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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

The referendum concerning a new federal law to combat tuberculosis has, as reported in our last issue, been rejected by the Swiss electorate; here are the respective figures:—

	YES	No
Zurich	54,943	101,210
Berne	31,074	89,723
Lucerne	5,433	32,988
Uri	767	5,153
Schwyz	1,200	11,243
Obwalden	184	3,439
Nidwalden	383	3,211
Glarus	1,399	6,133
Zug	1,157	5,615
Freiburg	1,823	20,953
Solothurn	9,137	19,739
Basle-Town	14,923	17,207
Basle-County	6,542	11,668
Schaffhausen	4,800	8,769
Appenzell a/Rh.	1,257	9,065
Appenzell i/Rh.	112	2,123
St. Gall	10,278	50,815
Grisons	4,731	18,595
Aargau	18,097	51,610
Thurgau	7,255	24,184
Tessin	5,379	10,956
Vaud	7,938	54,533
Valais	1,612	20,204
Neuchâtel	4,538	17,039
Geneva	6,761	15,139
	201,722	610,877

The newly appointed Greek Minister, Monsieur Philon, has presented his credentials to Monsieur E. Nobs, President of the Swiss Confederation and to Federal Councillor, Monsieur M. Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, at the Federal Palais in Berne.

Ernst Theiler, hitherto Swiss Consul in Wellington, has been appointed General Consul in Léopoldville, in succession to Adriano Orlandi, who has retired from his post.

Consul Theiler was born in 1902, at Hitzkirch (Ct. Lucerne), and entered in 1933 into the service of the Swiss foreign Office. He previously was attached to the Consulate General in New York.

\* \* \*

At a Meeting of the International Postal Union in Berne, which was attended by representatives of 19 countries, Dr. Fritz Hess, at present General Manager of the Swiss Post, Telegraph & Telephone administration, has been elected President of the International Postal Union, which has its headquarters in Berne.

\* \* \*

The Swiss Government is to increase subsidies for the building of flats because of the continued housing shortage.

\* \* \*

Princess Margaret was given a warm welcome on her arrival in Switzerland. Coming from Italy, she drove over the Simplon Pass in very fine weather. In the afternoon she motored to the Lake of Geneva and visited the Castle of Chillon, where she was greeted by the Swiss authorities and by the British colony of the neighbourhood. Some old dances were performed in the castle by dancers in local costumes and folk-songs were sung.

### Cantonal

Professor Augustin Giger (Curaglia, Grisons), of the "Kollegium Maria-hilf" in Schwyz, has celebrated his 50th jubilee at a priest. He has been for 46 years a teacher at the "Kollegium." He is a canon of the "Kapitols von Chur." [A.T.S.]

## Nouvelle Société Helvétique (LONDON GROUP)

### OPEN MEETING

on Tuesday, June 21st, 1949, at 7 p.m.  
at the Vienna Café,  
Berkeley Arcade, Opposite Baker St. Station.

Dr. E. MOERGELI, of the Secrétariat des  
Suisses à l'Etranger, will speak on  
"Switzerland and the Swiss Abroad."

All Swiss and Friends are heartily invited.

The accounts of the canton of Schwyz close with a credit balance of 153,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

A lady passenger left her shopping net in a tram car in Lucerne, containing notes and securities amounting to 60,000.—frs.; the conductor handed the net into the lost property office, which returned it to the forgetful loser. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The inauguration of a memorial for the painter Johann, Melchior Wyrsh, of Buochs (1732-1798) took place in Buochs (Ct. Lucerne). Speeches were made on the occasions by Dr. J. Odermatt, Dr. Kuno Muller and Federal Councillor Dr. Etter. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The "Technikum," in Winterthur, has celebrated the 75th anniversary of its foundation.

A service was held at the "Stadtkirche" in Winterthur, at which the following speakers referred to the history and developments of this famous school: Dr. Briner, a member of the government of the canton of Zurich, Dr. H. Ruegg, Mayor of the town of Winterthur, Dr. R. Tobler, Director of the CIBA, A.G., Basle.

The service was followed by a Banquet, a visit to the "Technikum" and a torch-light procession by the students, which number, at present, over 700.

[A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Ewald Classen, author and publisher of children's picture books, has celebrated his 50th birthday anniversary in Zurich. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The Federal Technical University in Zurich, has nominated Dr. Robert Helbling of Flums, *doctor honoris causa*. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

An employee of the "Zuger Kantonal Bank" has been arrested for embezzling funds of the Bank. The amount of the defalcations is not yet known. [A.T.S.]

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Dr. Paul Häfelin, "Stadtammann" of Solothurn, and Vice-President of the States Council, has celebrated his 60th birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

At the election for the government of the canton of Solothurn, the following were elected: Dr. Urs Dietschi (lib.); Dr. M. Obrecht (cath. popular party); Dr. Oskar Stampfli (lib.) and Jacque Schmid (soc.).

[A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The elections for the "Solothurner Kantonsrat" show the following representation of parties:— Liberals: 58 seats (old council: 55); Socialists: 36 seats (old council 40); Cath. Cons. Popular party: 36 seats (old council: 34). [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The Commercial University in St. Gall has celebrated its 50th jubilee. The celebrations started with a festive performance of Goethe's "Iphigenie auf Tauris" at the Municipal Theatre in St. Gall, followed by a torch light procession of the students.

The next day, the rector of the University, Dr. Theo Keller, addressed a large gathering of students, rectors of various Swiss and Foreign Universities and official guests, passing in review the history of the University since its inception. Federal-Councillor Kobelt delivered the greetings of the Swiss Government.

The Senate of the University bestowed the title of *doctor honoris causa* on the following: Dr. Böhler,

Professor of the Technical University, Zurich, Dr. H. Homberger, Director of the "Vorort" Zurich, Dr. Karl Moser-Nef, St. Gall, and Dr. Gottfried Haerberler, Professor of Harvard University (U.S.A.). [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Adolf Attenhofer, well-known author and founder of the "Bündner Volkshochschule," has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary in Chur. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The accounts for 1948, of the canton of Thurgau close with a credit balance of 243,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The late Oskar Deutsch of Diessenhofen has left 15,000.—frs. to the "Kindergarten" and 10,000.—frs. to the "Schulreise" Fund. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Pierre-Auguste Leuba (rad.), has been nominated President of the government of the canton of Neuchâtel, and Jean Humbert (lib.), Vice-President. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

André Petitpierre (lib.), from Couvet (Ct. Neuchâtel), member of the Grand Council of the canton of Neuchâtel, has entered Parliament (National Council) in succession to National Councillor Sidney de Coulon, who has been elected a member of the States Council. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Professor Dr. Jean Baer, has been elected rector of the University of Neuchâtel for 1949/1950. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

M. Paul Rose, administrator, of the "Journal de Genève," has celebrated his 40th service jubilee. He is President of the Association of Newspaper Publishers. [A.T.S.]

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

\* \* \*

Mme. Veuve Theresa Maier-Lardi, the oldest inhabitant of the canton of Schwyz, in Etzel, at the age of 102.

Pastor Albert Etter, for many years a preacher and President of the "Gemeinnützigen Gesellschaft" of the canton of Thurgau, in Franeufeld, aged 84.

Rev. Karl Brunner, for 20 years a priest in Kriessern (St. Gall), at the age of 54.

Colonel Henry Schöle, in Bellinzona, the deceased was, during the last war on the Staff of the 9th division.

Arnold Scherrer, well-known "Quelleningenieur," in Schaffhausen, at the age of 72.

Anton Ruoss, a former "Landammann" of the canton of Schwyz, at Schübelbach, aged 73.

Franz Karl Holdener-Steiner, for 25 years "Säckelmeister" of the Corporation of Schwyz, in Schwyz, at the age of 74.

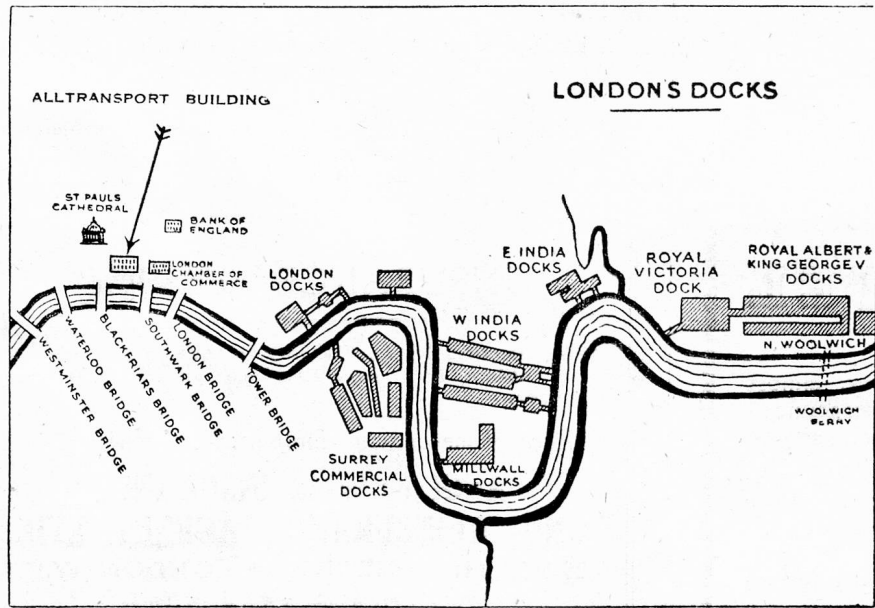
Dr. Adolf Naef, Professor of Zoology at the University of Cairo, in Zurich, aged 66.

Henri-Louis Vaucher, advocate and notary, and for many years a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Neuchâtel, in Fleurier, at the age of 92.

Marcel Raisin, States Councillor, in Geneva, aged 59. The deceased, who was an advocate by profession, was from 1939-1943, a member of the municipal council, and from 1939-1948 sat in the Grand Council of the canton of Geneva. In 1947, he was elected a member of the States Council.

Dr. Edwin Mende, eye specialists, and for many years President of the Swiss Automobil Club, in Berne, at the age of 70.

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Gottfried Hildebrand, Publisher of the "Neue Toggenburger Zeitung" and "Bischofszeller Nachrichten" in Bischofszell, aged 87.

Dr. Joos Bärtschi, advocate, and President of the Board of the "Lufttaxi, A.G." in Davos, at the age of 49.

Dr. E. Moser, formerly surgeon-in-chief of the "Kantonsspital" Schaffhausen, in Schaffhausen, aged 87.

Ch. A. Vuille, industrialist, well-known in the watch industry, at La Chaux-de-Fonds, aged 85.

Joseph Niederberger, from 1918-1934, a member of the Government of the canton of Nidwalden, in Stans, at the age of 69.

Rudolf Benziger-Arnold, from 1896-1944 a member of the Criminal Court of the canton of Schwyz, at the age of 86.

[A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The following couple has celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary (60) in Switzerland: Mr. and Mrs. Benziger-Arnold, of Schwyz. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Dr. Gerhardt Schürch, advocate in Berne, has been elected President of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique in succession to Professor G. Michaud (Vevey). Vice-Presidents of the Society are Professor Bruno Pedrazzini (Muralto) and Theo Chopard (Berne).

[A.T.S.]

#### PETITES CHOSES QUI FONT PLAISIR.

"Semaine Suisse" (Service de Presse).

La jeune Ann Schuyler, de Schenectady, qui a gagné le premier prix du concours de composition organisé dans les écoles primaires supérieures des Etats-Unis, dont le thème était "La neutralité suisse," viendra dans notre pays en juillet, avec son instituteur. Ce concours a fait éclore un nombre étonnant d'excellents travaux et a remporté un gros succès.

\* \* \*

L'ancien ministre de Suisse en France, M. C. Burkhardt, a été nommé à l'unanimité membre de l'Académie française des Sciences morales et politiques.

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