Ströme des Wohnsitzvolkes zu vergessen, dass das Schweizertum nicht auf Rasse, Blut und Boden beruht, sondern auf der politischen Idee unserer Eidgenossenschaft, und dass es nur mit den Waffen des Geistes verteidigt werden kann. Es ist in Gefahr, die Grundgedanken unserer eidgenössischen Existenz aus den Augen zu verlieren: Und es ist deswegen in Gefahr, sich selbst zu verlieren in der völkischen Aufwallung eines kulturell und sprachlich verwandten Auslandes. Wir im Landwohnenden Schweizer haben gegen alle Annäherungen von draussen den Schutz unserer politischen Grenze; der Auslandschweizer aber, der im nationalistic erregten Ausland selber lebt, hat ihn nicht; seine tägliche Sorge ist das Standhalten unter den Hammerschlägen einer anti-demokratischen und rassenbedingten staatlichen Propaganda.

Der heimattreue Auslandschweizer ist aber in Gefahr, auch seine wirtschaftliche Existenz zu verlieren. Viele Auslandschweizer wollen heute zurückwandern. Viele fordern Unterstützung; Viele erliegen einer Uebermacht und verzichten auf ihr Schweizertum. Man merkt davon etwas im Schweizervolk. Man muss noch mehr merken. Wir dürfen keine Gelegenheit verpassen, jeden der uns zuhören oder lesen will; darauf aufmerksam zu machen, dass die Auslandschweizerfrage als Problem von höchster staatspolitischer Bedeutung des gemeineidgenössischen Interesses