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# The Swiss Observer

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**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, A. STAUFFER, G. E. SUTER.

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

The Federal Council has nominated Monsieur Eduard de Haller, at present Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Confederation in Moscow, as Ambassador at The Hague, in succession to Monsieur Secretan who is retiring for reasons of health.

Ambassador de Haller was born in Coligny (Geneva) in 1897 and is a citizen of Berne. He concluded his academic studies in Zurich and Geneva as licentiate of *juris prudentie*. From 1921 to 1923 he was Secretary to the President of the Port and Shipping Council of Dantzig. Afterwards up to 1926, General Secretary of the Mixed Commission for the exchange of inhabitants between Greece and Turkey at Athens, Istanbul and Ancara. After this Monsieur de Haller was active in the former League of Nations until 1940, in which year he entered the International Committee of the Red Cross. Later he was nominated a delegate of the Federal Council for International Relief Work. In 1948 he was Swiss Minister in Norway, in which capacity he was also accredited to Iceland. Five years later (1953), Monsieur de Haller was appointed Minister in Moscow.

\* \* \*

The traditional dinner offered by the Federal Council to the heads of Foreign Missions accredited to the Confederation took place in Berne. Apart from the diplomats the following were present: the President of the Federal Supreme Court, the Presidents of the Governments of the cantons of Berne, Basle Country and Lucerne, the Chief of the General Staff, and the Presidents of the Swiss Federal Railways and of the Post, Telegraph & Telephone administration.

\* \* \*

The Federal Tribunal, the highest court in Switzerland, has rejected the appeal of Mr. Michael Goldsmith, correspondent of the Associated Press, against his imprisonment for having refused to dis-

close the source of the information on which he based his report about the Dubois-Ulrich espionage case.

\* \* \*

Monsieur Henrik Broch, Norwegian Minister in Berne, and Monsieur Jonkheer Jan Willem Marius Snouck Hurgronje, Dutch Minister, have presented their credentials as Ambassadors to Dr. H. Streuli, President of the Swiss Confederation, and to Dr. Ph. Etter, Federal Councillor, at the Palais Fédéral in Berne.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council has promoted Professor Dr. L. Bindschedler, head of the "Rechttdienstes" at the Federal Political Department, to the post of head of the "Kommission für Nationalisierungs-Entschädigungen".

\* \* \*

Miss Frances Willis, the American Ambassador in Berne, who has been transferred to Oslo, gave a farewell party at the Embassy.

Amongst the numerous guests were Dr. M. Petitpierre, Colonel de Montmollin, chief of the General Staff, representatives of the canton and municipality of Berne, and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

\* \* \*

The Canadian and Japanese Ambassadors in Berne, Monsieur George Loranger Magann and Monsieur Hagiwara, who are leaving the Swiss capital, have paid a farewell visit to the Swiss Foreign Minister, Monsieur M. Petitpierre, at the Palais Fédéral in Berne.

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## SOIRÉE FAMILIALE

at which Ladies will be most welcome, is to take place on **Monday, June 3rd, 1957**, at the Dorchester Hotel (6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m.).

After Dinner, Mr. ALBERT FERBER, the well known artist, will give us a pianoforte recital.

Th. von SPEYR,  
Hon. Secretary.

The Swiss Federal Railways have carried during the month of March 1957 17.4 million passengers, or 1.3 million fewer than in March 1956. Receipts: 24.8 million francs (March 1956: 26.6 million frs.).

Goods traffic is returned as 2.15 million tons or 180,000 tons more than during the same period in 1956. Receipts: 41.2 million francs (March 1956: 39.3 million frs.).

The Swiss Legations in the Argentine and Chile have been raised to the status of Embassies, and the respective Ministers — Monsieur Mario Fumasoli, and Monsieur René Naville — to the rank of Ambassador.

The Federal Council has raised the Legation in Karachi to an Embassy and has appointed Dr. Max Koenig as Ambassador.

Ambassador Koenig was born in Thun in 1910 and is a citizen of Bottenwil (Ct. Aargau). He studied political science at the University of Berne after which he entered the service of the Confederation and was sent to the Legation at Berlin. In 1945 he returned to Berne and a year later (1946) was appointed Consul at Baden-Baden, and afterwards 1st Secretary of Legation in Paris.

In 1948 Dr. Koenig returned to Berne to take over the appointment as head of the Office for European Economic Co-ordination. Since 1955 he has been assistant to the chief of the section for International Organisations at the Federal Political Department in Berne.

**Cantonal** The "Landsgemeinde" of the canton of Appenzell I.Rh. took place at Appenzell.

"Landammann" Mr. Armin Loder, States-Councillor, a member of the cantonal government for the last 20 years, who is retiring, was replaced by National-Councillor Dr. Albert Broger (Appenzell). Mr. Emil Mazenauer (Gontenbach) was elected to the post of "Landeshauptmann" and Mr. Emil Breitenmoser (Schwende) to the post of "Landesbauherr". Mr. Schuerpf was elected a member of the cantonal government [A.T.S.]

At the "Landsgemeinde" of the canton of Obwalden, which took place at Sarnen, the retiring "Landammann" Dr. G. Odermatt (Sarnen) was succeeded by States-Councillor Ludwig von Moos (Sachseln). Dr. G. Odermatt was elected to the post of "Landesstatthalter". [A.T.S.]

The District Court of Zurich has sentenced a motorist who, while under the influence of alcohol, caused an accident which resulted in the death of one of his passengers, to two years' imprisonment. [A.T.S.]

The "Landesgemeinde" of the canton of Glarus took place at Glarus. Mr. Franz Landolt was confirmed as "Landammann". The official guests who attended the open Parliament were the members of the Government of the canton of Geneva *in corpore*, M. Cottier, Mayor of the town of Geneva, and Divisional Colonels Schumacher and Uhlmann. [A.T.S.]

All the members of the Government of the canton of Solothurn have been re-elected as follows: Otto Stampfli (Liberal) 38,389 votes; Dr. Urs Dietschi (Liberal) 38,720 votes; Gottfried Klaus (Socialist) 39,170 votes; Dr. Max Obrecht (Cath. Conservative) 41,114 votes; and Werner Vogt (Socialist) 41,435 votes. [A.T.S.]

The strength of the various parties in the "Kantonsrat" Solothurn is as follows: Liberals 65 (3 losses); Socialists 41 (2 gains); Popular Party and Christian Socialists 36 (1 gain). [A.T.S.]

Mr. Peter Thuerlemann (40) of Erlenbach (Ct. Zurich), an ornithologist, fell and was killed whilst on an excursion on the "Wiggiswand" (Ct. Glarus). [A.T.S.]

The accounts of the canton of Basle-Town for 1956 close with a *credit* balance of 12.7 million francs. [A.T.S.]

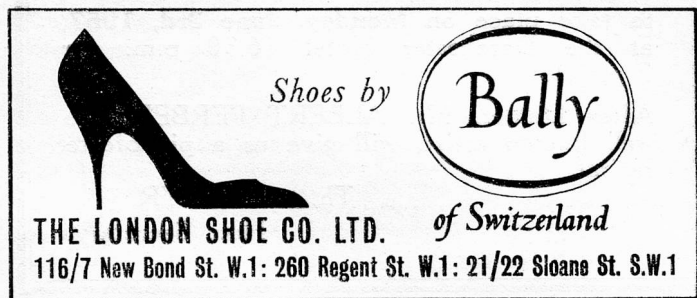
A messenger of a Basle firm was robbed of the sum of 5,000.— frs. at the counter of a bank in Basle. [A.T.S.]

The 41st Basle Fair which was held from April 27th to May 7th was visited by 720,000 persons of whom 30,000 came from 90 foreign countries. [A.T.S.]

During the year 1956 a total of 727,824 visitors went through the turnstiles of the Zoological Gardens in Basle (1955: 688,612). The receipts were 974,219.— frs. or 53,125.— frs. more than in the previous year. [A.T.S.]

The population of the town of Basle has reached the figure of 200,000. [A.T.S.]

Mme. Emilie Vuichoud-Girard of Roche (Ct. Vaud) has celebrated her 102nd birthday. [A.T.S.]



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The elections for the Grand Council of the canton of Grisons resulted in no change in the strength of the parties, namely: 33 Democrats, 32 Conservatives, 28 Liberals, 7 Socialists and 3 Independents. [A.T.S.]

M. Frederico Keller (Conservative) has been elected President of the commune of Maroggia (Ct. Ticino) with 73 votes. His opponent Cesare Gianuzzi (Liberal) received 61 votes. [A.T.S.]

The Indian Ambassador in Berne, Monsieur Mohan Sihna Metha, has paid an official visit to the Government of the canton of Ticino in Bellinzona. [A.T.S.]

The accounts of the canton of Thurgau for the year 1956 close with a *credit* balance of 122,400.— frs. [A.T.S.]

The Government of the canton of Vaud has honoured Sister Julie Hoffmann, founder of the "Asyle Eben Hezer", with honorary citizenship of the town of Lausanne. [A.T.S.]

A motor-car travelling in the direction of St. Croix collided with a tree near Yverdon. The driver, Jean-Jacques Fiaux (26), typographer of Orbe, and his passenger, Mme. Jaqueline Ferrario-Grivaz (21), of St. Croix, were killed. The husband of the latter, Mr. Gilbert Ferrario (27), was seriously injured. [A.T.S.]

M. Marcel Gros has been elected President of the Government of the canton of Valais for the period of

1957 to 1958. Mr. Karl Anthamatten has been elected as Vice-President. [A.T.S.]

Dr. G. Hoby of Flumis (Christian Socialist) has been elected President of the Grand Council of the canton of St. Gall for 1957 to 1958. Mr. F. Fuerer of Rapperswil (Liberal) has been elected Vice-President. [A.T.S.]

Two persons were killed and one seriously injured when a motor-car and a motor-cycle collided in the centre of the town of Neuchâtel. [A.T.S.]

Two Supercruiser machines belonging to the Aero Club Geneva collided in the air shortly after taking off from the Geneva airport.

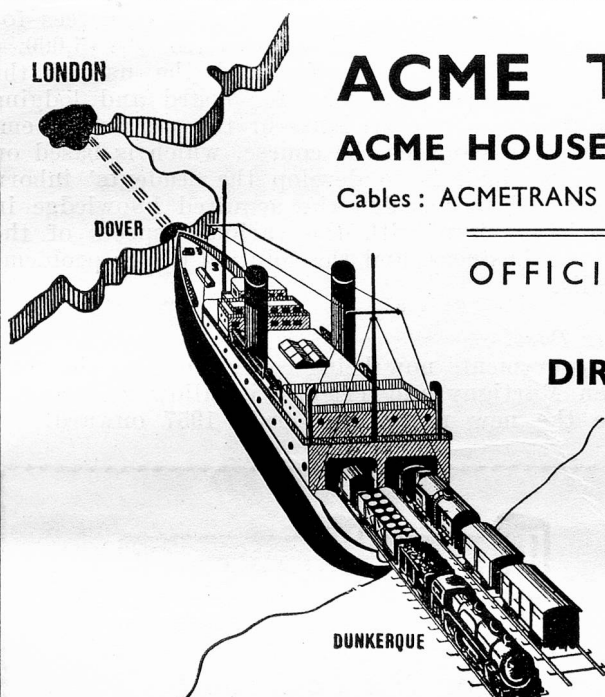
The two pilots Gustave Raymond, architect (35) of Geneva, and Paul-Samuel Bourguignon, teacher (31) of Geneva, were killed. Their passengers, two Germans, one French and one Polish subject, lost their lives. [A.T.S.]

**DEATHS.**

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Professor Albert Daeniker, Professor of Botany at the University of Zurich, in Zurich at the age of 63.

The deceased studied at the universities of Zurich, Liverpool and London. In 1924 and 1925 he made botanical expeditions to Australia, New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands, returning with many exhibits for the Zurich botanical museum, of which he had been director since 1933.



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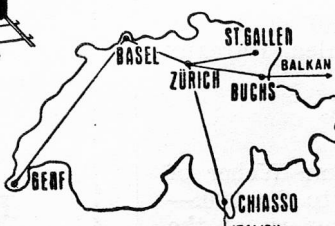
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Louis Moor, well-known caricaturist and since 1940 a member of the Grand Council of the canton Basle-Town, in Basle, aged 64.

Emil Bosshard-Buergler, a former manager of the "Zürcher Dampfbootgesellschaft", in Zurich at the age of 77.

Johann Gasser-Gasser, for many years a member of the "Kantonsrat" of the canton Obwalden, in Lungern, aged 102.

Bernard Wille, a former member of the Grand Council of the canton of Neuchâtel, in La Chaux-de-Fonds.

Dr. Alois Ruedisuli, from 1927 to 1948 rector of the "Zuger Kantonsschule", in Zug at the age of 78.

Professor Dr. Theodor Guhl, from 1922 to 1951 Professor of Law at the University of Berne, aged 76. The deceased held the rank of Colonel of Infantry in the army.

Mme. Schneider-Montavon, in Zurich at the age of 62. During the first world war she was very popular through her work for the soldiers occupying the frontiers. Hans Indergand, the well-known author, dedicated his "Soldatenlied" to her.

Albert Béguin, founder of the "cahiers du rhône", editor of the "Revue d'esprit" and a lecturer at the University of Basle, in Basle at the age of 56. The deceased was the author of a number of works, amongst them "Gerard de Nerval" (1936), "L'âme reumatique et le rêve" and "Balsac visionnaire" (1939).

Mme. Elisabeth Baumgartner, a well-known dialect writer, in Langnau i. E., aged 68.

Paul Friedrich, proprietor of the "Forschungsinstitut für Mineral-Chemie & Technology", Basle, in Basle at the age of 69.

Colonel Franz Spycher, from 1900 to 1944 President of the Court of the Sense District, in Fribourg, aged 84.

The deceased was for many years a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Fribourg and at one time commander of the 7th Infantry Brigade.

Mlle. Elisa Sermet, in Geneva at the age of 92. She played at one time an important part in the sphere of the emancipation of women.

Valentin Glauser, editor-in-chief of the "Revue automobile", in Berne, aged 53.

Henri Müller-Model, manager and president of the board of the "Karton & Kartonagefabrik" Weinfelden, in Montreux at the age of 68. [A.T.S.]

#### ANNIVERSARIES.

Professor Fritz Frauchiger (80) of Berne, from 1910 to 1947 a teacher at the commercial division of the "Kantonsschule" Zurich, and a former member of the "Kantonsrat".

Henri Duvoisin (80) of Geneva, portrait and landscape painter.

Professor Dr. Jacques Secretan (60) of Berne, since 1953 "Direktor der Internationalen Bureaux für Geistiges Eigentum". [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

#### LEGACIES.

The heirs of the late Dr. med. Oskar Weber of Zug have made a donation amounting to 200,000.—frs. to the "Bürgerspital" Zug in memory of the deceased. [A.T.S.]

#### DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES.

Mr. & Mrs. E. Loepfe-Neuenschwander of Wil (St. Gall), Mr. & Mrs. Anton Fischer-Brändli of Rapperswil, Mr. & Mrs. H. Frueh-Spitzel of Flawil (St. Gall), Mr. & Mrs. A. Barfuss of Corgemont, Mr. & Mrs. S. Liard-Schneider of Bulle, Mr. & Mrs. H. Enz-Huber of Weinfelden, Mr. & Mrs. E. Raess-Kasper of Zurich. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

#### VARIOUS.

The people of Switzerland make more international telephone calls than those of any other country, according to figures published by the Swiss Post Office.

In 1955 every person in Switzerland made an average of 17 international calls each. In Belgium the number was 10, in Holland nine and in France seven.

\* \* \*

"Imede" — Management Development Institute.

The world-renowned Nestlé Company have founded, in conjunction with and under the patronage of the University of Lausanne, a post-graduate management training school for higher executives, called the "Management Development Institute".

Its seat will be the Bellerive estate in Lausanne-Ouchy, where the first full-time course will begin on September 17th 1957, lasting until mid-May 1958. Tuition will be given in English by professors from various American universities. Prospective students, who should preferably be in possession of a university degree and between the ages of 28 and 38, will be selected from among executives with a good general culture and business background, holding responsible positions and for whom higher responsibilities are foreseen in the not-too-distant future. The fees for attending the course will amount to Fr. 5,000.—including books and supplies and the use of the library. Moreover, expenses for board and lodging will be borne by the students or the sponsoring employers. The scope of the course, which is based on the case method, is to develop the students' inborn qualities and to broaden the acquired knowledge in familiarising them with the various aspects of the conduct of business, and the solution of the problems it entails.

\* \* \*

Forclaz Pass.

Improvements now being carried out on the road between Martigny and Trient will allow road traffic to use the new route from July 1957 onward. A

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section of only 5 km (approx. 3 miles) to the frontier at Chatelard will remain to be improved. The new road will have a width of 6 metres (approximately 20 ft.) on the straight and 10 metres (33 ft.) in the bends.

\* \* \*

*Swiss Mountaineering School at Rosenlauri — Summer 1957*

The summer 1957 courses of the Swiss Mountaineering School at Rosenlauri will take place from June 23rd to September 14th. The programme includes, apart from the regular theoretical and practical tuition, the following special courses and tours:

May 19th-26th: Finsteraarhorn High Altitude Ski Tour Week; July 21st-Aug. 11th: Combined seven-day Bernese Oberland and Matterhorn Region climbs; July 14th-Aug. 17th: Weekly climbing parties in the Bernese Oberland and the Valais: Grimsel Pass — Oberaarhorn-Finsteraarhorn-Fiescherhorn-Jungfrau or Moench - Konkordia - Gro. Aletschfirn-Fiesch; Aug. 18th-24th: One-week ice-axe course; Aug. 25th-Sept. 1st: Combined motoring and climbing tour for car owners.

\* \* \*

*Girl Guides' World Camp in the Goms Valley — July 22nd to Aug. 3rd.*

The picturesque valley of Goms, which extends from Brig up to the Rhone Glacier in the Valais, will be host this summer to a Girl Guides' World Camp, organised in celebration of the centenary of the birth of the Founder, Lord Baden-Powell. Some 5,000 Girl Guides from all over the world will meet in 9 camp-villages of about 400 to 700 campers. Each camp will

provide its own programme of entertainments and all campers will gather for the rally on July 28th.

The Swiss Transport Undertakings grant the following fare reductions to Girl Guides travelling in uniform:

Groups under 16 years of age 70%, groups between 16 and 20 years of age 50%.

Groups of at least five Girl Guides accompanied by a responsible leader qualify for the concession. Further information, as well as tickets, is obtainable from the Swiss National Tourist Office, 458 Strand, London W.C.2. Accommodation for the groups is arranged through the Girl Guides' Association, 17, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

\* \* \*

*Bernese Oberland Kilometric Season Ticket — Summer 1957.*

The new folder on the Bernese Oberland Kilometric Season Ticket for the summer 1957 is now available. It is worth noting that the aerial cableway Wengen-Maennlichen has been added to the list of participating companies.

\* \* \*

*New Hotel at Locarno-Muralto.*

A new garni hotel (bed and breakfast), the Casa Garni Alexia, has recently been opened at Locarno-Muralto. Situated on the station square it also offers a wonderful view of the lake and mountains. The rooms are furnished in the most up-to-date fashion and the lounge is decorated in traditional Ticino style.

\* \* \*

*The Shop Window of Swiss Industry.*

In Berne from 10th to 22nd May there will be the BEA exhibition, devoted to crafts, agriculture, industry and commerce, and associated with several special exhibitions. In the gigantic Indoor Stadium at Zurich will be a Swiss Imports Exhibition from 17th to 26th May. The town of Chur will be holding the Commercial, Industrial and Trade Exhibition of the Grisons (HIGA) from 17th to 27th May and, in keeping with tradition, Neuchatel will be holding its Comptoir for trade and industry from 29th May to 10th June. Each of these exhibitions has its own character.

**NEWS FROM THE SWISS COLONY IN SCOTLAND.**

The Editor has recently had an opportunity of meeting some of the presidents and members of Swiss Societies in Scotland, as well as the Swiss Consul in Balloch, Mr. E. Hofstetter, and he wishes herewith to express his appreciation for the cordial welcome which has been extended to him and his wife.


**OUR NEXT ISSUE.**

Our next issue will be published on Friday, June 14th 1957.

We take this opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscription: P. Hatz, C. A. Aeschmann, E. A. Grau, G. Huber, Miss H. Buchmann, W. A. de Vigier, A. Abplanalp, Mrs. E. E. Jamieson, H. Pfirter, G. Ashley, J. J. Boos, J. A. Reiber, E. A. Cottet.

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