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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Monsieur Luigi Einaudi, President of the Italian Republic, has, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the internment of 30,000 Italian refugees in Switzerland, sent a message to the President of the Swiss Confederation, in which he expressed his personal, as well as the thanks of his government to the Swiss population for the hospitality extended to his countrymen.

The Italian ambassador in Berne, has presented a bronze-tablet to Dr. Etter, President of the Swiss Confederation, as a token of gratitude.

* * *

In December, 1952, the Federal Chambers considerably reduced the budget of the Political Department in Berne. (Foreign office.)

The Federal-Council, as well as the said Department were thus forced to make certain reductions in the personnel, and consequently 64 functionaries will, at the end of this year become redundant.

* * *

Monsieur Yakub Kadri Karaosmanoglu, hitherto Turkish Minister in Berne, has presented his credentials as Ambassador, to the President of the Swiss Confederation, and Monsieur P. Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister.

* * *

The Federal Council has delegated Consul-General Hans Herzog, at San José, to represent our country at the inauguration festivities of the new President of the Republic of Costa-Rica.

* * *

The Swiss Federal Railways have carried in August, 1953, 18.48 million passengers, or 3.11 million more than in August, 1952. Receipts: 31.36 million francs. (August, 1952: 26.09 million francs).

Goods traffic is returned as 1.56 million tons, an increase of 2,000 tons over the 1952 figures. Receipts: 31.11 million francs. (August, 1952: 30.93 million francs).

Cantonal

Dr. Aloys ab Yberg, a former member of the government of the canton Schwyz, and of the National Council, has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Dr. Adolf Meyer (Küsnacht, Zurich), formerly Manager and chief engineer of the "A.G. Brown Boveri & Cie", Baden, has received the Henderson gold medal from the Franklin Institute of Pennsylvania. (U.S.A.) [A.T.S.]

* * *

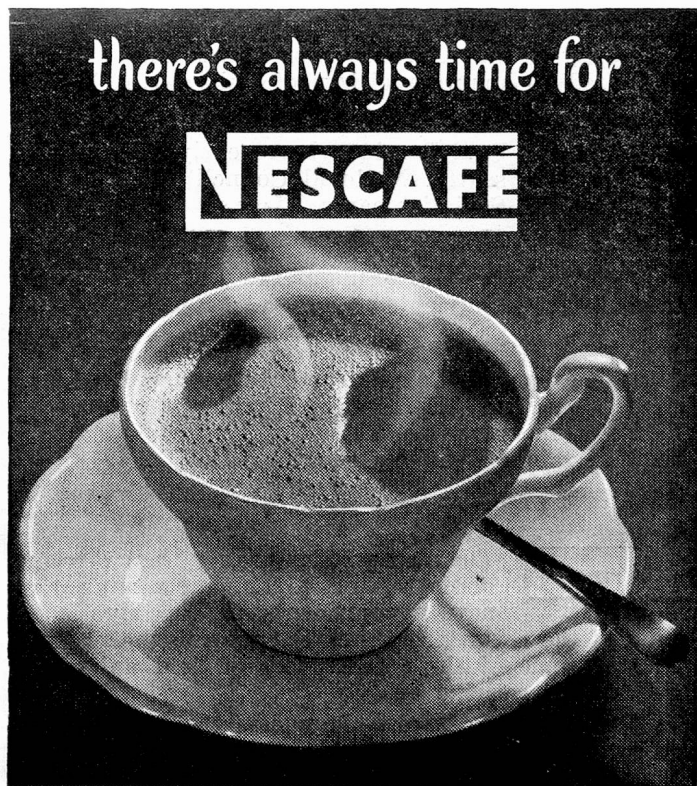
M. René Barbezat, aged 39, of Bienne has been elected Inspector of Police of the town of Bienne.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

The late Anton Hürlimann "Grundbuchverwalter" of Walchwil, (Ct. Zug) has left an amount of 100.000.— frs. to various charitable institutions.

[A.T.S.]



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ANOTHER OF NESTLÉ'S GOOD THINGS

91.AA

Dr. Max Meier, rector of the Realgymnasium, Basle, has resigned from his post, after 40 years service, for reasons of age. He was for a number of years a member of the Grand Council of the canton Basle-Town.

Mr. Max Thoma, Director of the "Basler Gas-und Wasserwerke" has vacated his office on reaching retiring age. [A.T.S.]

A cashier of the banking-house "Rohner, A.G." St. Gall, was attacked, and threatened with a revolver, by two men, who entered the "Change" office, under the pretext of purchasing some Austrian currency.

The cashier was bound to a chair, whilst the men ransacked the office. They got away with an amount of 25,000.— frs. in various foreign currencies. [A.T.S.]

The Swiss Bankers Association has held its Annual Meeting at Baden, under the presidency of Dr. Charles de Loes. (Geneva).

Amongst the visitors who attended the meeting, were: "Landammann," Dr. Ernst Bachmann (Aarau), Ministers Dr. Alfred Zehnder and Jean Hotz. Mr. Emil Zaugg, member of the Board of the "A.G. Brown Beveri & Cie", Baden read a paper on "Exportfinanzierung und Maschinenindustrie". [A.T.S.]

The late Jakob Halter of Bischofszell (Ct. Thurgau) has left an amount of 63,300.— frs. to a number of charitable institutions. [A.T.S.]

The "Kantonsschule" Frauenfeld (Ct. Thurgau) has celebrated its 100th Jubilee. [A.T.S.]

M. Arnold Reymond, formerly Professor of Philosophy at the University of Lausanne, has been nominated an honorary citizen of Pully. (Ct. Vaud).

M. Henri Manfrini, a lawyer of Lausanne, is succeeding M. Paul Perrin, who recently resigned his parliamentary seat. (National Council) M. Manfrini belongs to the Socialist party. [A.T.S.]

Over 750,000 visitors went through the turnstiles at the 34th "Comptoir Suisse" in Lausanne, which closed its doors on September 27th. [A.T.S.]

S. André, Industrialists, and former proprietor of the chateau du Bois Caran in Collonge Bellerive, has been arrested. He is charged with the misappropriation of an amount of 320,000.— frs. belonging to a finance establishment at Geneva. [A.T.S.]

Army

The Federal Council, at their meeting of September, 21st, made a number of new appointments in the high command of the Swiss army, partly owing to the resignations of some of the commanders of field units who had reached retiring age.

The following have relinquished their commands, having reached the age of 65:

Army-corps commanders Hans Frick, Head of the army instruction and education department (Ausbildungschef); Heinrich Iselin, commander of the 4th army-corps; Divisionary-colonel Ivo Gugger, Chief of the army personnel (Chef des Personellen); Brigade-

colonel Walter Koenigs, commander of the Territorial Zone 1.

Divisionary-colonel Walter Maurer, artillery chief of arms ("Waffenchef"), has tendered his resignation for reasons of health.

The under-mentioned promotions and appointments have been made:

Army-corps commander Marius Corbat, born 1893, of Vendlincourt, since January 1st, 1950, commander of the 1st army-corps, to be Head of the army instruction and education department. (Ausbildungschef).

The command of the 1st army-corps has been entrusted to army-corps commander Samuel Gonard, born 1896, of Neuchâtel, and since January, 1st, 1951, in command of the 3rd army-corps.

Divisionary-colonel Richard Frey, born 1894, of Schaffhausen, formerly Infantry chief of arms (Waffenchef), has been appointed commander of the 3rd army-corps with promotion to the rank of army-corps commander.

Divisionary-colonel Hans Thomann, born, 1899, of Märwil, has been appointed commander of the 4th army-corps with promotion to the grade of army-corps commander.

Divisionary-colonel Immanuel Roesler, hitherto in command of the 8th division, has become commander of the 4th division.

Brigade-colonel Ernst Uhlmann, born 1902, formerly commander of the Infantry-brigade II, will command the 8th division, with promotion to the rank of divisionary-colonel. He will be replaced by Colonel Max Häni, born, 1905, of Wengi nr. Büren, with promotion to the rank of Brigade-colonel.

Colonel Max Petry, artillery instructor, born 1904, of Walterswil, has been nominated artillery chief of arms (Waffenchef), with promotion to the rank of divisionary-colonel.

Colonel Max Waibel, Infantry instructor, born 1901, of Basle, has been appointed Infantry Chief of arms (Waffenchef) with promotion to the rank of divisionary-colonel.

Brigade-colonel Karl Schmid, infantry instructor, born 1891, of Romanshorn, has become chief of the

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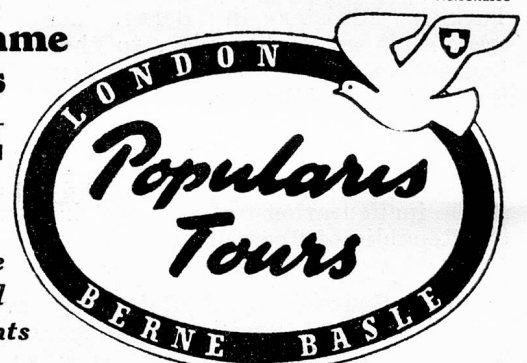
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army personnel, (Chef des Personellen), with promotion to the rank of divisionary-colonel.

Brigade-colonel Hans Brunner, born 1904, of Küblis, commander of the "Schliess-Schulen", Wallenstadt, has been entrusted with the command of a Fortress brigade.

Colonel Ulrich von Sury, born 1898, of Solothurn, has been appointed commander of a Fortress brigade, with promotion to the rank of Brigade-colonel.

Colonel, i.G. Richard de Blonay, Instructor, born 1898, of Blonay and Vevey, has been put in command of the Territorial Zone, I, with the rank of Brigade-colonel. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Pierre Wavre, advocate, in Neuchâtel, at the age of 74. The deceased was for many years a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Neuchâtel, over which he presided in 1926/27.

Etienne Perret, Manager of the "Konservenfabrik" Rorschach, with which firm he was connected for 40 years, in Rorschach, aged 69.

G. Helbing-Bernoulli, senior partner in the Publishing firm of "Helbing & Lichtenhahn", Basle, in Basle at the age of 79. The deceased was for a number of years a member of the "Weiteren", and afterwards of the "Engeren Bürgerrats."

Emil Altenburger, well-known architect, of Solothurn, in Solothurn, aged 68.

Dr. Emil Ermatinger, from 1909-1912, Professor of German literature at the Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, and from 1912-1942, Professor at

the University of Zurich. Best-known of his works are "Gottfried Keller's Leben", and "Dichtung und Geistesleben der deutschen Schweiz". He died in Zurich, at the age of 80.

René Secrétan, from 1906-1919, a lawyer in Lausanne, aged 74. The deceased entered in 1919 into the service of the "Schweiz. Rückversicherungsgesellschaft" Zurich, of which concern he was Manager from 1933 to 1944.

Dr. Ernst Eschmann, Editor and Author in Zurich, at the age of 67.

Felix Tobler-Gsell, for 30 years head of the "Weinbaugenossenschaft", Thal, and for a number of years a member of the Grand Council of the canton of St. Gall, in Thal, aged 75.

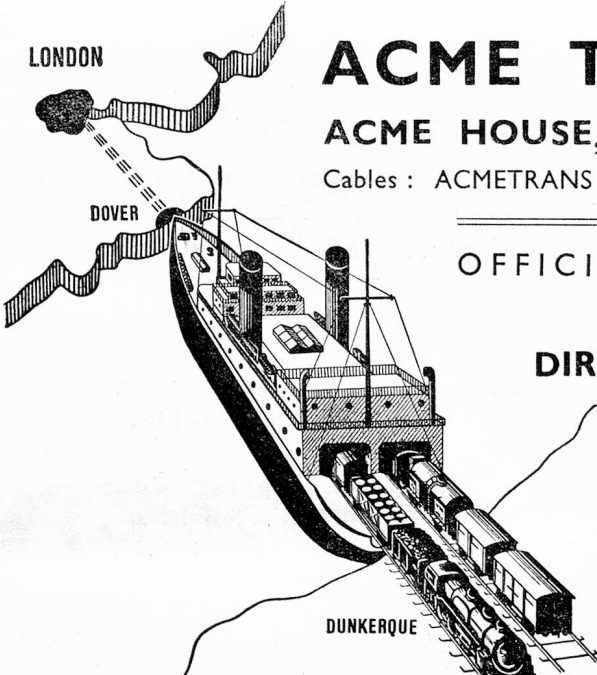
Professor, Dr. med. Wolfer, since 1921 a lecturer, and since 1942, Professor of Pathology and Therapeutic at the University of Zurich, in Zurich, at the age of 67. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The undermentioned couples have celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary (65) in Switzerland: Mr. & Mrs. F. Jörmann-Stüssi of Chur, and Mr. & Mrs. J. G. Schwendener-Schwendener of Buchs. (Ct. St. Gall). [A.T.S.]

* * *

At a meeting in Vevey, delegates of the Vintners' Guild unanimously voted the appointments of Louis Fost (theatrical designer in Paris), and Maurice Lehmann (Administrator of the National Lyrical Theatres of France) as designer and art director respectively, for the 1955 Vintners' Festival. This Festival is held every 20 or 25 years in Vevey. The libretto and vocal score for the forthcoming festival



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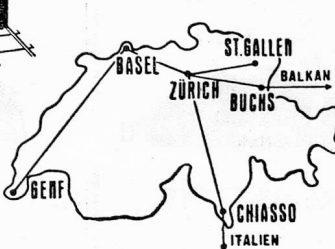
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are by Geo. Blanc; the musical score by Carlo Hemmerling. Both these authors are from Vevey and their work is very popular in Switzerland. Scenic effects will be elaborated by Jo Baeriswyl, Geneva.

At a recent meeting in Bâle, presided over by National Councillor Paul Gysler, the Board of the Swiss Federal Railways heard a report made by the General Management concerning the financial situation for the second half of the present year.

According to the terms of the Swiss-German Agreement on the German Debt, of the sums still invested in Germany, 140 million Swiss francs are to be used to partially cover the cost of electrification of the Karlsruhe-Bâle railroad. Following the information given at the Meeting concerning the negotiations about this matter, the Board ratified the Agreement with the German Federal Railways, then viewed the track which is to be electrified.

The National Bank of Sweden has announced that the currency allotted to Swedish travellers going abroad is to be raised from 750 to 1,000 crowns. This new ruling applies to several countries, including Switzerland.

The Swiss National Library Report for 1950 expressed the hope that Swiss publishers would be able to maintain their yearly lists at about 3,500 to 3,600 new books. This production was considered as well adapted to the country's literary and scientific production. The level was indeed maintained in the following year, but in 1952 a drop of some 10% occurred. It is the French, i.e. Western Swiss output which seems more particularly in jeopardy. Comparing 1952 figures with those for the years 1935-38, it is clear that the publication of books in German remains at a level of 66% higher than pre-war figures, whereas the number of publications in French does not exceed 23%. It is evident that books are Switzerland's most effective means of making the outside world aware of its individual art and culture. It appeared necessary, therefore, to considerably increase the distribution of the National Bibliography. The Federal Government has gladly sponsored an action tending to promote knowledge of Swiss culture and subsidized the publica-

tion of 6,200 copies of "Le Livre Suisse" (a yearly national bibliography) which are to be sent to leading libraries and learned societies and booksellers throughout the world.

The Zurich Fine Arts Museum is presently organising a very remarkable Exhibition of Dutch Painting, to be opened early this winter. Pictures by the greatest Dutch masters — Frans Hals, Rembrandt, Vermeer and others — will be lent by Belgian and Dutch national galleries.

Mr. Albert Candrian, General Manager of the Seiler Hotels at Zermatt, to which he was appointed in 1944, has now been asked to take over the General Managership of the Grand Hotel Suvretta-Haus at St. Moritz. He will be replaced at Zermatt by Mr. Ernest Hofer, now Manager of the Hotel Mont-Cervin, also at Zermatt. The Board of Administration of the Seiler Hotels has appointed Mr. Pessina (former Director of the Lucerne Tourist Office and later of the Montreux Tourist Office), member of its Managing Board.

Mr. Emile Louis Niederhauser has been appointed General Manager of the Lausanne-Palace and Beau-Site Hotel. Mr. Niederhauser has worked in the hotel trade in many countries and in 1945 was appointed Manager of the Mena House, Semiramis and other hotels of the Heliopolis Group in Cairo. Mr. Niederhauser's predecessor at the Lausanne-Palace, Mr. René Mojonnet, was killed in a plane crash last year.

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