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Léon Daguét, formerly President of the Board of "Banque d'Etat" of Fribourg, in Fribourg, at the age of 77.

Armand Spicher, rector of the boys secondary school, Fribourg, and a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Fribourg, aged 47.

Karl Müller-Lauberg, Manager of the "Blechwarenfabrik" Münchenstein, in Münchenstein, at the age of 62. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The following couples have celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in Switzerland: Mr. and Mrs. A. Bizozzero-Broder, of Sargans; Mr. and Mrs. J. Affolter, of Peseux (Ct. Neuchâtel). [A.T.S.]

* * *

The following Swiss papers have celebrated their jubilees: "Bodensee-Zeitung", Romanshorn (100 years); "Glarner Nachrichten", Glarus (75 years); "Brugger Tagblatt", "Rorschacher Zeitung", and "Schweizerische Maschinenmarkt" (50 years). [A.T.S.]

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After the big success of the 5th International Competition for Musical Performers in Geneva, in which 250 candidates from 24 countries participated, the Organising Committee has decided to carry out another International Competition in 1950. This is to take place from September 25th to October 8th and will comprise the following categories: Singing, Piano, Violin, Organ, Clarinet and Trumpet. Young artists, between 15 and 30 years, from all countries may compete. Money prizes amounting to 10,800 Swiss francs are expected.

The prospectus, in four languages, giving the Rules and Programmes is available from the Secretary of the International Competition for Musical Performers in the Conservatory of Music, Geneva.

* * *

The Swiss Bank Corporation and Credit Suisse have granted the French railways a five-year credit of 250 million Swiss francs.

SWISSAIR TRANSATLANTIC SERVICES IN 1950.

Swissair — The Airline of Switzerland, which will celebrate its 20th Anniversary next year — will resume its regular transatlantic services between Zurich/Geneva and New York, via Shannon and Gander, from February 24th, after having reduced the frequency of its flights during the winter months.

Its long-distance 4-engine aircraft have been completely overhauled and adapted to the latest technical requirements.

There will be one weekly flight in each direction between February 24th and March 27th. Effective the latter date, the frequency will be increased to two flights per week, eastbound and westbound.

FROM SWISS LEGATION — COMMUNIQUE.

Swiss interests in nationalised French banks, insurance companies and mines.

Some banks (French Laws No. 45-015 of the 2.12.1945 and No. 46-1070 of the 17.5.46), insurance companies (Law No. 46-835 of the 25.4.1946) and mines (Law No. 46-1072 of the 17.5.1946) have been nationalised in France during the years 1945/1946.

In order to establish the Swiss interests affected by these nationalisations, the Swiss Legation in London (18, Montagu Place, W.1) are investigating which shares, bonds, etc., of these undertakings are the property of Swiss persons. Swiss holders of such securities are therefore invited to contact without delay the Swiss Legation who will provide them with the necessary forms for the registration of their claims.

Swiss Legation, W.1.

January 12th, 1950.

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Swiss interests in the nationalised French electricity and gas industries.

The Swiss and French Governments have agreed to special arrangements regarding the indemnification of Swiss interests in the nationalised electricity and gas industries in France. These provisions form a Convention with appendix signed in Paris on the 21st November, 1949, which came into force on the 22nd December, 1949. The benefice of this Convention is extended to Swiss nationals abroad who are creditors to an indemnity in the sense of the French Law No. 46/628 of the 8th April, 1946, relevant to the nationalisation of the afore-mentioned undertakings (i.e. to Swiss citizens who are owners of shares, bonds, etc., of the now nationalised electricity and gas industries, on condition that the securities in question were in uninterrupted ownership of Swiss private persons or Swiss corporate bodies since the 8th April, 1946) if, before the 31st May, 1950, date of debarment by time, they will have subscribed to a declaration relevant to the acceptance of the rules laid down for the indemnity in question.

Swiss holders in England of securities of the French electricity and gas industries are therefore invited to contact without delay the Swiss Legation in London (18, Montagu Place, W.1) who will provide them to enforce their rights.

After the 31st May, 1950, the question of indemnity will no longer be settled according to the Swiss-French Convention, but will be exclusively governed by French Law.

Swiss Legation, W.1.

January 12th, 1950.

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