

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: 1174

Rubrik: News at random

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: 31.03.2025

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

The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED IN 1919 BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain

Advisory Council: R. DE CINTRA (Chairman); O. F. BOEHRINGER, LS. CHAPUIS, J. EUSEBIO, GOTTFRIED KELLER, R. J. KELLER, R. PFENNINGER, A. STAUFFER, G. E. SUTER.

EDITED BY A. STAUFFER WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SWISS COLONY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Telephone: CLERKENWELL 2321/2.

Published Twice Monthly at 23, LEONARD STREET, E.C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

Vol. 37. No. 1174.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25th, 1952.

PRICE 11d.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

(Fortnightly issue.)

UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES	6 issues, post free	6/-
	12 issues, post free	11/6
SWITZERLAND	24 issues, post free	21/-
	12 issues, post free	Frs. 7.—
	24 issues, post free	Frs. 13.50

(Swiss subscriptions may be paid into Postscheck-Konto Basle V 5718).



NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The various Departments in the Swiss Government have been assigned as follows:

Political Department:	
M. Petitpierre,	Deputy: Ph. Etter,
Home Affairs:	
Ph. Etter,	Deputy: M. Weber,
Justice and Police:	
M. Feldmann,	Deputy: J. Escher,
Military:	
K. Kobelt,	Deputy: M. Feldmann,
Finance and Customs:	
M. Weber,	Deputy: M. Petitpierre,
Public Economy:	
M. Rubattel,	Deputy: K. Kobelt,
Post and Railways:	
J. Escher,	Deputy: M. Rubattel.

On New Year's Day, Monsieur K. Kobelt, President of the Swiss Confederation, received at the Federal Palais in Berne, the representatives of the cantonal and municipal authorities of Berne, and members of the Diplomatic Corps, representing fifty accredited missions.

The Federal Council has decided to open a Legation in Djakarta (Indonesia), and has appointed Monsieur René Naville, Counsellor of Legation, as Chargé d'Affaires.

Monsieur Naville was born in 1905 in Cologny (Geneva). He studied law at the Universities of Geneva, Basle, London and Berlin. He entered the diplomatic service in 1931, and two years later he was sent to Paris as Attaché and later on was promoted to the rank of Secretary of Legation. From 1941-1945 he was in charge of the Swiss Consulate in Paris. In 1945, M. Naville was made a Counsellor of Legation and sent to Venezuela as Chargé d'Affaires, where he remained until his return to Berne in 1949.

The South African Minister of Finance, Mr. N. C. Havenga, whilst passing through Switzerland, paid a courtesy visit to Dr. Kobelt, President of the Swiss Confederation. A dinner, offered by the Federal Council, was given at the "Wattenwyl House" in honour of the distinguished guest.

Counsellor of Legation, Dr. Egbert von Graffenried, has been appointed 2nd deputy to the Chief for "Politische Angelegenheiten" at the Federal Political Department in Berne. (Dr. von Graffenried was, for a number of years at the Swiss Legation in London, first as Commercial Attaché and later on as 1st Counsellor of Legation.)

Major Hans Raeber (born 1909 in Lucerne), a member of the Instructors Corps (Artillery), has been appointed Military and Air Attaché to the Swiss Legations in Stockholm, Oslo and Copenhagen with seat at Stockholm, in succession to Colonel of division Probst.

Mr. Albert Jakob Schlatter (born 1891 in Zurich), has been appointed "Eidg. Oberforstinspektor" in succession to the late Dr. Emil Hess.

The Swiss Federal Railways carried 17.03 million passengers in November 1951, 1.41 million more than in November, 1950. The receipts are returned as 19.14 million francs (Nov. 1950: 17.56 million francs).

Goods traffic has increased by 236,000 tons, reaching a total of two million tons carried; the receipts of which are given as 34.54 million francs, which is 3.48 million francs more than in November, 1950.

QUEEN'S HOTEL HASTINGS SUSSEX

UNRIVALLED POSITION ON PROMENADE

General Manager: Robert Lehner, F.H.C.I.

Telephone: Hastings 4167. Telegrams: Queen's Hastings.

Dinner dances arranged during the Easter holiday, April 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, also Christmas programme arranged with gala dances and children's party. Central Heating, hot and cold water and telephones in all bedrooms. The Hotel is situated within easy reach of 3 good golf courses, angling, hacking, hunting, tennis, bowling greens and indoor and outdoor swimming pools. Indoor swimming pool 55 yds. long and 12 yds. wide. Gloucester Restaurant — one of the finest on the south coast. Ballroom, **Piccolo Bar**. Excellent facilities for banquets, conferences, wedding receptions, etc. Two minutes from **Medicinal baths** and station. Write for Tariff.

En pension terms from 25/- per person per day.

A.A. ★★ ★★

Rotary Headquarters.

R.A.C.

Cantonal

Dr. Max Theiler, who recently was awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine, has been made an honorary citizen of Hasle (Entlebuch). The family Theiler originated from Hasle. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Jaques Jenny, at present Manager of the "Zürcher Kantonalbank", has been appointed Manager of the "Schweiz. Kreditanstalt" in Zurich. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Wolfgang von Juvalta, who died in Zurich, has bequeathed 100,000.—frs. to the canton of Grisons for a Fund to assist mentally deficient and blind persons: in addition to this, he left another 31,000.—frs. to various charitable institutions. [A.T.S.]

Dr. Arnold Ith, for the last 23 years "Verkehrsdirektor" of the town of Zurich, has vacated his post, he is succeeded by Dr. Werner Kämpfen. [A.T.S.]

The late Mlle. Frieda Vogt (Zurich), has left an amount of 50,000.—frs. to the home for old people in the commune of Kirchberg (Ct. Zurich).

Dr. Ernst Fritsche, physician-in-chief of the "Kantonale Krankenstalt" in Glarus, has retired from his post; he was, for the last 40 years connected with this institution. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Josef Schmid-Lütschg, architect, and since 1941, mayor of the town of Glarus, is relinquishing his post for reasons of age. He is 78 years old. [A.T.S.]

Mlle. Marguerite Janson of Leubringen has been awarded the Literary Prize of the town of Bienne, as a token of appreciation for her work as a novelist. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Karl Geissbühler (Köniz), has entered the National Council in succession to Professor Dr. Max Weber, who has resigned his seat. Mr. Geissbühler belongs to the Socialist party. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Ernst Flückiger, a teacher at the secondary school of the "See Bezirk", has been nominated an honorary citizen of the town of Murten (Ct. Fribourg), for his many historical works on the town and the "See Bezirk". [A.T.S.]

Dr. Max Obrecht has been elected "Landammann" of the canton of Solothurn for the year 1952. Mr. Gottfried Klaus will act as Vice-Landammann. [A.T.S.]

FOR ALL SWISS NEWSPAPERS

including:

DIE WELTWOCHNE — NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG
ANNABELLE (French & German Editions)
NATIONAL-ZEITUNG BASEL — GAZETTE DE LAUSANNE
SCHWEIZ. ILLUS. ZEITUNG — L'ILLUSTRÉ — SIE & ER
TRIBUNE DE GENÈVE — ILLUSTRAZIONE TICINESE etc.

Enquire for rates from:

SWISS PUBLICITY OFFICE,
61, Woodland Rise, London, N.10. Wanstead 7823.

VINS DU VALAIS

L'Etoile du Valais (Fendant Petillant)

Clos de Montibeuix (Fendant)

Johannisberg

Dôle Clos de Ravaney

Origineaux mis en bouteilles par S.A. Alphonse Orsat à Martigny

VINS VAUDOIS

Vinzel - Luins

Mont s/Rolle - Fechy

Aigle - Yvorne

Origineaux mis en bouteilles par S.A. Hammel à Rolle

Seuls agents pour La Grande Bretagne

MANETTA'S WINE COMPANY
LIMITED

12b, HALF MOON STREET, LONDON, W.1.

'Phone: GROSVENOR 2964.

Degustez ces Vins avec vos repas au

MANETTA'S RESTAURANT

CLARGES STREET, LONDON, W.1.

'Phone: GROSVENOR 2964.

Dr. h.c. Carl Köchlin has retired from his post as President of the Chamber of Commerce in Basle; in appreciation of the great services rendered he has been nominated Honorary President. [A.T.S.]

In remembrance of a deceased son, Mr. & Mrs. Vischer-Simonius of Basle, have given a legacy of 150,000.—frs to the "Basler Heilstätte" at Davos. [A.T.S.]

Dr. E. Lüscher, Professor of Otology at the University of Basle, has been nominated an honorary member of the Royal Society of Medicine in London. [A.T.S.]

The "Bündner Tagblatt" published at Chur, official organ of the Conservative Popular Party, has celebrated its 100th Jubilee. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Fritz Schoder, Librarian of the town of Zofingen, has been nominated Honorary citizen of that town. [A.T.S.]

The late Dr. Gustav Küchler, lawyer, who recently died at Muri (Ct. Aargau), has left various legacies to different charitable institutions, amounting to 43,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

M. Pierre Oguey, has been nominated President of the government of the canton of Vaud for the year 1952. [A.T.S.]

The late Adrien Gilliéron, a clerk at the Registry Office in Cully (Ct. Vaud), has left various legacies to

different charitable institutions, amounting to 56,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The population of the town of Le Locle (Ct. Neuchâtel) at the end of last year, numbered 12,556, or 449 more than in December 1950. More than 3,000 inhabitants are employed in the watch industry.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

Mr. Charles Schäublin, of Evillard, Industrialist, has informed the board of the secondary school at Malleray, that he will pay, himself, the costs of a new school house, which is estimated at 600,000.—frs.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

M. Eric Choisy, Manager of the Municipal Tramway Company Geneva, for the last 23 years, has resigned from his post, on his appointment as General Manager of the S.A. Grande Dixence. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Ex-King Peter of Yugoslavia will shortly settle down at Geneva. His main reason for coming to Geneva is to see his son, Prince Alexander, educated at a Swiss school. [A.T.S.]

Army

Colonel Ernst Ruf, Instructor of the "Motortransporttruppe", has relinquished his post and is placed on the

retired list.

Colonel Schindler, Commander of the Infantry Schools at Colombier, has been appointed 1st sectional chief of the General Staff. Colonel Schindler was born in 1902 and hails from Couvet.

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:—

Lucien Lévy, Watch Manufacturer in Bienne, at the age of 71.

Georges Perrenoud, well-known industrialist, in Le Locle, aged 67.

Professor Robert Dörr, from 1919-1934 Professor of Hygiene and Bacteriology at the University of Basle, in Basle, at the age of 81.

Gaston Schwarz, Founder and Manager of a well-known Watch manufacturing concern at La Chauve-Fonds, in La Chauve-Fonds, aged 58.

Hans Schweizer-Gebhardt, for many years principal partner of the firm Schweizer & Co., Lucerne (Textiles and Embroideries), in Lucerne, at the age of 65.

Robert Maron, a notary in Montreux, and from 1923-1945, President of the commune of Planches-Montreux, in Le Locle, aged 66.

Max Huber-Funk, President of the Board of the firm Emil Scheller & Cie., A.G. Zurich (Chemicals), in Zurich, owing to an accident, at the age of 66.

Victor Baumgartner, a former teacher at the "Realschule" St. Gall, organist at the Dom Church and music critic, in St. Gall, aged 78. (The deceased is the father of the well-known pianist Paul Baumgartner.)

Hermann Baumgartner, Manager of the L. von Roll, A.G., Zurich Engineering Works, at the age of 65.

Josef Büchler, since 1945 a member of the government of the canton of Appenzell I.Rh., in Appenzell, at the age of 60.

ACME TRANSPORT CO. LTD.

ACME HOUSE, WHITECROSS STREET, LONDON, E.C.1

Cables : ACMETRANS Phones : MONArch 2692 (5 Lines)

OFFICIAL AGENTS OF BRITISH RAILWAYS
TRAIN FERRY SERVICE

DIRECT TRUCK LINK

ENGLAND - SWITZERLAND - ENGLAND

WITHOUT UNLOADING via DOVER - DUNKIRK

Two Daily Departures Each Direction

Agents in Switzerland :

GOTH & CO. LTD.

BALE - ZURICH
ST. GALL - GENEVA, etc.

Jean Hurny, for many years a teacher at the Commercial School of Neuchâtel, in Neuchâtel, aged 81.

Gottfried Kradolfer, formerly Manager of the "Vereinigten Bern-Worb Bahnen" in Wabern, nr. Berne, at the age of 85.

Dr. h.c. Heinrich Wild, inventor of "Geodätischer" instruments and *doctor honoris causa* of the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich, in Baden, aged 74.

Emil Baumann, proprietor of a large builders contracting firm in Altdorf, at the age of 65. The deceased was for many years, a member of the "Landrat" of the canton Uri.

Marc Loréтан, Manager of the Société Energie Ouest Suisse, and one of the engineers who built the 2nd Simplon tunnel, in Lausanne, aged 64.

Angelo Martignoni, from 1927-1947, a member of the government of the canton of Ticino, in Lugano, aged 62.

August Meier, since 1926 a member of the "Kantonsrat", Zurich, and Vice-President of the "Bankkommission" of the Cantonal Bank Zurich. The deceased was a member of the Socialist party. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The undermentioned anniversaries are announced from Switzerland:—

Professor Dr. Hans Fierz (70), he was for many years Professor of Chemical Technology at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich and is the author of a great many scientific works.

Dr. Karl Miescher (60), Director of the CIBA and head of the Pharmaceutical Department; he enjoys an international reputation as a scientist. In 1946, the University of Basle honoured him with the degree of *doctor honoris causa*.

Emil Junker (60), Director of the "Kohlenunion Geldner, A.G.", an authority in the coal industry.

Dr. Franz Stämpfli (70), from 1916-1948 "Bundesanwalt". In 1941, he was honoured by the University of Berne with degree of *doctor honoris causa*.

Victor Buchs (85), from 1920-1936, a member of the government of the canton of Fribourg.

Professor Hans Zickendraht (70), Professor of Physics at the University of Basle.

Dr. E. F. Knuchel (60), since 1918 a member of the Editorial Staff of the "Basler Nachrichten" and author of historical plays and travel books.

A. L. Gassmann (75), "Musikdirektor" and well-known composer of folklore songs for male and mixed choirs.

Dr. Guido Fanconi (60), Director of the Children's Hospital Zurich and lecturer at the University of Zurich.

Professor August Hagenbach (80), from 1906-1931, Professor of Physics at the University of Basle.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

Despite more stringent prosecution and imposing heavier fines and even imprisonment in some cases, traffic accidents are still on the increase as the following figures show:— *Ct. Aargau*: December, 1951: 124 accidents, eight persons killed, 75 injured; *Ct. Basle-County*: from Jan.-Dec., 1951: 494 accidents; (1950: 484), 13 persons killed, 477 injured; *Ct. Berne*: December, 1951: 333 accidents, 8 persons killed, 169 injured (Dec. 1950: 155); *Ct. Thurgau*: December 1951: 50 accidents, 3 persons killed, 26 persons injured.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

The following have celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary (60), in Switzerland:— Mr. and Mrs. L. Lesquereux, of Neuchâtel; Mr. and Mrs. K. Bolliger-Himmelsbach, of Rheinfelden. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The Swissair has established a new record by a recent flight on the New York-Gander-Geneva route, the time taken being 11 hours and twelve minutes.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

According to statistics published there are 283,400 foreigners living in Switzerland. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A Swiss artist, Robert Schiess, who served for 22 years in the famed Swiss Guard of the Vatican, has been decorated by the Pope with the Knight of the Order of St. Silvester.

During his term of service with the Pontifical Guard, Schiess decorated the Swiss Guard's Chapel and theatre.

* * *

By 113 votes to 4, the Swiss National Council has decided on a three years' experimental plan for television.

The experimental station will be constructed at Zurich, at an estimated cost of Frs. 4,000,000 (£325,000).

The cost will be met by public loans, and contributions from various sources, including the Swiss Confederation.

FOR SALE

Detached House, 12 Rooms,
2 Kitchens, 2 Bathrooms, Garage
accommodation for 2 Cars
Large Garden. - Price £6,000

Convenient distance Trains, Buses. London, S.W.

Apply, Box No. 23,

c/o Swiss Observer, 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.

SCHWEIZERBUND (SWISS CLUB)

74, CHARLOTTE STREET :: W.I.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Members please support the Club, invite your friends for a meal and a dance. Wedding breakfasts, receptions, etc. Parties up to 120 can be catered for. Please make arrangements with the Steward. - - - (MUSEum 4443)

Two families in the little Swiss village of Raefis exchanged sons as Christmas presents — thereby correcting a four-year-old error.

The boys were mixed up a few hours after birth in hospital in 1947, but this year the family resemblances were too strong to ignore. The mothers took blood tests and discovered the mistake.

* * *

The première of the opera, "La Botte Rouge," was recently given at the Stockholm Opera. Afterwards a dinner was given at the Swiss Legation in honour of the Swiss composer, Sutermeister.

* * *

A group of Swiss banks has concluded an agreement with Mr. Havenga, the South African Finance Minister, for a loan to South Africa of 300 million Swiss francs (about £24,500,000) at 4 per cent., repayable in 18 years. It is expected that the loan will be issued two months after the approval of the agreement by the South African Government. Bondholders will have the choice of being paid either in Swiss francs or in South African currency.

* * *

The doubling of the Zurich-Sargans-Buchs main line is proceeding rapidly. The Reichenburg-Ziegelbrücke and Unterterzen-Flums sections were doubled in 1950. The second track has been completed on the 1¾-mile Schübelbach-Buttikon-Reichenburg section, on which double-track working began on December 18. In the 36 miles between Zurich and Ziegelbrücke, only 4½ miles are still single, between Lachen (25 miles from Zurich) and Schübelbach-Buttikon. This section is to be doubled within the next two years.

Flying among friends

Next time you go to Switzerland,
go by air — Swissair. It's quick. But
better still, it's homely and comfortable.

The Swissair people are your people, and they know how
to look after you.



Fly SWISSAIR

Special reduced fares for Swiss Industries Fair.

RETURN:—		
LONDON—BASLE	£23 10 0
LONDON—GENEVA	£23 10 0
LONDON—ZURICH	£25 0 0
LONDON—ZURICH RETURN		
BASLE—LONDON	£24 5 0
MANCHESTER—ZURICH		£29 10 0

Ask your travel agent for further particulars.

you'll enjoy it

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

CRC 12A

SWISS INDUSTRIES FAIR BASLE.

19th — 29th April 1952.

The 36th Swiss Industries Fair takes place in Basle from the 19th to 29th April, 1952. More than 2,000 firms are taking part as exhibitors in this great display of goods which emphasises the international importance of the products offered by the leading Swiss export industries.

Switzerland depends more than almost any other land on the exchange of goods between different countries. She herself has practically no raw materials and only limited quantities of foodstuffs and hence obtains the necessary commodities from all over the world in exchange for industrial products which are the result of immense labour and applied skill. The 36th Swiss Industries Fair, due to take place from 19th to 29th April, 1952, in Basle, offers an excellent display of the extremely varied production of Swiss industry, where those national industries such as the watchmaking industry, the textile industry, the machinery industry, the electrical industry and various other industries which specialise in export, concentrate their goods and offer them to the world's markets.

2,147 exhibitors on a total exhibition area of 1 million square feet; 670,000 visitors, of whom 30,000 came from abroad (11,750 recorded at the Foreign Visitors Office as coming from 72 different countries), those are a few figures from last year's Swiss Industries Fair in Basle. They illustrate the importance of this greatest of all Swiss commercial fairs, at which it is principally the export industries which are represented with their wide range of high class products, which in itself explains the great attraction of the Fair for the business world.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

The Publishers would be much obliged if subscribers, who are in arrear with their subscription, would kindly make an early remittance, it would save both money and time.

THANK YOU!

Nouvelle Société Helvétique

(LONDON GROUP)

OPEN MEETING

Tuesday, 29th January, 1952, 7 p.m.

Dr. ERNST MOERGELI

Joint Director of the Secrétariat des
Suisses à l'Etranger, Berne,

will speak (in German) on

"AKTUELLE AUSLANDSCHWEIZER FRAGEN"

as an introduction for a discussion, followed by the showing
of some new films.

at the

Vienna Café, Berkeley Arcade,
opposite Baker Street Station, N.W.1.

All Swiss and Friends are heartily welcome.