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HOME NEWS

two Houses of the Swiss Parliament as-The two houses of the Swiss Farihament as-sembled last Monday for the 28th legislative period. The present is a short session, terminating on Dec. 23rd. Both Houses promoted their former Vice-president to the chair of President : the National Council is now presided over by Dr. H. Walther (Lucerne) and the States Council by Dr. Wettstein (Libera) Zwighy (Liberal, Zurich).

The voting on the "Kursaal" initiative (which The voting on the "Kursal" initiative (which demands a modification in our Constitution with a view of allowing in a restricted form the fashionable hazard games at hotels and casinos) took place over the last week-end and resulted in a small majority of about 20,000 in favour of the re-introduction. The figures for and against recorded in the different cantons are given in the following list, those of the $7\frac{1}{2}$ rejecting cantons being printed in italies :

alles					
	Cant	on	Yes	No	
	Zurich		 51790	48020	
	Berne		 44873	33085	
	Lucerne		 16750	1922	
	Uri		 1690	602	
	Schwyz	· · · ·	 3355	1443	
	Obwalden		 1250	370	
	Nidwalden		 1063	249	
	Glarus		 2304	2917	
	Zug		 2276	476	
	Freiburg		 4558	8767	
	Solothurn		 10594	4090	
/	Basel-Stadt		 5968	7268	
	Baselland	11111	 6229	6634 -	
	Schaffhausen	·	 5019	4933	
	Appenzell A	1Rh.	 3475	4810	
	Appenzell I	Rh.	 1060	571	1
	St. Gall		 22183	28037	
	Graubünden		 8173	6531	
	Aargau		 26481	25494	
	Thurgau		 11992	12249	
	Tessin		 8673	2532	
	Vaud	·	 30946	44153	
	Valais		 9882	5860	-
	Neuchâtel		 3174	10998	
	Geneva		 8412	8292	
	Total		 291495	270286	

... 291495 270286 Total 291495 270286 Generally speaking, the proposal has not evoked very great interest, only about 52% of the electors recording their opinion. Geneva, perhaps, was in the forefront of the controversy where the leading Press staunchly insisted on a rejection, but the city of Calvin prefers the gaming tables, though the majority is only about 800 against about 4,000 in 1920. A surprise is afforded by the result in the canton Vaud, which turned a complete volte face; in 1920 a majority of 4,000 voted for the gaming canton Vaud, which turned a complete *volte /ace*; in 1920 a majority of 4,000 voted for the gaming tables, now a majority of 13,000 has turned them down. Though the churches—especially the Pro-testant—used their influence against the proposal there is little evidence that the people have fol-lowed their advice. Neuchâtel, the two Basles, St. Gall, Thurgau and Glaris have rejected but the Catholic inner cantons, which, after all, are scarcely affected one way or the other, have expressed a decided liking for gambling. Lucerne, Grisons, Berne and Zurich, which, apart from Geneva and Vaud, derive considerable benefit from the re-introduction of the gaming tables, have all accepted.

In the elections for the Grosse Stadtrat in Bienne, which consists of no less than 60 coun-cillors, the Socialists captured three further seats at the expense of the Liberals and have thus increased their strength from 31 to 34.

lawsuit for defamation of character arising out of the Press campaign during the recent general election was decided against the plaintiff, the Radical National Councillor Zgraggen, who sued his political opponent, the National Councillor Schneider, and the *Arbeiterseitung*, edited by the latter, for damages.

It has now been definitely decided that the next Council meeting of the League of Nations—a week hence—will take place at Lugano. Climatic conditions at Geneva during the winter months would, it is stated, make the attendance of Sir Austen Chamberlain doubtful; the same consider-ation applies to the French and German delegates.

Slight landslides and cracks in the formation of the western slope of the Kilchenstock, in the Linthal (Glaris) district having become apparent, an official observation service has been instituted; it is stated, however, that the village is in no danger at present.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

A very instructive survey dealing with the characteristics and development of the principal banking institutions in Switzerland is published in The Statist (Nov. 17th). We reproduce that part dealing with the

Swiss National Bank

It will be gathered that in the 20 years of its activity it has returned in dividends to the shareholders practically the whole of the paid-up capital of 25 million francs, whilst the Confederation and cantons have received about 80 million francs in surplus profits.

auplus profits. This institution, which functions as the cen-tral bank in Switzerland, was organised under Federal Law on October 6th, 1905, and com-menced operations on June 20th, 1907. It has a monopoly of the note issue in Switzerland, its notes carrying full legal tender. This privilege, at present, extends until June 20, 1937, under Federal Law of June 19th, 1925. The legal me-tallic cover against the note issue at present con-sists of legal tender coin, gold bullion, foreign gold coin and silver crowns (5-franc pieces with full legal tender) of the other countries in the now defunct Latin Monetary Union. These latter are taken in at their bullion value. At present the Bank pays out Swiss gold coin on demand, though it is not legally obliged to do so. In ad-dition to managing the currency, the Bank regu-lates the money and Exchange markets and exerts, together with the Finance Ministry, a certain sur-veillance on the export of capital. The success attained in the performance of these duties is conspicuously attested by the rapidity with which the Swiss Currency was brought back to gold parity in the midst of the violent currency in-flation of the post-war period on the Continent. The Swiss Federal Council appoints the Presi-dent and Vice-President of the Bank and ap-points, in all, 25 out of the 40 members of the Conscil de banque, the remaining 15 members This institution, which functions as the cendent and Vice-President of the Bank and ap-points, in all, 25 out of the 40 members of the Conseil de banque, the remaining 15 members being elected by the shareholders. In recent years the Bank has had much diffi-

culty in connection with the gravitation to Swit-zerland, during the post-war years of inflation, of the silver crown pieces minted by the countries of the Latin Monetary Union—France, Italy, Belgium and Greece, besides Switzerland. (The Latin Monetary Union, which was formed in 1865, was denounced by Belgium in 1925 and finally dissolved in 1926.) Under this monetary convention the silver 5-franc coins, carrying full legal tender, of the different nationalities, were given reciprocal legal tender, but the Swiss Gov-ernment, owing to the depreciation of the currencies of other countries in the Union, had to de-clare their crown pieces to be non-legal tender in Switzerland. At the same time, the Banque Nationale Suisse was forbidden to hold such pieces as cover for the note issue except at the market value of their silver content, the margin between the nominal and the market value of the coins to constitute a credit for the State. The permission to hold these coins as cover for the note issue was to expire at the end of 1923, but under a convention signed in Paris on December under a convention signed in Paris on December 9, 1921, France, Italy and Belgium undertook to repatriate their crowns over a period of five years, commencing with January 15, 1927, sub-ject to deduction of an amount of Frs.59,400,000, which is to be reminted into Swiss coins. On representations by the Banque Nationale Suisse the Swiss Federal Council then modified its previous decrees in order to extend the permission previously accorded to the institution to hold foreign crowns, valuéd at their silver content, be-yond the end of 1923, the portion of such cover, however, not to exceed a fifth of the total metal-lic reserve. The law of September 27, 1923 (under which the above ruling was made), also lic reserve. The law of September 27, 1923 (under which the above ruling was made), also allowed the Bank to hold Swiss crowns in the metallic reserve at their nominal value instead of at their silver content. A new convention between the Confederation and the Bank was ratified by the Federal Council on November 23, 1923, under which the Confederation en-gaged to take from the Bank to January 1, 1924, foreign 5-franc pieces at their nominal value up to a maximum of Frs. 59,400,000 (the amount which is to be transformed juito Swiss coins). As which is to be transformed into Swiss coins). 45

in the previous convention also, the Confeder-ation bound itself to hand over to the Bank non-interest bearing Treasury bonds for the balance of the foreign crowns remaining in its hands' (Frs. 156,600,000) in so far as these cannot be included as cover for the note issue—*i.e.*, at that time to the amount of Frs. 78,000,000, or 50 per cent. According as the foreign States rematriate time to the amount of Frs. 78,000,000, or 50 per cent. According as the foreign States repatriate their crowns the Confederation is to hand over to the Bank the value received from them in ex-change therefor. The amount of the non-interest bonds held in the portfolio of the National Bank on December 31st last was Frs. 71,706,000. In addition to the silver crowns, the gold coins of the former Latin Union countries here

coins of the former Latin Union countries have been introduced into Switzerland in large quan-tities. This movement has been an unwelcome one for the Bank, as the coins were more or less worn. The coins could not be re-exported to the countries where they were minted, since it was the depreciation of the currencies concerned that had led to the export of the gold coins to Switzerland. The coins could not, on the other hand, be reissued in Switzerland, and the Nahand, be reissued in Switzerland, and the Na-tional Bank was, therefore, called upon to bear the cost of the loss in weight of the foreign coins, plus the cost of reminting the gold, if Swiss coins were desired by the tenderers of foreign coins. In February, 1927, foreign gold coins of the Latin Union were deprived of their legal tender attribute, and in consequence Frs. 111-3 million were brought to the National Bank. The public was given from February 8 to the end of March in order to exchange these coins at par; there-after holders of foreign gold coins were only in order to exchange these coins at par; there-after holders of foreign gold coins were only given 99 per cent. of the nominal value of their holdings. Of the total of Frs. 111·3 million brought to the Bank, Frs. 53 million was credited to the accounts of the holders, Frs. 26-5 million was exchanged for Bank notes, and as regards the remaining Frs. 31-8 million the holders de-manded Swiss gold coins. The loss sustained by the Bank in respect of short weight and remint-ing amounted to Frs. 438,000. while the Govern-ment shouldered a loss of Frs. 670,000. At the date of the latest report the Bank was

At the date of the latest report the Bank was operating through the chief offices at Berne and Zurich, 7 branches and 15 agencies. The Bank does not discount bills or accept drafts unless does not discount bins or accept drafts inness payable at *places bancables* or *places auxiliaires*. There are 310 points in Switzerland appointed *places bancables* and 158 *places auxiliaires*. At the *places bancables* the Bank is represented by a branch, an agency (which is conducted by another bank) or by a correspondent.

a branch, an agency (which is conducted by an-other bank) or by a correspondent. The paid-up capital of the Bank is Frs. 25,000,000 and the reserve funds amount to Frs. 8,441,000. The capital is held by approximately 9,000 shareholders. The net profits are divisible as follows: (1) in adding to the reserve funds an amount not less than 10 per cent. of the net profit in each year and not exceeding 2 per cent. on paid-up capital; (2) in paying a dividend of 5 per cent. on the paid-up capital; (3) of the balance remaining, if any, 10 per cent. may be used in payment of an additional dividend not exceeding I per cent, and the remainder is to be handed over to the Federal Treasury for distri-bution between the Confederation and the Can-tons. Since 1921 inclusive the maximum divi-dend of 6 per cent. has been paid in each year. The net profit last year was Frs. 6,753,000, an increase of Frs. 5,000 on the preceding year. A total of Frs. 500,000 was added to reserve, as in each of the preceding eleven years, and Frs. 4,753,000 was paid to the Federal Treasury. Since the Bank commenced business in 1907 it has paid a total of Frs. 24,300,000 in dividends, and about Frs. 82 million to the Federal Trea-sury. The proportion of the metallic cover has

The proportion of the metallic cover has The proportion of the metallic cover has always been a high one, having varied between an annual average of 57 per cent. (1919) and 78:71 per cent. (1922). Last year's average was 65:06 per cent., following 66:96 per cent. in 1926. The Bank's official discount rate has never been higher than 6 per cent, which was only in operation during the crisis of 1914, for 38 days, Since October 22, 1925, it has been fixed at $3\frac{1}{2}$

per cent. Last year the Banque Nationale Suisse participated with other central banks in the openof credits in connection with the stabilisation of the Polish zloty and of the Italian lira. In

bit the roltsh zloty and of the frama first. In the case of the latter, the Bank was entrusted with the function of agent. During 1927 the Bank was able to maintain its official discount rate at the comparatively low figure of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.—a feat that brought a con-siderable volume of new international financing

business to Switzerland, but not achieved without business to Switzerland, but not achieved without some difficulty. During the first few months of the year, the Swiss franc weakened to a dis-count of about 3 per mille in relation to the dollar, and for some months the Banque Na-tionale was called upon to give periodical sup-port to its currency on the foreign Exchange market, in order to maintain its value above gold export point. Later in the year the pressure eased with the artificially cheap credit conditions that were then created in the United States.

Swiss Artists

It is always pleasant to note the success of Swiss artists carving their careers in foreign coun-tries. In this connection we quote from a recent issue of the *Surrey Comet* :—

see of the Surrey Comet :--"Mme Sophie Wyss has developed in breadth of tone, and her exceptional capacity for lieder singing was shown in a group of five of Schu-bert's songs, which were chosen to illustrate his varying moods from the romantic to the dra-matic. Her full-toned soprano is of most pleas-ing quality was perhaps most admired in the sadly romantic "Nachtstück" and "Gretchen," with the more joyous "Die Võgel," but the entire group was marked by musical feeling, pathos and dramatic passion having their place in the much applauded selection. Of different texture, but receiving equally fresh artistic treatment, were three songs by Faure and three by Debussy, examples of the French impressionist school. Mme Wyss was cordially recalled and contributed another French song. Miss Gertrude Rubenstein was a sympathetic accompanist."

another French song. Miss Gertrude Kubenstein was a sympathetic accompanist." The report concerns a Concert given by the Surbiton and Kingston Music Club at which Mme Wyss was assisted by Miss May Muckle, the 'cellist. Three days later our compatriot was to be heard at a Concert given by the Thames Valley Orchestra. This consists of fifty musicians, and is certainly the best of its kind between London and Bournemouth. The Director of the orchestra is mr, F. W. de Massi-Hardman, who is himself a composer of several large orchestral symphonies. A great emotional climax was reached at the Concert. The overture to "Die Zauberflöte" prepared the way with its atmosphere of expectancy and re-straint. There followed the Air from Weber's "Der Freischütz," whose haunting melodies reflect so many changing emotions from fear to exultation, served so well by the clear timbre of the singer, and the whole effect was capped by a magnificent rendering of that courageous masterpiece, the Pre-lude to Act III of Lohengrin. The enthusiasm which marked this accomplishment was quite un-usual. usual.

Miss Wyss has been engaged to sing the so-prano part of "The Messiah" by the Leicester Philharmonic, a choir of 400 voices, under the direction of Sir Henry Wood, at Leicester on December 14th.

The International Hockey Match

The international Hockey Match. The match played in London on Saturday, Nov. 24th, resulted in the defeat of the Swiss team by three to two goals. We reproduce the report published in *The Field* (Nov. 29th). The Swiss side was composed as follows : A. Martignoni goal), M. Andreossi (captain), G. Penchi, O. Schmidt (defences), T. Andreossi, R. Breiter, R. Torriani, C. Torriani (forwards).

"Torriani (forwards). "Torriani (forwards). "The first of the international matches planned for this season took place at the Ice Club on Saturday evening, between a team sent over by the St. Moritz Ice Hockey Club and a British Ice Hockey Association side. The match was chiefly notable for the evenness of the play, the skill shown by both goalkeepers, and the com-bination of the Swiss team. The visitors showed more organised team work than the English side. They failed to reap the reward for it partly oc-cause they lacked the dash of the home team in driving home their attacks, and partly because of the resourcefulness of the English defeace. Developed on more individualistic lines, the English attacks were characterised by both speed and enterprise. It was by a very clever piece of manoeuvring that Cuthbert scored the only goal of the first period. He beat three opponents in the the terms of the terms of the speed and statement of the terms of the speed and the speed. manoeuvring that Cuthbert scored the only goal of the first period. He beat three opponents in the coolest way. In the second period Home increased England's lead with a fine cross shot: but soon afterwards Andreoss is cored for Switzer-land from a mêlée in front of goal. In the third period Wylde made an ingenious cut through and gave Cuthbert a pass from which he scored. Just before the final gong sounded C. Torriani rushed through and scored for Switzerland. "

Doctors in Switzerland.

The medical profession in our country seems to share the prosperity which, with the exception of agriculture, is now evident throughout Switzerland; the number of qualified doctors has increased by nearly 40% in the short time of two years. This is what the British Medical Journal (Nov. 17th) re-ports :--ports

The increase in the number of medical practitioners in Switzerland in 1928 was 39 per cent, over that in 1926, while the increase in the number of inhabitants was only 6 per cent., so that there was 1 doctor to every 1,238 inhabi-tants. In Austria where, as in this country, there



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expédiés partout Prix raisonnables. attentionné. Service

is a considerable excess of medical practitioners. Is a considerable excess of increate practicules, there is 1 doctor to every 966 inhabitants. In Germany the proportion is 1 to 1,500, in Holland 1 to 1,550, in France 1 to 1,600, in Denmark 1 to 1,629, and in Spain 1 to 1,222."

Aufmerksame Bedienung, Mässige Preise,

The Latest Word in Food.

There is, of course, no connection between the above and the next two cuttings which have come our way. The first is taken from the *Bel/ast* come our way. The first is News Letter (Nov. 17th) :--

"A breakfast dish known as Bircher-Mussli, popularised by Dr. Bircher-Benner, is now widely used in the dietetic hotels and restaurants of Switzerland, Here is a recipe for "Mussli" sufficient for four people:-

Threequarters of a teacupful of rolled oats, soaked overnight, the cup being filled up with water; four medium-sized apples, the grated rind of one lemon and half the juice, one dessert sponful of thick cream (or condensed milk), and grated nuts.

nuts. Grate the whole of the apples, leaving out only stalks and pips. Add the lemon juice and grated rind. Pour off any superfluous water, and add the soaked rolled oats. Lastly, add the sugar and cream, and mix all well together. Grated nuts may be sprinkled over it if wanted—or may be taken with it at table. This may be made with banance or other

This may be made with bananas or other fruit in place of apples."

We have not yet imparted this discovery to the domestic spirit who so efficiently administers to our breakfast table; some other readers not subject to a punctual arrival at their office may possibly be tempted to risk the experiment. The second glean-ing refers to what is denominated a "shocking diet" but it is reassuring to learn that this is being tried out at a sanatorium. This diet, which is described as follows in the Daily News (Nov. 22nd) is, we believe, not copyrighted and may recommend itself as a novelty to the organisers of the banquets and balls during the coming festive season: season:

"I have just heard of a sanatorium in which "I have just heard of a sanatorium in which a Swiss doctor effects wonderful cures by a diet which he calls "Shocks to the Digestive Sys-tem." Dyspeptics, he claims, associate their malady with certain combinations of foods. Do away with these combinations and you abolish the malady. This does not merely mean serving mint sauce with roast beef or stuffing a chicken with sage and onion. Dr. Blank would be more likely to offer you mint sauce with chocolate éclairs or sage and onion stuffing with treacle tart

tart. Lady (Hermione) Mallison, who has just completed a six wecks' régime under Dr. Blank's direction is most entiusiastic. Every meal, she tells me, was a constant succession of surprises. I heard of pickled onions as an accompaniment to meringues. Incidentally, I may mention that onions and garlic appear in most of Dr. Blank's menus, as he holds the belief that in the onion is the hope of universal brotherhood. If all men will eat onions at all times, they will come into a universal sympathy. universal sympathy.

Tea is quite a different beverage, Lady Hermione asserts, when drunk with slices of onion floating in it. It is always served in this way now in her drawing-room. Monotony is avoided at breakfast by plum cake, accom-panied by shrimps with chocolate sauce. Coffee is always well salted, but cabbage water is recom-mended."

ON VA JOUER DANS LES KURSAALS SUISSES.

Dimanche dernier, le peuple suisse été appelé à se prononcer sur l'initiative des jeux de hasard. Cette campagne, si elle n'a pas fait parler beaucoup d'elle, n'en a pas moins remué profondément les diverses couches de notre population. Car le debai, quittant délibérement le terrain politique, abordai: --reconnaissons-le franchement--une question de principe.

L'habileté de ceux qui par tous les moyens ont réussi a réintroduire un article constitutionnel déjà condamné, fut grande. Ils ont spéculé sur des

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RESTAURANT

CITY SWISS CLUB. CINDERELLA DANCE -HOTEL METROPOLE, NORTHUMBERLAND AVE., .

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Members of the Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMEN'IS

Not exceeding 3 lines -- Per insertion. 2/6: three insertions 5/ Postage extra on replies addressed *clo Suriss Observer* INTELLIGENT BOY wanted for Composing Room

one showing promise would be trained as Compositor. —Apply F.P.C., 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

arguments multiples dont les deux principaux sont suivants

Ils ont montré que les conditions de la loi actuelle étaient des entraves à la liberté individu-elle et des mésures restrictives du droit personnel. Ils ont su jouer habilement de la corde de la "liberté" et se sont écriés jovialement : "Loin des Gessler et autres tyrans !" Gessler et autres tyrans f

C'est en Suisse romande, à Genève surtout, si frondeuse et si craintive des emprises contralisa-trices, que cet argument a joué. Je connais nombre d'amis, parmi lesquels des intellectuels, qui se sont refusés à entamer la moindre discussion à ce sujet et on voté "oui" pour les maisons de jeux simplement pour affirmer leur droit de faire ce que bon leur semble. Ce ne seront malheureusement—ou heureusement—pas eux qui dilapideront leur fortune à la roulette.

La seconde tentation était de considérer l'initiative comme seule susceptible d'assurer dans nos grandes stations internationales le maintien des kurgrandes stations internationales le maintien des kur-saals et le développement du tourisme. Là encore on a hardiment spéculé. On a montré Interlaken comme un endroit désert et prêt à la faillite, Lu-cerne comme acculée aux bords de l'abime ! On a prétendu que les étrangers déserteraient la Suisse ...parce qu'il n'y pouvaient plus perdre leur for-tume. Tous ceux qu' de prês ou de loin-et ils sont plus nombreux qu'on ne se l'imagine-ont quelque choca à faira auxe cas contexe laur industrifé leur plus nombreux qu'on ne se l'imagine—ont quelque chose à faire avec ces centres, leurs industriés, leur développement: tous ceux enfin—et ceux là sont in-nombrables—qui vivent plus ou moins des miettes qui tombent des tables de jeux ont fait bloc autour de l'initiative. N'étaient-ils pas d'ailleurs en bonne compagnie puisque les Chambres fédérales elles-mêmes s'étaient prononcées en faveur du projet.

memes s'étaient prononcées en faveur du projet. De l'autre coté de la barricade, il y avait ceux qui placent au dessus d'un gain temporaire une idée saine et vraie. C'est l'Eglise, quelle que soit sa confession, et le Foyer autour de mère et de l'épouse qui se sont élevés véhementement contre le projet, groupant autour d'eux tous ceux qui ré-fléchissent impartialement.

The profet, groupant alument, a consistent of the total sector of the profet of the pour la première fois en 1911 et avions affrontée pour la première fois en 1911 et avions cet autors la connaissons. Nous l'avions reprise en 1920 et ce fut alors le triomphe de l'idée saine. Nous venons de la perdre à nouveau en cette fin 1928 mais nous n'en sommes pas pour cela découragés. Que ceux qui ces jours se gaussent et se préparent aux larges prébendes, sachent bien que nous ne désarmerons pas et de nouveau. Une Idée Juste ne peut disparaître. C'est un des impondérables de l'Histoire. D'ailleurs la bataille fut douteuse jusqu'au bout. Si ceux qui veulent dilapider leur fortune et celle d'autrui sont vainqueurs, ils ne le sont que sur une mince proportion. Sur plus de 500,000 votants, ils obtiennent à peine 20,000 voix de majorité sur lesquelles Lucerne à elle seule leur assure plus de la moitié de ce chiffre.

Splendidement, la Suisse romande a fait bloc contre l'initiative. Vaud donne 14,000 voix majori-taires de "non" énergiques; Neuchâtel 7,000, Fri-bourg 4,000, et Genève, cette terrible Genève où bourg 4,000, et Genève, cette terrible Genève ou déjà se prépare le rétablissement des tables de jeu, si elle répond "oui,"—à notre grande honte,-me donne, après les derniers travaux de récapitulation, qui ont dévoilé de graves erreurs, que 113 voix de majorité à 8,412 "oui" contre 3,293 "non."

Le Valais fut une autre déception et Zurich Le Valais fut une autre deception et Zurfen une troisième mais Bâle, Glaris, Argovie et Thur-govie sont de réconfortants exemples. Que penser cependant des votes de Schwyz qui montrent une majorité acceptante de 2,000 vois, d'Obwald, qui en indiquent 900, Nidwald 900, et Uri 500? Où land donc les fiers principes d'antan et que penserait lans son ermitage Nicolas de Flue devant_sem-Erik. blables résultats ?

UNION HELVETIA.

The 33rd Annual Banquet and Ball of the Union Helvetia was held on Tuesday last, the 27th November, 1928, in the large hall of the Club House, under the customary pleasant and jolly con-ditions. Punctually at 9.30 p.m. over 180 members ditions. attons, Functually at 9.30 p.m. over 180 members and friends sat down to dinner, excellently served by the Steward, Mr. Charlie Rossier and his good lady, to whom hearty congratulations are due for their "artisteric culinaire." Monsieur C. R. Para-vicini, the Swiss Minister, was unfortunately pre-vented from occupying the Chair by another en-gagement, and Monsieur W. De Bourg, First Secre-tary of Legation, deputised.

After the repast, accompanied by the high spirits of everybody, the Chairman, Mr. W. De Bourg proposed the Toast to His Majesty the King, coupled with the sincere wishes of the company for His Majesty's complete and speedy recovery, and then to Switzerland, which met with the usual hearty response

Mr. A. Indermaur, the President of the Terri-Mr. A. Indermaur, the President of the Terri-torial Administration for the U.K., then gave his Presidential address in the shape of the Toast to the Union Helvetia in roughly the following words: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I welcome you all most heartily on behalf of the Union Helvetia and would like to give you a few

details of the activities of our Society. details of the activities of our Society. The Union Helvetia was founded in England in 1885 by our Honörary Member, Mr. Charles Hermann Senn, who is to-day the Honorary Director of the Food and Cookery Association, and who can rightly be described as the king of Swiss cooks. One year later, in 1886, the Union Helvetia amalgamated with the Winkelried Society, as it was then called, and the result is the Union Hel-vetia Convention with its General Administration in Lucerne, and with branches in France, Italy, Germany, Austria, U.S.A. and the British Emin Lucerne, and with branches in France, Italy, Germany, Austria, U.S.A. and the British Em-pire, with Club Houses in London and New York. After difficult times, especially during the war, the Union Helvetia has put her house in order and is to-day progressing favourably. In the Employment Department, under the able manage-ment of Mr. Finger, situations were found for 2,676 people during last year, of which 60 per cent. were English. Great efforts are made to increase this figure in the coming year. The Union Helvetia looks after the members in ill-health and when advancing age prevents them bealth and when advancing age prevents them from doing much work. The Sick Benefit Fund helped members during the past year to the ex-tent of nearly £300 and old age benefits were also paid to those entitled to receive them. This also paid to those entitled to receive them. This will show members and those interested in the Union Helvetia how essential it is for every em-ployee in the Catering Trade to be an insured member of this Society, as it is specially in times of misfortune when help is most welcome. Pro-paganda work has been specially indulged in dur-ing the past twelve months and new branches were opened in Edinburgh and Glasgow, whilst old ones were reorganised in Harrogate, Man-chester and Birmingham by those ever-ready pil-lers of the Union Helveria movement Messre chester and Birmingham by those ever-ready pul-lars of the Union Helvetia movement, Messrs. Marfurt, Sernier and Finger, to whom the Society's great thanks are due for their work. The Club House Commission, under the able management of Mr. F. Delaloye, has proved that there is a profit to be made out of the Club House when the latter is well managed, and the Ente-tionment committee under the presidency of Mr. there is a profit to be made out of the Club House when the latter is well managed, and the Ente-tainment Committee, under the presidency of Mr. Charles Favre, is also doing excellent work by having not only provided entertainment for mem-bers during the year, but also in having done this with a profit of some \$200. It is now my great pleasure and privilege to draw your atten-tion to the magnificent success which the Swiss Food and Cookery Exhibition, which was visited by our Minister, who had the satisfaction of findby our Minister, who had the satisfaction of find-ing that the Société Culinaire Suisse, under the presidency of Monsieur A. Juriens, had won the Grand Prix, Gold Medal and Special Prize of £20 for their Buffet de Bal. In the same cate-gory the Second Gold Medal and £10 prize gory the Second Gold Medal and £10 prize were won by Messrs, Schallenberger and Arm, both members of the Union Helvetia. In the open class, a first Gold Medal was won by Mr. F. Huber. In Pulled Sugar the Silver Challenge Cup and Special Gold Medal were also won by the Société Culinaire Suisse (Mr. F. Seiz), fur-ther awards to our countrymen being 3rd Silver Medal in class 19, Silver Medal by Mr. Salzmann in class 13, Bronze Medal by Mr. Stutz in the same class and a 2nd Bronze Medal in potato-cooking. I would like to congratulate the Sosame class and a 2nd bronze Medal in polado-cooking. I would like to congratulate the So-ciété Culinaire Suisse most heartily on their magnificent success, and specially congratulate their President, Mr. A. Juriens, and their Dele-gates, Messrs. Menge & Fils, Kuepfer (Vevey), Tobler and Nicodet.

I am pleased to announce that we hotel em-ployees live on the best possible terms with the proprietors and managers, and are pleased to see that some of them are with us to-night, Messrs. Odone, A. Frick, A. Wyss, J. Jenny, Alfred and Adolf Schmidt, Brullhardt and Bonvin. Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask use to give and diple to the balth of the Union

ou to rise and drink to the health of the Union Helvetia.

Helvetia, Mr. W. De Bourg did full justice to the speech from the Chair in a very witty manner and heartily congratulated the Société Culinaire Suisse on their splendid success. Mr. F. Delaloye proposed the Toast to the Ladies in his customary humorous and able manner, and Mr. J. P. Gallo, President of the Section, proposed the Toast to the Guests, which was replied to by Mr. A. Dupraz in a most able manner.

Mr. Juriens delegated Mr. De Brunner for his reply on behalf of the Prize-winning Société Culin-aire Suisse and Mr. F. Delaloye provide: I, as usual, two star turns of entertainers to keep the company in good humour. All too late, after midnight only, the Ball began and was done full justice to until nearly 3 a.m.

nearly 3 a.m. Amongst those present and not already men-tioned were :--M, and Mme M. Wullschleger (Ex Hon. President of the U.H.), M. A. Dupraz (Fonds de Secours), M. Demaria and M. Moresi (Unione Ticinese), M. Werner and M. H. Senn (City Swiss Club), M. and Mme Stähelin (Swiss Mercanile Society), M. Tresch and M. Callouri (Swiss Club "Schweizerbund"), M. Bommer (Swiss Choral So-ciety), M. E. Block (Swiss Gymnastic Society), M. E. Martig (Union Helvetia, Brighton), M. Ch. Strubin (Swiss Rifle Association), M. and Mme P. Lehrian, and many others. E.B.

L'Assemblée Mensuelle a eu lieu Mardi le 4 courant au Local du Club, Restaurant Pagani, sous la Présidence de Mr. Max Gerig.

La Séance de Décembre, qui suit toujours de près le Banquet Annuel, est généralement très ani-mée car c'est l'occasion recherchée par les membres pour donner libre court à leurs critiques. Ce fut donc par de vifs applaudissements que le Prési-dent ouvrit les débats.

Les feux oratoirs sont ouverts par un membre bien connu; sa critique du menu fut des plus amusantes

Le Président, avec sa spiritualité habituelle, remercie les orateurs pour leurs diverses suggestions, il fait ressortir qu'il est évident que les King Ed-ward VII. Rooms deviennent trop petites pour con-tenir le nombre toujours grandissant des partici-pants au Banquet et Bal du C.S.C. Le Comité est charde d'Utidier gette question

chargé d'étudier cette question. Le conne est chargé d'étudier cette question. Un chaleureux vote de remerciements au Comité ainsi qu'à Mr. G. Marchand et Mr. H. Senn est passé à l'unanimité. Le Président, en remerciant, tiens à montrer sa haute appréciation aux membres qui se sont chargés de la vente des billets. Mr. E. M. Gamper, qui représentait le Club au

qui se sont chargés de la vente des billets.
Mr. F. M. Gamper, qui représentait le Club au Banquet du Swiss Club de Manchester, fait un rapport intéressant et apporte les cordiales salutations de nos compatriotes du Lancashire.
Il est évident que les membres absents se sont privés d'une agréable soiree car, grâce à la verve de certains orateurs, cette Séance fut un veritable succès.

SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL.

It was an imposing and charming affair. posing with regard to the size of the festive com-munity and the large number of good marksmen who were being rewarded with so many most attractive prizes, ranging from silver cups down to such tempting things as bottles of various none too such tempting things as bottles of various none too sober contents, cigars, fruit trays, framed pictures and dozens of other more or less useful, decorative or palatable articles. And altogether charming it was in so far as the general "Stimmung," well supported by good food and excellent wine, was so naturally gay that everybody present must have enjoyed the evening immensely. The speeches were not too long, so that the floor could be cleared for dancing by 11.30, which is, so I am told, a considerable improvement, from the point of view of the dancing enthusiasts, on last year's banquet. That the youngest Society of our Colony, which was founded only five years ago, should have got together such a grand company of members and friends seems to me a wonderful achievement. The official part of the evening was opened oy

together such a grand company of members and friends seems to me a wonderful achievement. The official part of the evening was opened oy Mr. Borsinger, who took the chair in lieu of our Minister, who was unfortunately prevented from coming to the Banquet by another important en-gagement. After the toasts for the King and our Motherland, Mr. Chas. Strubin, as President of the Swiss Rifle Association, spoke with considerable pride and gratification of the growth and activities of the young but vigorous Society, which now con-sists of a hundred members. It is a goodly number, but it should still grow considerably higher. No good Swiss is too good or not good enough to join the Society, pleaded the speaker amidst roar-ing applause. The S.R.A. has, during the year, taken part in two competitions with other shooting clubs, both of which were won by our countrymen. Mr. Strubin concluded with an expression of warm gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Cusi, whose generosity has enabled the S.R.A. to get its own flag. Mr. Borsinger responded to the Toast for the S.R.A. with a spirited speech in praise of our own national sport—shooting. Mr. Alfred Schmid, the Vice-President of the S.R.A. and why our on on go it heat shots—

Mr. Alfred Schmid, the Vice-President of the S.R.A.—and, by the way, one of its best shots— greeted the guests in a very cordial manner, amongst them being representatives of the other Swiss So-cicties and the Press. Mr. E. S. Block, the Presi-dent of the Swiss Gymnastic Society, responded on behalf of the guests with the well-deserved compliment to the S.R.A. that it is fully worthy to represent here in England the country which leads the world in the art of shooting. Mr. J. Haesler, who proposed a special toast for the ladies, set the assembly roaring with laughter by the lavish compliments he paid to the beauty of the members of the weaker sex present whom he taunted at the same time with satirical observations on the use of artificial aids to female attractiveness. In the end Mr. Borsinger proceeded to dis-Mr. Alfred Schmid, the Vice-President of the

use of artificial aids to female attractiveness. In the end Mr. Borsinger proceeded to dis-tribute the prizes . Amongst the recipients the three first winners of the various competitions may be mentioned : 300 Metres : Fuchs, Hirt and Wetter; 100 Yards : Alf. Schmid, Wetter and Hirt : "Kunst" 300 Metres : Burger, Hirt and Wetter; "Glück" : Lampert, Haesler and Wetter : Pistols: Wetter, Deubelbeiss and Hiltker: "Skill" 300 Metres : Wullschleger, Ed. Brullhard and Müller; "Skill" 100 Yards : Haesler, Wetter and Rogmon; 300 Metres Handicap : Burger, Arn. Schmid and Wullschleger, and 100 Yard : Handicap : O. Brull-hard, Deubelbeiss and Haesler. Dr. E.