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portions of the loans were issued in Switzerland. Our country was therefore represented by two observers.

#### Export of Swiss Strawberries.

In the Anglo-Swiss Trade Agreement a quota is foreseen for canned fruit amounting to £20,000. Owing to the fact that Switzerland has an exceptional good crop of strawberries, the competent Swiss authorities have asked the Board of Trade to establish a quota for strawberry compote. It has been agreed to increase the present quota for canned fruit by £70,000 and this compote will be classified for import purposes as canned strawberries in syrup.

#### Increased Chocolate Quota.

Since the establishing of the quota for chocolate confectionery it has shown that the amount of £50,000 is by far not sufficient to cover the demand in this country and the Board of Trade have agreed to increase the quota by £25,000 for chocolate and sugar confectionery.

#### Swiss Lighters for the United Kingdom.

The British authorities have further agreed to open a quota of £4,000 for the import of gold cigarette lighters from Switzerland. These lighters (9 carat gold) are manufactured by the Swiss firm La Nationale S.A. of Geneva and will be imported by the well known firm Dunhill Ltd.

#### Over-employment in Switzerland.

During the first trimester of this year 23,000 entry permits have been issued in Switzerland to

foreign workers. During the same period of last year only 14,300 of such permits were granted.

#### Some facts and figures about Swiss Railways.

According to the annual statistic published by the Swiss Federal Railways the total length of the railway net is 2,974 km., nearly all of which electrified. There are 3,110 bridges and 240 tunnels. Unfortunately, the level crossings — over 7,000 — are much too numerous. At the end of last year the Swiss Federal Railways possessed 596 electric and 284 steam engines, 2,613 passenger carriages and 20,766 goods tracks.

#### Swiss Cigarettes.

More than half a milliard of cigarettes were manufactured in April. 352.6 millions are sold at 90 cts., 80 millions at 70 cts., 78 millions at Fr.1.10 and 37 millions at Fr.1.30 the packet. The tax of this enormous quantity of cigarettes is for the benefit of the Old Age Insurance Scheme. The export of cigarettes, most of which is going to Italy, amounted during the month of April to three million Swiss francs.

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#### OUR NEXT ISSUE.

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Our next issue will be published on Friday, July 27th, 1951. We take the opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscription: O. Worth, J. Scheuermeier, E. Siegrist.

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