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M. MICHELI ON POLITICAL ACTUALITIES. A CAUSERIE AT THE N.S.H. MEETING

A CAUSERIE AT THE N.S.H. MEETING. At the last monthly meeting of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique on May 20th, at Swiss House, an interesting causerie on a few political ques-tions of acute interest to Switzerland was given by M. Louis H. Micheli, First Secretary at the Swiss Legation, followed by a short discussion. M. Micheli had only just returned from a sad trip to the home country, having sustained the loss of his father, National Conneillor Micheli, whose memory the meeting of the N.S.H. honored in the usual way. M. Micheli spoke of the Zones-Conflict, the German-Austrian project of a customs union and the twin problem of neutrality and disarmament. Speaking entirely as a private citizen, M. Micheli very successfully attempted to describe the three questions as they present themselves to the Swiss Observer at the present moment, without seeking to decide on which attitude it might be right or wrong to take up. Referring to the last pro-nouncement of the International Court at the Hague, which in principle confirmed the Swiss claim for the maintenance of the Zones round Geneva, the Speaker described the difficulties in the way of finding a practical solution by negotia-tion, as the French cardinal demand of the aboli-tion of the Zones is diametrically opposed to the tion, as the French cardinal demand of the aboli-tion of the Zones is diametrically opposed to the main Swiss claim. Such negotiations are at present proceeding, each side offering consessions on the basis of irreconcilable premises, without, it seems, much hope of reaching an understand-ing. The proposed formation of a Custom Union between Germany and Austria Mr. Micheli showed to promise on the whole rather more dis-advantages than advantages for Switzerland showed to promise on the whole rather more dis-advantages than advantages for Switzerland judged from a purely practical point of view. Regarding the controversy, at present engaging the attention of certain sections of public opinion in Switzerland, over the question of maintaining or reducing the size of Swiss military prepared-ness in view of our newly guaranteed neutrality the speaker indicated that the extreme views on oithm side acould headly he maintained as a matten either side could hardly be maintained as matter of practical politics. The meeting thanked M. Micheli with warm applause for the stimulating address. It is to be hoped that such interesting discussions on actual Swiss problems may be arranged more frequently in the future.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY LIMITED.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week :--

Mr. A. Gander, Schiers-Grisons: "The cer and Modern Competition." Mr. F. Neidhart, Zurich: "Heraldry accord-to Swiss Law"

Mr. r. Neidhart, Zurich : "Heraldry accord-ing to Swiss Law." Mr. A. Scherrer, Lausanne : "The Present Generation." Mr. E. Zurlinden, Aarau : "The Art of Display."

Miss E. Schmid, Horn b/Rorschach : "What we shall be after Death." Mr. M. Daepp, "Tanganyka Territory."

The debating classes dealt with the following

"That the Women of the 20th century are superior to Men in every respect." *Proposer*: Miss M. Schudel. *Opposer*: Miss M. Rigling. The Students of the S.M.S. College had the great privilege on Friday evening, May 22nd, to listen to a very interesting and instructive Lantern Lecture delivered by Herbert M. Brough-ton, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, on "Rome and its Memories." Memorie

The lecturer showed the audience the historic The lecturer showed the authence the insucric and ancient places and ruins in Rome, he also showed the difference between the ancient and modern Rome as regards its style of buildings, sports, and other kinds of amusements. A vote of thanks was proposed by the Chair-man, Mr. V. H. Burraston, B. Com. The lecture was followed by the usual Musical

On Saturday, May 23rd, the Students of the S.M.S. College were taken to the Natural History Museum where they spent a very enjoyable and pleasant day.

"FUNNY CUTS."

A bather got out beyond her depth, and her screams soon brought to the rescue the boatman whose business it was to save any one in difficul-ties. A few strokes carried him to the spot, and he reached out a muscular arm to grip the poor girl, who was just about to sink. At this moment her frantic struggles dislodged her bathing-cap, which soon floated away, carrying with it, what was more precious, her wig.

"O, save my hair," she cried. "Save my hair."

"Madam," replied the gallant rescuer, haul-ing her into the boat, 'I am only a life-saver, not a hair-restorer."

Western Christian Advocate.

Thursday, June 25th, from 6-10.30 p.m.-62nd "Fête Suisse" at Central Hall, Westminster.

The newest private in No. 1 squad stood at rigid attention while the captain started down the line on his first weekly inspection. The cap-tain stopped.

"That," said the newest private proudly, "is the medal our cow won at the county fair last year." Judge.

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