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stuffs constituting a minimum for each person — namely, 6lb. sugar, 4lb. fats, 6lb. rice, and *ad lib.*, according to the possibility of storing them; also a certain amount of macaroni, flour, oats, barley, maize, and dried vegetables. These reserves must be built up before mid-September next, and the communes will help the poorer families. Hotels, restaurants, and hospitals are asked also to build up sufficient reserves of these products. The Government emphasizes that Switzerland almost entirely depends on imports for her re-victualling and that measures such as the building up of reserves are natural at a time when the political situation is tense.

The prolonged attempt to finalise plans for the remodelling of Berne Central Station and its immediate surroundings has been brought nearer to a conclusion by the recent publication of the results of a further contest. Earlier, more far-reaching plans to move the entire station to a more spacious site some distance away had been discarded, and the general track layout of the existing station had to be accepted. The programme also called for due regard to architecturally valuable buildings in the vicinity. The main purpose of the latest contest was to obtain ideas which could be embodied in the final plans.

The assessing committee does not recommend immediate measures to place some of the road traffic underground, but this possibility should not be prejudiced. It is, however, recommended to create adequate parking space above or below ground. The idea of combining the station building with a major office building is favoured, and the construction of commercially useful buildings above the tracks is not ruled out.

The Swiss Cabinet has proposed that the State should subsidise the country's main air line Swissair, which had an operating loss of 5,000,000 francs (£400,000) in 1949.

The Cabinet put forward a proposal in Parliament to open a credit of 15 million francs (£1,200,000) for Swissair to buy two long-range air-liners.

A Swiss watch, which gives the date and day of the week, as well as the time, was presented to Mr. Bevin in hospital by two Swiss trade unionists who have been on an exchange visit to Britain. The watch, which bears the inscription: "With sincerest appreciation and respect to the great trade unionist and politician, Ernest Bevin," is a gift from the Swiss Trades Union Congress.

#### PETITES CHOSES QUI FONT PLAISIR.

"Semaine Suisse" (Service de Presse).

La presse finlandaise a réservé un accueil aussi chaleureux qu'inattendu à l'exposition suisse du livre à Helsinki. On peut relever les appréciations suivantes: la présentation des livres s'est maintenue pendant la guerre au niveau qui avait fait la renommée de l'édition suisse; aucune autre exposition étrangère n'a jamais produit un effet aussi représentatif en Finlande. Il est remarquable qu'un pays aussi petit que la Suisse puisse présenter une telle quantité d'ouvrages de qualité; ce seul témoignage prouve le niveau culturel élevé qu'a atteint notre pays.

Le président d'une grande fabrique américaine de boîtes de montres a donné son impression sur son récent voyage en Europe: la Suisse est le meilleur des petits états du monde; les Suisses sont très doués et voient courir le vent . . .

L'ingénieur genevois Jean Dreyfus-Graf a inventé le sténosonographe, appareil qui transpose la parole en signes d'écriture.

Une mission commerciale du Pakistan va sous peu visiter la Suisse.

#### 1st OF AUGUST DINNER AND BALL AT THE MYLLET.

Whilst this year's First of August celebration of the Swiss Colony takes place on Sunday, July 30th, at the Stoll Theatre, Kingsway, a Dinner and Ball has been arranged by our countryman, Albert Widmer, at "The Myllet", Western Avenue, Perivale, Middx., on August 1st, which is on a Tuesday.

The Swiss Accordion Club, which recently performed with great success at the "Fête Suisse," has arranged a special programme and a well-known "Yodeller" from Berne, has been engaged to appear; in addition the famous band of Tony Wayne will provide dance music.

Besides accommodation in the attractive Restaurant, room will be put at the disposal of the visitors on the illuminated Restaurant Terrace, which is under cover.

To remind our countrymen of the 659th Anniversary of the Confederation, in a more material way, the famous Swiss Chef of the Myllet, Monsieur Sallet, is arranging an attractive Menu, consisting of such well-known specialities as *f.i.*, Fondue, Rame Quin, Onion Soup, etc., etc.

To "toast" the future of the homeland, a selection of vintage wines from the sun-kissed vineyards of the cantons of Valais, Vaud and Neuchâtel will be available at very reasonable prices. The price per head has been fixed at £1.1.0. Dinner will be served from 7.30 p.m. and evening dress is to be worn.

We understand, that several Swiss parties have already booked their tables, and it is advisable to apply as early as possible, in order not to be disappointed.

This intimate celebration, promises to be a real family party, which will, no doubt, add new lustre to the already well-known *cuisine* of The Myllet.

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