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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Monsieur M. Petitpierre, President of the Swiss Confederation has sent a telegram of condolence to the new King of Sweden, Gustav VI, on the occasion of the death of his father.

* * *

The King and Queen of Thailand were the guests of the Federal Council at a dinner at the "Wattenwyl Haus" in Berne.

* * *

Monsieur Francisco d'Alama Lonsada has been appointed Minister of the Republic of Brazil, in Berne.

* * *

During the month of September, 1950, the Swiss Federal Railways have carried 16.64 million passengers, or 1.51 million less than in September, 1949. The receipts are given as 23.46 millions francs (Sept. 1949: 25.54 million francs).

Goods traffic has increased by 377,000 tons and totalled 1.79 millions tons, receipts of which are returned as 30.31 million francs or 4.27 million francs more than in September, 1949.

* * *

The Federal Council has appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Ludovic de Bremond of Grattavache and Progens (Ct. Fribourg), a member of the Federal Instructors Corps, to the post of Military Attaché in Washington and Canada, in succession to Colonel Waibel, who is relinquishing his post.

* * *

The International Wheat Council has accepted the invitation of the Swiss Government to hold its fourth session at Geneva; the opening plenary meeting was held on October 24th.

* * *

The Swiss Finance Minister has announced in Parliament that the question of a renewal of gold sales to the public was being considered within the framework of comprehensive measures to combat inflation.

Cantonal

The Cantonal Bank of Lucerne has celebrated the 100th anniversary of its foundation, on this occasion the Board has given an amount of 380,000.—frs. for various charitable purposes. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A sports machine, which took off at Grenchen, crashed near Altwis (Ct. Lucerne), on trying to effect a landing. The machine was destroyed but both pilot and passenger escaped injuries. [A.T.S.]

* * *

During the month of September, 1950, 772 (1949: 642) traffic accidents have been reported in the canton of Zurich. 328 (1949: 319) persons were injured of whom 11 (1949: 10) succumbed to their injuries.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

Mr. Willaim Vontobel, a Merchant of Zurich, has succeeded to the seat in the National Council which became vacant owing to the resignation of Dr. med. R. Bucher.

The new Member of Parliament belongs to the "Landesring der Unabhängigen" party. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A young couple had parked their car on the Strandbadweg, in Zurich, soon after midnight, to bid each other a tender farewell, when suddenly a man appeared brandishing a revolver, ordering them to hand over their purses. He then searched them and took away their watches and rings, etc., to the value of 260.—frs., after removing the ignition key, he disappeared. [A.T.S.]

* * *

M. Charles Parietti (Independent Radical), has been elected Mayor of the town of Porrentruy with 867 votes, his opponent, M. Pierre Dietlin (Radical Liberal), received 642 votes. [A.T.S.]

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