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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

On the 18th of this month the Swiss electorate went to the poll in connection with the initiative on Economic Reconstruction and the Right to Work. (Wirtschaftsreform und Rechte der Arbeit) introduced by the socialist party. This measure was rejected by 537,813 against 243,756 votes, as can be seen from the figures below:—

	For	Against
Zürich	54,305	87,671
Bern	41,260	72,360
Luzern	6,579	33,027
Uri	1,179	3,851
Schwyz	1,498	8,477
Obwalden	165	2,997
Nidwalden	453	2,615
Glarus	1,936	5,040
Zug	1,532	5,381
Freiburg	2,612	17,409
Solothurn	9,759	17,561
Baselland	9,407	14,188
Baselstad	9,054	11,907
Schaffhausen	5,110	8,356
Appenzell A.-Rh.	2,024	7,915
Appenzell J.-Rh.	122	1,955
St. Gallen	13,345	43,576
Graubünden	3,898	16,368
Aargau	21,053	44,559
Thurgau	7,864	23,751
Tessin	7,297	10,615
Waadt	22,203	52,658
Wallis	4,315	18,002
Neuenburg	8,389	13,753
Genéve	8,397	13,761
TOTAL	243,756	537,813

* * *

Swiss Parliament will make special provisions for conscientious objectors to military service.

Some time ago the motion, carried in Parliament by a narrow majority, placed the matter in the hands

of the Government, which will draw up a Bill providing for non-combatant service for men whose conscience prevents them from serving in the armed forces.

At present no reason other than ill-health will secure dispensation, and refusal to bear arms is punishable by imprisonment.

M. Kobelt, head of the Federal Military Department, who opposed the measure, said that, out of a million men called to arms during the war, only 76 refused to serve for reasons of conscience, and of this number only those who refused to serve as hospital orderlies were sent to prison.

* * *

A *modus operandi* between Spain and Switzerland has been reached whereby trade between the two countries will be greatly increased. Spanish business men can now apply for export and import licences to Switzerland. Agreement has also been reached for 5,000 tons of bananas to be sent from the Canary Islands to Switzerland this year.

* * *

Two items have been dropped from the rationing list in Switzerland. Households are no longer checked on consumption of gas, but coal allocations to gas-manufacturing plants are limited.

Rationing of unsugared condensed milk, imported and domestic production was lifted.

* * *

Monsieur Jerzy Putrament, Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Poland in Berne, who has been transferred as Ambassador to Paris, gave a farewell dinner to mark the occasion. Dr. Etter, President of the Swiss Confederation, Federal Councillor Petitpierre and Minister Stucki, as well as members of the Diplomatic Corps were present.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

MONTHLY MEETING

followed by an address by

COMMANDER STEPHEN KING-HALL

on

TUESDAY, JUNE 10th, 1947

6.30 for 7 p.m.

at

BROWN'S HOTEL, DOVER STREET, W.1

The Committee.