

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: - (1953)

Heft: 1203

Rubrik: News at random

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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, L.S. 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. 38. No. 1203.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24th, 1953.

PRICE 11d.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES. (Fortnightly issue.)

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

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



NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Following the example of Italy, the government of the United States of America has raised the status of their Legation in Berne to that of an Embassy.

The Foreign Office announced that the Swiss Federal Council has given its *agrément* to the raising of the status of the British Legation at Berne to that of an Embassy, and to the appointment of Sir Patrick Scrivener, the British Minister, as Ambassador.

The Canadian government has raised their Berne Legation to the rank of Embassy. Minister Victor Doré will shortly present his credentials to the President of the Swiss Confederation, as Ambassador.

Minister, Dr. H. Frölicher, from 1938-1945 Swiss Minister in Berlin, and afterwards at the Foreign Office in Berne, has tendered his resignation on reaching retiring age.

The Federal Council has expressed to Minister Frölicher, who hails from the canton of Solothurn, its appreciation for the services he has rendered.

Monsieur Asaf Ali, Indian Minister, accredited to the Confederation, has died in Berne at the age of 64. He assumed his post in July 1952 after having been Ambassador in Washington. Minister Asaf Ali, is the 2nd Indian Minister who has died *en poste* in Berne, since 1950.

Dr. med. Jean-Maurice Rubli has been appointed 4th Delegate of the International Red Cross Committee; he has left for Korea.

The Swiss Federal Railways have carried in February, 1953, 15.46 million passengers, 1.46 million less than in February 1952. Receipts, 19.79 million frs. (Febr. 1952: 20.22 million frs.)

Goods traffic is returned as 1.29 million tons carried, 153,000 tons less than at the same period in

1952. Receipts: 27.11 million frs. (Febr. 1952: 27.25 million frs.)

The Swiss government has made a payment of 700,000.— frs., to the United Nations' International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) as Switzerland's contribution for the year 1953.

The Federal Council has appointed Dr. J. G. Baer, Professor of Zoology and Anatomy at the University of Neuchâtel, as a delegate to the XIV International Congress of Zoology, which will be held at Copenhagen in August of this year.

Dr. Robert Sandoz (born 1905), a citizen of Dombresson and Le Locle, has been nominated Vice-Director of the "Verrechnungsstelle" Zurich.

Mr. Charles Albert Dubois, a senior official at the Swiss Foreign Office, has been put in charge of the Press and Information Division, for which he has

ANNUAL SWISS SPORTS AND GARDEN PARTY

SATURDAY, 30th MAY, 1953

at

THE POLYTECHNIC STADIUM, CHISWICK
from 2.15 to 7 p.m.

The programme includes

ATHLETIC EVENTS
BOYS' and GIRLS' RACES
MIXED RACES
SPECIAL EVENTS

and musical entertainment by the Swiss Accordion Club.

Prizes will be given to the winners and also to the winners of a competition organised by the Swiss Rifle Association.

Admission free, no tickets required.

Covered Stand in case of rain.

Refreshments available.

Programmes with full details will be on sale on the Grounds.

How to reach the Polytechnic Stadium, Chiswick:

By Train from Waterloo to Chiswick S.R. Station thence a few minutes walk.

By Underground District Line to Turnham Green Station, thence by No. 55 bus to Chiswick S.R. Station.

By Bus No. 71 from Hammersmith to Polytechnic Sports Ground.

been responsible in a temporary capacity since October, 1951. Mr. Dubois, who is 43, has studied law in Lausanne and Vienna before taking up Government work, and has led the Swiss diplomatic mission to Japan in 1947.

Cantonal

Josef Jud, the oldest inhabitant of the town of Zurich, has celebrated his 101st birthday anniversary. He was born in 1852, and is a citizen of Krummenau. (Toggenburg). [A.T.S.]

States Councillor Hefti, since 1938 a member of the States Council, representing the canton of Glarus, has resigned. He was from 1920-1942 a member of the government of the canton of Glarus, and from 1942-1947, "Landamman" of the canton of Glarus, he is 74 years old. [A.T.S.]

During the year 1952, 4,943 (1951: 4,694) traffic accidents have occurred in the canton of Berne. 137 (1951: 145) persons were killed, and 3,596 (1951: 3,419) were injured. [A.T.S.]

Charles Schäublin, Industrialist of Leubringen (Ct. Berne), who some time ago defrayed the building costs for a new school in Malleray, (Jura Bernois) has given a further 60.000.— frs. for this purpose. [A.T.S.]

Mme. Veuve Thuring of St. Imier, (Jura Bernois) has celebrated her 103rd birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

Dr. Eduard Süss, and Dr. Hans Oesch have resigned as members of the Superior Court of the canton of Appenzell A.Rh. [A.T.S.]

Dr. Christian Gasser, since 1948, Professor for "Betriebswirtschaftslehre" at the Commercial University of St. Gall has tendered his resignation. He will shortly enter into the service of the "Georg Fischer, A.G." in Schaffhausen. [A.T.S.]

Mme. Veuve Besson-Hediger, of La Côte, the oldest Swiss citizeness, celebrated on the 9th of this month, her 105th birthday anniversary. She was born at Reinach (Ct. Aargau) and by marriage became a Vaudoise. [A.T.S.]

M. Lucien Rubattel, since 1942 a member of the government of the canton of Vaud, has intimated that he will not be a candidate at next year's election. He was President of the cantonal government in 1945, and at present is its Vice-President. [A.T.S.]

Throughout the canton of Vaud, organisations are going ahead with their preparations to celebrate the canton's entry into the Swiss Confederation 150 years ago. The director of the cantonal Fine Arts Museum, for example — Mr. Manganel — has gathered 250 works by painters representative of artistic trends from the 18th century to the present time.

In the Palais de Rumine, in Lausanne, visitors will be able to see paintings by Bocion, Chavannes, Vuillermet, Hermanjat and many others. An important place is given to the universally-minded Félix Vallotton. Contemporary artists are represented by Casimir Reymond, Milo Martin, Charles Chinet,

Charles Clément, Bosshard and, in particular, by René Auberjonois, whose works fill a whole gallery. The exhibition will be open until the end of the year.

—oOo—

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Caspar Widmer, famous rifle shot, in St. Gall, at the age of 79. The deceased, a citizen of Lucerne, had carried on since 1910, the business of gunsmith in St. Gall. At the early age of 21, he was declared "Schützenkönig" at the Federal Shooting Competition, which took place in 1895 at Winterthur. Since then he was on numerous occasions in the top rank at Federal and Cantonal Shooting Competitions. He represented Switzerland sixteen times at International Shooting Competitions; in 1909, he was declared "Weltmeister" in "kneeling" shooting at Hamburg, and in 1913, he gained "Weltmeisterschaft" in "standing" shooting at Cambray. (U.S.A.)

Jean Bosshard, founder of the "Liga für wirtschaftliche Freiheit", and from 1924-1933, a member of the parish council of St. Gall, in St. Gall, aged 64.

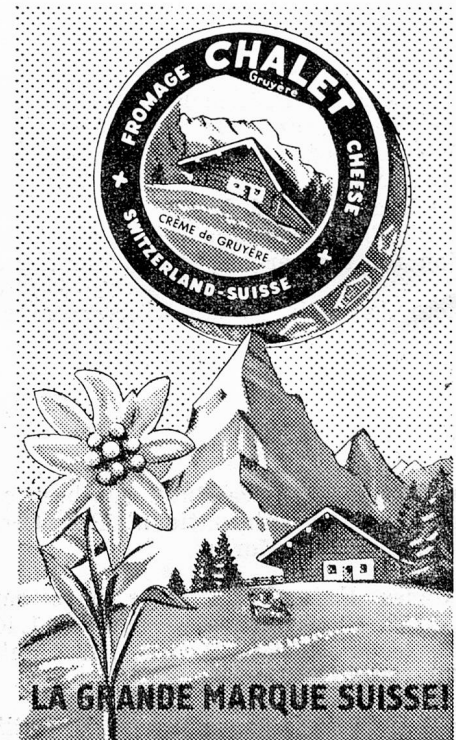
Dr. Alfred Stückelberg, son of the well-known Basle painter. He had practised as a lawyer in Basle, and was for many years Portuguese Consul, in Basle, at the age of 83.

Paul Chemitelin, Manager of a factory manufacturing synthetic watch stones, at Courtepin, in Fribourg, aged 69.

Victor Buchs, from 1919-1936, a member of the government of the canton of Fribourg, in Fribourg, at the age of 87.

Gottfried Amstutz, Director of the Solothurn Zollikofen-Berne railway, in Solothurn, aged 69.

Alfred Bullet, from 1921-1941, Sub-Manager of



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(Send stamped addressed envelope with remittance).

Space kindly offered by Mr. Charles Bertschi of "Berkeley Arms Hotel."

the Cantonal Bank of Fribourg, in Fribourg, at the age of 84.

Paul Benner, composer of church music, and for 39 years conductor of the "Société Chorale de Neuchâtel", in Neuchâtel, aged 75.

Emile Gétaz, from 1896 Editor, since 1901, Director of the "Feuille d'Avis de Vevey." He was one of the co-founders of the Vaudois Press Association, in Vevey, at the age of 86.

Casmir Gremaud, for many years President of the commune of Echarlens, and a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Fribourg, in Echarlens, aged 86.

Fritz Landolt, formerly "Bausekretär" of Lucerne, and custodian of the Richard Wagner museum in Tribschen, in Lucerne, at the age of 73.

Hans E. Morf, Paris correspondent of the "Basler Nachrichten", in Berne, aged 68.

Divisional-Colonel Hans Pfyffer von Altshofen, in Lucerne, at the age of 87.

The deceased was from 1904-1908, Chief of Staff of the 4th Division; two years later he took over the command of the 10th Infantry Brigade, which post he occupied until 1917, when, for a short time he commanded the 17th Brigade (Zürich). From 1917-18 he was commander of the Gotthard fortress with the rank of Divisional Colonel.

After the 1st world war he occupied for some time the position of Swiss Minister to Poland.

P. Vigil Schädler, Professor at the Benedictine College Sarnen, since 1928, in Sarnen, aged 66.

Dr. med. Paul Bommer, for 50 years physician-in-

chief at the "Krankenhaus" Schwyz in Schwyz, at the age of 89.

Mme. Betty Paraud, actress and journalist, in Lausanne. The deceased, who was born at Geneva, appeared for many years on the stage in France and Belgium. On her return to Switzerland in 1940, she became a collaborator of the Radio Lausanne.

Christian Dillier-Omlin, senior partner and President of the Board of the "Dillier, A.G." Sarnen. He was for many years a member of the "Kantonsrat" Obwalden, over which he presided in 1944/45. He died in Sarnen at the age of 78.

Dr. Waldmar Jollos, author and journalist; born in 1886 at Moscow, he became later on a Swiss citizen, he was well-known as a translator of Russian literature, and was for many years connected with the "Neue Zürcher Zeitung".

Jakob Brüttsch, artist, in Schaffhausen, at the age of 66. He was best-known as a landscape painter.

[A.T.S.]

The undermentioned Legacies and Donations are announced in the Swiss Press:

The late Marc Birkigt, founder of the Hispano-Suiza works has left an amount of 60.000.— frs. to the commune of Versoix for charitable purposes.

An anonymous donor has given an amount of 60.000.— frs. to the Evangelical church council of Bischofszell for the building of a church hall.

The heirs of the late J. Zubler-Fehlmann, Manufacturer in Sursee, have donated an amount of 10.000.— frs. to the Protestant Church community of Sursee.

The late Arnold J. Eugster-Altherr, "Gemeindehauptmann" in Speicher, has left a sum of 8,500.— frs. to the commune of Speicher for charitable purposes. [A.T.S.]

A Swiss expedition left Zurich for an attempt on the unconquered Himalayan peak of Dhaulagiri (26,810 ft.) in Nepal. [A.T.S.]

The following couples have celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary: (60) in Switzerland: Mr. & Mrs. G. Wild-Lacroix of Basle; Mr. & Mrs. A. Will-Caspar of Basle; Mr. & Mrs. J. Quartenoud of Fribourg; Mr. & Mrs. A. Wyss-Hunziker, of Basle. [A.T.S.]

ANGLO-SWISS CORONATION BALL FRIDAY, 5th JUNE, 1953

The Anglo-Swiss Coronation Ball, organised by the Anglo-Swiss Society of Great Britain, will take place at

LONDONDERRY HOUSE,
PARK LANE, LONDON,

on
FRIDAY, JUNE 5th,
from 9.0 p.m. to 2.0 a.m.

Dancing will be continuous in the Grand Ball-room, with a Running Buffet in the Dining Room and a Bar in the Library.

Non-members of the Anglo-Swiss Society will be warmly welcomed at this Ball.

Tickets at 27/6 each, inclusive of buffet, soft drinks and coffee, can be obtained from:—

THE ANGLO-SWISS SOCIETY,
HILL HOUSE,
17, HANS PLACE, LONDON, S.W.1.
(KNI 1331.)

Here are further balances of the accounts for 1952 of the following cantons:

Schaffhausen: *Credit* Balance: 78.980.— frs.
Schwyz: *Debit* Balance: 197.937.— frs. [A.T.S.]

The following anniversaries are mentioned in the Press at home:

Cuno Amiet (85) of Solothurn, one of the leading Swiss painters.

Dr. Julius Schmidhauser (60) living at Losono (Ct. Ticino) well-known author. Amongst his best-known works are: "Der Kampf um das geistige Reich", and "Das Reich der Söhne".

National-Councillor, Paul Zigerli (70), of Zurich, eminent Engineer. A number of power stations, both in Switzerland and abroad, have been built after his plans.

Dr. Rudolf Maag (70) of Dielsdorf (Ct. Zurich) head of the "Dr. R. Maag, A.G." in Dielsdorf.

Professor Robert Faesi (70) of Zurich, for over 40 years Professor of Literature at the University of Zurich. He is renowned as an author of biographies, novels and plays. [A.T.S.]

The fourth International Bach Festival is to be held at Schaffhausen from May 8 to 17. The Festival, which has already acquired a great reputation throughout Europe, this year offers a programme of wide variety. It opens on Saturday, May 9, with three Bach chorals. In all, there will be nine concerts in which eminent soloists and choirs both from inside and outside Switzerland will take part.

An important mission of high officials from Asia and the Far-East has visited the Swiss Federal Railways to see some of the country's characteristic installations, such as single-line working, the busy Soleure-Oensingen line, signalling equipment, etc. At the end of the fourth quarterly period of 1952, the decoration of 1,260 carriages had been renewed — including the display of 212 coloured reproductions. Important modifications in the uniforms of Swiss railway officials have been carried out. Open-necked tunics have been introduced for station and train employees, with free replacement of shirts and ties. The quality of the different materials as well as the cut has also been greatly improved.

The Swiss Federal Railways has ordered four 1,500-h.p. Co-Co type diesel-electric locomotives to be

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used for transfer of goods trains from the Basel Rhine port at Klein-Hünigen and Birsfelden to the marshalling yard at MuttENZ and to the German Federal system. These locomotives are expected to go into service in 1954.

* * *

Sixteen new road signs have been approved by the Swiss Government. They have been recommended by the United Nations and will shortly be introduced on roads in Switzerland. Acceptance of the signs has yet to be confirmed by several other countries.

Another innovation that will be particularly welcomed by motorists visiting Switzerland is the decision of the Swiss Touring Club to fix signs giving the heights of all localities along mountain roads.

* * *

Plans are now well ahead for this year's celebrations in St. Gall of the traditional Children's Festival, which is held there every two years. It starts on a Tuesday, June 30, when all the schoolchildren form a procession to climb the picturesquely-named Rosenberg (hill of roses) watched by hundreds of thousands of spectators. There the children will sing, play games and take part in competitions. The Children's Festival in turn pays tribute to the famous St. Gall textile industry, some of whose products, in the form of colourful costumes, will be on show. And one of the highlights, from the culinary point of view, will be the offering of the traditional roast sausages.

* * *

M. Monnet, the president, and members of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel

Community received in Luxembourg the Swiss delegation accredited to the High Authority, headed by M. Bauer. M. Monnet emphasized that no limits had been fixed to the community, which remained open to all nations willing to join. M. Bauer said that his accreditation was evidence of the Swiss desire to encourage the expansion of international trade.

The Second Swiss Photographic and Cine Exhibition is to be held at Lausanne from May 8 to 18, 1953. In addition displays of new apparatus the exhibition will also include apparatus from the beginning of the present century. Pictures on show at the exhibition will range from examples of document photography to publicity illustration. In the cine section there will be showings of stereoscopic projection, and a series of general lectures illustrated with colour slides will cover the subjects of macro-photography, electronic flash, and colour.

AN INTERESTING BOOKLET.

The SWISS BANK CORPORATION have published a booklet entitled "Guide to the Financial Regulations Affecting Repatriates & Emigrants" which is of particular interest to Swiss nationals who are leaving the United Kingdom to take up permanent residence in Switzerland, as it describes how the repatriation allowance of £5,000 can be made available to them in Switzerland from their assets in the United Kingdom. Copies of the booklet can be had on application to the Swiss Bank Corporation, 99 Gresham Street, London, E.C.2.

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