

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: - (1955)
Heft: 1242

Artikel: Three new Federal Councillors
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-686294>

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THREE NEW FEDERAL COUNCILLORS.

The Federal Assembly, on December 16th, 1954, elected three new members of the Federal Council or Federal Government, to take the place of Federal Councillor J. Escher who died on November 30th, and Federal Councillors Karl Kobelt and Rodolphe Rubattel who have resigned.

The Assembly chose Dr. Thomas Holenstein (Cath. Cons.) of St. Gall, M. Paul Chaudet (Radical) of canton Vaud, and M. Giuseppe Lepori (Cath. Cons.) of canton Ticino.

While the former Government included four Radicals, three Catholic Conservatives, and one representative of the Peasants Party, the new Government will be formed of three Radicals, three Catholic Conservatives, and one of the Peasants Party. The Socialists, who claimed two seats on the Government, saw their demand refused by the majority parties.

Federal Councillor Thomas Holenstein was born on February 7th, 1896, at St. Gall. From 1915-1920, he studied law at the Universities of Basle, Geneva, Berne and Rome. For the next fifteen years (1920-1935) he was a prominent member of the Young Conservative Party of the canton of St. Gall. From 1927-1936, he was a member of the Urban Council of St. Gall and since 1936, a member of the Grand Council of this canton.

In 1937, he entered Parliament (National Council)

over which he presided in 1952/53. Dr. Holenstein was from 1931-45 a lecturer at the Commercial University in St. Gall. In the army he holds the rank of Colonel on the General Staff.

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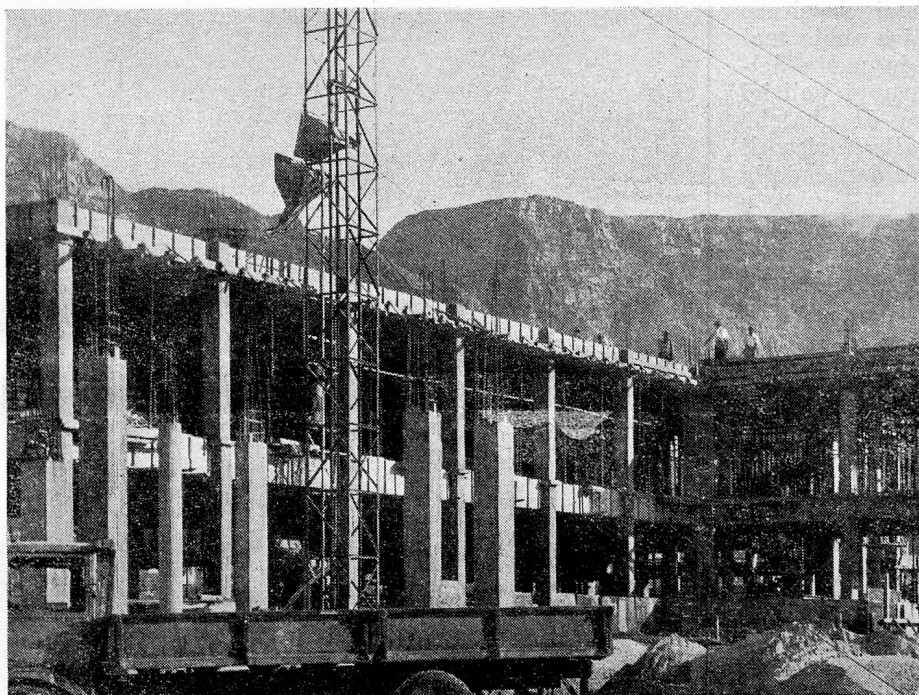
Federal-Councillor Paul Chaudet was born on November 17th, 1904, at Rivaz (Ct. Vaud) and is a citizen of Corsier/Vevey. He started his political career as President of the commune of Corsier, and as a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Vaud. In 1943, he was elected a member of Parliament (National Council), and in 1946, entered the cantonal Government. M. Chaudet, by profession a proprietor of vineyards, is President of the Liberal Democratic Party of the canton of Vaud. In the army he holds the rank of Lieutenant-colonel (Infantry).

* * *

Federal Councillor Giuseppe Lepori, was born on June 22nd, 1902, at Massagno, and is a citizen of Capriasca (Ct. Ticino). He studied law at the University of Fribourg, afterwards he became Editor of the paper "Giornale del Popolo" and from 1928-1935, he held the post of Editor-in-Chief and Director of the paper "Popolo e Libertà". Later he established himself as a lawyer in Bellinzona.

M. Lepori entered the Grand Council of the canton of Ticino in 1927, he was also a member of the District Council of Bellinzona. In 1940, he became a member of the Government of the canton of Ticino.

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