

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1952)

Heft: 1189

Rubrik: Commercial news

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

Download PDF: 01.04.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

COMMERCIAL NEWS

The Economic Situation in Switzerland.

For over six months the index of the cost of living in Switzerland has shown only minor fluctuations, which seems to prove that the situation has now reached a stable equilibrium and that the danger of inflation has passed. The few prices that have fallen here and there are not regarded as forerunners of a general trend, but as a return to a normal level. For the same reasons, the results of the Swiss external trade during the first half of 1952 may be considered favourable, although they are slightly below those of the previous year. On the whole, the situation in the different branches of the export industry does not give rise to very serious fears.

Slight Improvement in the Swiss Textile Industry.

As could be expected, activity in silk and rayon weaving has been insufficient during the second quarter of this year. In spite of that, stocks have again increased, which shows that the mills are trying to keep native workers employed as long as possible. It seems now that the peak of the textile crisis has been reached and maybe passed. Several economic factors, among others the stabilisation of the markets of textile raw materials, seem to give an indication of that. Further falls in prices are no longer feared, despite foreign competition, which in certain branches of silk and rayon seeks to take advantage of the extremely low customs tariffs of Switzerland to submerge her market without regard to cost prices. The reserve that persists in the demand for standard articles must be attributed to the worsening of export difficulties, which are not caused by the state of the market but by import restrictions in important markets such as France, England and other countries of the sterling area.

Still Enough Work for the Swiss Machine Industry.

The most important industrial branch in Switzerland is still working to full capacity. The number of workers employed in works affiliated to the "Union suisse des associations patronales" (which was 122,000 at the end of 1951) is still slightly increasing, although foreign workers have been dismissed here and there, and some vacancies have not been filled. Nevertheless, a decrease in incoming orders has become noticeable; in certain cases the production goes into stocks. The international textiles crisis also has an unfavourable influence on the machine industry, and motorisation has adverse effects on the manufacture of cycles.

The branches that are still working to full capacity are the electrotechnic industry, as well as the machine tools and heavy machinery industries. On the other hand, the preliminary phases of mechanical construction, the tools and metal articles factories are those most threatened by foreign competition.

On the whole the degree of employment is very uneven. For the Swiss market, the recession is due mainly to the slowing-up that is very definitely being felt now in the building industry. Orders in hand will nevertheless ensure work until the end of the year and beyond.

Liquidation of the Washington Accord — Switzerland's Clearing Claim against Germany.

As stated in the last Swiss Observer, certain questions could not be settled during the recent German Debt Conference, for instance the Swiss clearing and other Governmental claims. During the second half of August a Swiss delegation took part in negotiations in London and in Bonn with Allied and German delegations to settle the outstanding points. Three arrangements have now been arrived at.

Under the first one, concluded between Switzerland and the German Federal Republic, the latter pays an amount of 121m. Swiss francs to the Allies, who under the second arrangement, concluded between them and our country, renounce all their rights out of the Washington Accord concerning the liquidation of German property in Switzerland.

The third of the arrangements, concluded between our country and the Federal Republic, settles the Swiss Governmental claims against the former German Reich, namely the clearing credit of 1,012m. Swiss francs and a further amount of 177m. Swiss francs. As the Federal Republic is only a part of the former German Reich the Swiss Federal Council asked for a refund of 650m. Swiss francs, which the German side has now agreed to pay.

Let **MAGGI**
make your
MEAT go
further!



Now-a-days you fairly skin the bones for every scrap of meat! Such scraps can be the making of delightful delicacies. Serve up left-overs of fish, flesh or fowl in Aspic—and you've made luxury out of scarcity! It's so quick, easy and inexpensive with Maggi's Aspic Jelly. It offers many ways of converting left-overs and odd scraps into nourishing Aspic dishes—as supplements to the main course. Price 2/- per 2 oz. tin.

MAGGI'S *Aspic Jelly*

THE NESTLÉ COMPANY LIMITED · HAYES · MIDDLESEX

An Agreement between Switzerland and Roumania.

Switzerland has made an agreement with Roumania deciding the terms of their trade, settlements of overdue claims, and compensation for Swiss interests in Roumania. These decisions are similar to those arrived at with other countries in Eastern Europe; their purpose is to settle questions that arose because of nationalisation and other State measures and they will benefit future trade relations.

Economic Relations between Switzerland and Venezuela.

Trade relations between Switzerland and Venezuela have been satisfactory in the current year. Swiss exports to Venezuela and imports from that country have reached a new record. In the first six months of 1952 Swiss exports amounted to 22.5m. francs. Imports from Venezuela amounted to 10m. francs, and included mainly petroleum products, cocoa and coffee.

A Meeting of the International Airlines.

This year's annual meeting of the International Association of Airlines will take place in Geneva from the 15th until the 19th of September. The organisation includes members from 60 airlines in all parts of the world, and representatives from each of these will attend the Conference. There will be approximately 200 delegates and observers from the member companies and other international organisations. The majority of the delegates will be well-known air transport authorities.

You'll feel so confident...

Your own people to greet you as you come aboard at London Airport. Your own people looking after your comfort. Your own people in control of the aircraft. If you are a Swiss that's enough to make you feel on top of the world as you fly to your homeland. If you are a Swiss there is only one thing to do — fly SWISSAIR.



Cheap Night Fares
LONDON/GENEVA - Return - - - £23. 0.0
LONDON/ZURICH - Return - - - £24. 0.0
MANCHESTER/ZURICH - Return - £29. 10.0

Special 23-day Excursion Fare
LONDON/INNSBRUCK - Return - - £35. 0.0

SWISSAIR SERVICES INCLUDE MOST EUROPEAN CAPITALS AND NEW YORK. ASK YOUR TRAVEL AGENT FOR DETAILS.

Fly SWISSAIR
you'll enjoy it

SWISSAIR, 126, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.1. AND MANCHESTER, GLASGOW
 CRC 32



The responsibility of timing the Olympic Games is the biggest assignment that can be given to a precision watch. 53 nations, through their delegates, have entrusted to Omega the task of timing the Olympics at Helsinki.

OMEGA

OFFICIAL OLYMPIC TIMERS

IN

HELSINKI

IN 1952

20 YEARS OMEGA OLYMPIC TIMING

Write to The Omega Watch Company (England) Ltd., 26-30, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1, for list of authorised jewellers whose guarantees alone are recognised.