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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

During the month of March, 1950, the Swiss Federal Railways carried 16.37 million passengers (March 1949: 16.15 million). The receipts from passenger service are given as 19.89 million francs (March 1949: 20.13 million francs).

Goods traffic declined by 100,000 tons and is returned as having totalled 1.23 million tons, the receipts brought in 23.84 million francs, or 1.69 million francs less than in March 1949.

The Federal Council has appointed George Falquier to the post of Vice-Consul in Tangier.

Falquier was born in Geneva in 1905, and is a citizen of Vevy (Ct. Vaud), he entered the Consular Service in 1930, and has previously held posts at the Swiss Consulates in Mühlhausen, Sydney, Brisbane and Singapore.

Cantonal

Dr. Hans Ming (Giswil), has been elected a member of the government of the canton of Obwalden, he has had a seat in the "Kantonsrat" since 1946. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Werner Allgöwer, socialist (Lucerne), a member of the "Amtsgericht", has entered the National Council, in succession to Mr. Paul Fröhlich. [A.T.S.]

A very interesting programme for the "Zürcher Juni Festwochen" has been arranged.

Three works by the Swiss composer Arthur Honegger, will be given, amongst them the "Cantique des cantiques". (First performance in Switzerland).

During the first week in June the Scala Opera Company (Milano) will present the "Barber of Sevilla" and "La Tosca" and the Opéra Comique (Paris) will present the opera "Werther".

Fritz Busch, will conduct Mozart's opera "The marriage of Figaro" and Robert Denzler, Beethoven's "Fidelio".

The "Old Vic" company (London) will give a performance of "Hamlet".

Various symphony concerts will be conducted by Eric Kleiber, George Szell and Paul Hindemith. Amongst the soloists engaged are: Yehudi Menuhin, Horszowski and Cathleen Ferrier. [A.T.S.]

Professor W. v. Gonzenbach, since 1920, Professor of Bacteriology at the Federal Technical University in Zurich, has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary.

[A.T.S.]

Dr. Ernst Vaterlaus has been elected President of the government of the canton of Zurich for the year 1950/51. Dr. Briner has been elected Vice-President.

[A.T.S.]

The "A.G. Textildruckerei Hohlenstein" of Glarus, has made a donation of 20,000 frs. to the "Kindergartenschule" Glarus. [A.T.S.]

Marcel Bezençon, until recently Director of the studio Lausanne, has been elected General Manager of the "Schweizerischen Rundschiffgesellschaft".

Bezençon was born in 1907, and is a citizen of Orbe and Ballaigues, he studied languages at the Universities of Lausanne, Vienna and Rome, and for many years followed the profession of a journalist. From 1932-1939 he was the theatre, cine, art and literature critic of the "Feuille d'Avis de Lausanne." In 1939, he was appointed a Director of the Radio Lausanne.

[A.T.S.]

Professor A. Schädelin, Professor of Theology at the University of Berne, has retired from his post on reaching retirement age. [A.T.S.]

The final accounts of the "KABA" Exhibition, which was held in the summer of 1949, at Thun, have just been published. The accounts close with a credit balance of 678,823.32 frs.

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