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TRADE FIGURES.

Our best customers. During the month of June last the exports to Germany amounted to 16,1 Million fr. against 14,6 Millions in May. France takes second place 12,5 Millions against 11,3 Millions in May. Great Britain is third with 11,4 Millions (11,6 M.) Then follow the United States of America with 8,7 Millions (8,3 M.-, Italy with 7,9 Millions (8 M.) Schecko-Slovakia with 6,6 Millions (4,5 M.) Imports from Germany rose from 32,7 to 36,2 Millions: from France from 18,7 to 20,6 Millions and from Italy from 9 to 11,6 Millions.

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INTERNATIONAL RIFLE SHOOTING.

At the international shooting contest in Helsingfors, Finland, our country was placed second to Estonia. The following are the results :

1. Estonia	1897 Points.	7. Germany	1822 Points
2. Switzerland	1883 "	8. Danemark	1808 "
3. France	1882 "	9. Italy	1792 "
4. Finland	1876 "	10. Poland	1791 "
5. Sweden	1847 "	11. Litania	1785 "
6. Norway	1843 "	12. Lettland	1713 "

For the tenth time since the great war and for the 14th time since the inauguration of international matches, Switzerland has beaten all competitors in the PISTOL contest. The results are :

	<u>At Helsingfors 1937.</u>	<u>At Rome 1935.</u>
1. Switzerland	2650 points	2634 points
2. Finland	2625 "	2376 "
3. Sweden	2622 "	2247 "
4. France	2606 "	2504 "
5. Estonia	2604 "	-
6. Hungary	2595 "	-
7. Germany	2574 "	2550 "
8. Poland	2573 "	2434 "
9. Italy	2532 "	2569 "
10. Danemark	2485 "	-

Some results of single championships are as follows :-

1. Ullman, Sweden	555 points.	4. Fiiru, Finland	533
2. Buechi, Switzerland	541 "	5. Jpsza, Hungary	533
3. Mazoyer, France	535 "	6. Gemperli, Switzld.	533

The Swede Ullman gained for the third time the world's championship.

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NEWS IN BRIEF.

Last June, Switzerland's Radio licenses numbered 475,486.

During the first six months of 1937, 1,613 persons emigrated overseas from Switzerland, compared with 886 last year.

Shares and securities have changed on the Exchange in Zurich to the extent of 2897 million francs against 1490 Million francs last year.

At the 4th Meeting on the lake of Zurich for the sailing championships of Europe, Switzerland was first with 408 points. Then followed Italy with 369 points, Hungary 365, Austria 327, England 312, Germany 260 and France 211 points.

Although the Summer in Switzerland which has just come to a close has been blessed with fine weather, much material damage has been done by hail and thunderstorms.

By the end of June 1937 the SCHWEIZ HAGELVERSICHERUNGS GESELLSCHAFT had received 4784 claims for respective damage. By end of July the total rose to 11,789. 23 Cantons suffered more or less from hail. The Canton of Berne heads the list with 2735 cases; then follows Tessin with 2572, Lucerne with 1530, St.Gall with 1084, Thurgau 828, Zurich 815, Aargau 586. The total amount of claims runs into 5½ Million Swiss francs.

The Rigi conquered by Automobile :

Guests and employees of the Hotel Rigi Rulm received a great surprise on the 30th July last when about 2 p.m. a motor car pulled up at the hotel. It was filled with Film operators and Journalists, - a pretty severe trial for a small car. The greatest handicap on this trip proved to be the road which in some places was not even as wide as the car, and great credit is due to the able driver, Kaiser Jrn. of Zug. The car left "SANTIBERG" above Weggis at 8.30 a.m. in a very dense fog. Through the many horseshoe bends with grades reaching at times 40%, the little car carried its own weight of 830 Kilos as well as an additional load of 250 Kilos besides the passengers and the driver. Obstacles grew in numbers as the car battled on its way to the summit. Past Rigi Kaltbad and Rigi Starfel when nearing the destination, even 34 steps with a 30% grade, were overcome. Notwithstanding the many hardships the car completed its journey without any mishap or damage. - A wonderful achievement.

Lately several letters from correspondents have appeared in certain Swiss papers, which recommended the use of the Swiss Dialects in addresses and speeches, in preference to the High German. These expressions of opinion were particularly intended for the Bunderfeier. A very unique proposition which nevertheless deserves every consideration. The dialect brings out much more sincerity and simplicity and will impress the hearer much more than a well studied speech in the High German. One writer says that a stirring patriotic speech referring to the significance of the 1 August can certainly be given, but that a dialectic speech would be much more impressive and would reach the heart of the hearer much more than phrases that have been learnt at school. It would also prevent speakers from mixing the High German with some dialect, a fact which occurs very often. Our mother tongue is a beautiful tongue, and deserves every consideration and encouragement. I, for one, who have been here in New Zealand for over 30 years, would very much appreciate the opportunity of hearing a good and hearty speech in the good old Appenzeller dialect.

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SWISS AIR - LINES.

More than a dozen international Air-Lines ply between all the important capitals of Europe and Switzerland. Thus, London and Vienna are only three hours distant from Switzerland by air; Amsterdam, Barcelona or Berlin a mere four hours. The principal Air-Lines have recently also run a service all through the winter. The six Swiss Customs Air-Ports are Basle-Birsfelden, Zurich-Dubendorf, Geneva-Cointrin, Berne-Belpmoos, Lausanne-Blecherette and St.Gall-Altenrhein. To these may be added about 20 private aerodromes and landing-places in the interior for sports and touring flights.