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# The Swiss Observer

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

The Swiss Federal Railways carried 18.2 million passengers during the month of July 1958, or 800,000 less than in July 1957. Receipts: 35 million francs, (July 1957: 38.2 million francs).

Goods traffic is returned as 2.09 million tons, which is 320,000 tons less than during the same period in 1957. Receipts: 41.9 million francs (July 1957: 48.2 million francs.)

Swiss citizens with a valid passport entering Argentine territories as tourists for a period of three to six months do not require a visa.

For longer periods, however, a visa from the Consular authorities is still required.

Customs receipts for the month of July 1958, totalled 91.7 million francs, of this amount the Confederation receives 65.5 million francs or 1.1 million francs less than in July 1957.

The receipts for the first seven months of the current year total 411.2 million francs or 5.5 million francs less than during the same period in 1957.

The Federal Council has appointed Monsieur Richard Aman, at present Counsellor of Embassy in Tokio, to the post of head of the Swiss delegation to the Neutral Nation Commission for the repatriation of prisoners of war in Korea, in succession to Counsellor of Legation Monsieur Edmond Deslex.

### Cantonal

Mr. Josef Maria Bruhin, a former President of the commune of Schwyz, and a member of the District Court, has celebrated his 100th birthday. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Oscar van Leer of Chicago, has presented to the Government of the canton of Lucerne a cheque of 170,000.— francs, in remembrance of his father, Mr. Bernard van Leer, who was a resident and admirer of the town of Lucerne. The money is to be used for the

improvements to the buildings of the "Zentral-schweizerischen Technikums" Lucerne. [A.T.S.]

Professor, Dr. A. Steiger, *Ordinarius* of the philosophical faculty of the University of Zurich, and "Dozent" for military science at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), who was in 1957 relieved of his posts pending an investigation for embezzlement, has now been dismissed by order of the Federal Council. [A.T.S.]

On August 21st, soon after 12.30 p.m., the one millionth visitor went through the turnstiles at the "Saffa" exhibition in Zurich. Miss Martha Wyss of Lucerne was on this occasion entertained by the exhibition authorities to dinner. [A.T.S.]

Three men lost their lives on the Piz. Rusein in the Toedi district. They are: Emil Hasler (35) a gardener of Rueti-Tann, Rudolf Zoppi (25) building-engineer of Schwanden, and Werner Sattler (25) building-engineer of Romanshorn. [A.T.S.]

An attack by two young Hungarian refugees was made on the Hungarian Legation in Berne. The intruders tried to get hold of some documents, and a number of shots were exchanged during which one of the attackers was seriously injured.

The police were called, and the two men were arrested. [A.T.S.]

## CITY SWISS CLUB

### SOIREE FAMILIALE

on

Wednesday, September 17th, 1958  
(6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m.)

at the

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After Dinner, Sir Arnold Lunn will give an address on

### SPORT AND POLITICS

(Town Dress)

Th. von SPEYR.  
Hon. Secretary.

The Indian Ambassador in Berne, Monsieur L. K. Vellodi, has paid an official visit to the town of Basle. During his visit he was entertained to dinner by four of the largest chemical concerns at the castle of Binninger. He was also received by the Government of the canton of Basle-Town at the Town Hall.

[A.T.S.]

The Government of the canton of Basle-Town has granted a subvention of 765,000.— francs to the Municipal Theatre for 1958.

The 36th "Auslandschweizertagung" of the "Nouvelle Société Helvétique" took place at Baden and Zurich on August 30th and 31st, under the Presidency of National-Councillor Olivier Reverdin (Geneva).

Apart from a large number of "Auslandschweizer" from many countries, a considerable number of representatives from the various Government offices, members of the Swiss diplomatic and consular corps attended the deliberations.

Dr. Gerhart Schürch, Vice-President of the "Auslandschweizerkommission" of the N.S.H. referred to the support given to the Swiss abroad, who suffered war damages. Dr. P. Grosheint, of the Federal Taxation office, made a statement connected with the revision of the military tax, whilst Dr. Arnold Saxer, Director of the Swiss Insurance Office spoke on problems of the A.H.V. and the "Invalidenversicherung". Other speakers were U. H. Feer (Lausanne), President of the "Studienkommission" of the N.S.H. and Dr. E. Froehlich (Küsnacht-Zürich) on "Solidaritätsfonds". Dr. Gerhart Schürch (Berne) spoke on the representation of the Swiss abroad, and Dr. H. Egli (London) on the subject of "Schweizerische Kulturwerbung".

Following on the business part, a dinner with entertainment was held at the Kursaal, at which the following spoke: Dr. Kiem, a member of the Government of the canton of Aargau, Mr. Bruno Landolt, President of the N.S.H. Baden, Mr. Alois Lautenschlager of the Swiss Club Aachen, Mr. Italo Rossi, of the Swiss School Genoa, and Dr. Eugen Dietschi, Vice-President of the National-Council.

The second part of the programme was held at the "Saffa" theatre in Zürich, where National Councillor Olivier Reverdin opened the meeting. Federal Councillor Paul Chaudet, head of the Federal Military Department, spoke on "Die Probleme der Landesverteidigung", States Councillor Ernst Speiser (Baden) on "Die Schweizerische Wirtschaft und die Umwelt".

At the concluding dinner, Fräulein Henriette Cotier (Zurich), a member of the organisation committee of the "Saffa" exhibition, and Prof. Dr. Egli (Zürich), Central President of the N.S.H., were the speakers.

Two mountaineers, lost their lives on an ascent of the Widderalpstöcke (Ct. Appenzell). The names of the victims are: Albert Bauer (29) of Teufen, and Alfred Farrenkopf (29) of Herisau. [A.T.S.]

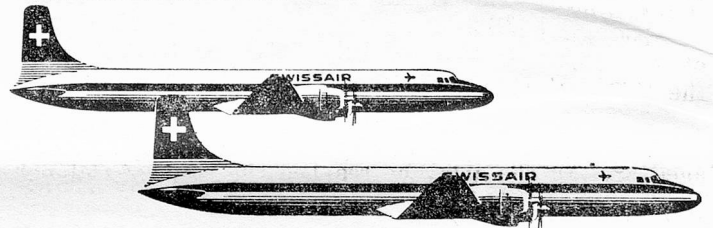
Professor Dr. Pierre Decker, a former head of the surgical clinic of the University of Lausanne, has been made an honorary citizen of the commune of Lavey-Morcles. [A.T.S.]

A sports plane piloted by Mr. Gaston Mulleg (68) of Montreux crashed near Lausanne. The pilot was killed outright, and his passengers, Jean Mery (50) of Chateauroux (France), and Louis Patricot (53) of Chalons-sur-Saone received serious injuries and had to be taken to the cantonal hospital at Lausanne.

[A.T.S.]

The commune of Flawil (Ct. St. Gall) has celebrated the eleven hundredth anniversary of its foundation. [A.T.S.]

Two mountaineers on the descent from the Weisshorn (Ct. Valais) were seriously injured, and had to be taken to the hospital at Sion. Their names are Leo Imboden and Carl Bolliger, both of St. Niklaus. [A.T.S.]



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Mr. Giuseppe A. Marca has been elected President of the commune of Misox (Ct. Ticino). [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The Government of the canton of Neuchâtel has authorised the local authorities to fix the speed limit for motor-cars at 60 km. p.h. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The oldest inhabitant of the canton of Geneva, Mme. Louise-Amelie Servettaz has celebrated her 103rd birthday. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

At the home for old people in Loex nr. Geneva, Mme. Marie-Claire Koschier-Sonscience, has celebrated her 100th birthday. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

#### DEATHS.

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Oscar Rhiner, for 26 years head of the "Landwirtschaftlichen Schule Custerhof" Rheineck, in Rheineck at the age of 58.

Dr. phil. Ernst Stoecklin, for 35 years in a leading position at the "CIBA", Basle, and a former commander of the 21st Infantry regiment (Basle-Country) in Binningen aged 61.

Dr. Karl Zollinger, lawyer, in Zurich at the age of 78. The deceased was for many years President of the "Bernischen Kantonalgesangverein".

Joachim Rapp, consulting engineer, a member of the Grand Council of the canton Basle-Town, in Basle aged 88. In the army he reached the rank of Colonel (Engineering Corps).

Alfred Heinrich Pellegrini, well-known painter, in Basle at the age of 78.

Valerio Abbondio, a teacher of French literature at the cantonal *Gymnasium* Lugano, and a writer of repute, in Ascona.

Amongst his best known works are: "Betulle", "L'eterna veglia", "Silenzi", and "Cerchi d'argento".

Pastor Hans Boehringer, in Basle aged 74. The deceased was for 33 years pastor at the evangelical church community Tablat in St. Gall, and afterwards Secretary of the "Schweiz. Protestantisch Kirchlichen Hilfsverein". (He was a brother of the late P. F. Boehringer of London).

Dr. jur. Arthur Gloggner, Director of the "Eidg. Amtes für Zivilstandswesen" in Bern at the age of 52.

Louis Gaimand, music teacher at the college St. Michel and at the conservatory Fribourg, in Fribourg aged 58. He was known as a composer and leader of the "Landwehr" brass band.

Dr. Hugo Meyer, from 1933 to 1955, "Stadtammann" of the town of Olten, and a member of the "Kantonsrat" Solothurn, in Olten at the age of 70.

Jakob Wiesmann, Hon. President of the "Verbandes Nordostschweizerischer Kaeserei & Milchgenossenschaften", and from 1923 to 1926, a member of the "Kantonsrat" Zurich, in Winterthur aged 74.

Othmar Gurtner, since 1952, Director of the "Schweiz. Stiftung für Alpine Forschungen", and press reporter of the 1956 Mount Everest expedition, in Zurich at the age of 63.

Dr. Paul Dumont, lawyer, from 1918 to 1950, head of the "Schweiz. Spediteur Verband", President of the "Berner Verkehrsverein". In 1929 to 1930 the deceased was "Zentral Präsident" of the Swiss Rotary Club. He died in Berne aged 75.

Charles Brasey, a former stationmaster, a noted rifle shot, and a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Fribourg, in Domdidier at the age of 70.

Dr. Eugen Fischer, a member of the management of a well known firm of printers in Zurich, and for many years connected with the "Bündner Tagblatt", in Zurich aged 59.

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## ANNIVERSARIES.

Minister Dr. h.c. Walter Stucki (70) of Berne. The "Jubilar" was born in 1888 in Berne, and is a citizen of Konolfingen (Ct. Berne.) He studied law at the Universities of Munich, Paris and London, and afterwards practised for several years as a lawyer in Berne.

In 1917, he entered the service of the Federal Economic Department occupying the post of General Secretary. This office he left in 1919, to take up again his practice as a lawyer. Six years later (1925) he was elected Director of the commercial section of the Federal Economic Department; in this capacity he led the economic negotiations of the Confederation with foreign countries which resulted in the conclusion of numerous commercial treaties. He presided over various national and international commissions, and in 1933 was elected President of the Economic Council of the League of Nations; in the same year he received the title of Minister, and was honoured by the University of Basle with the degree of *doctor honoris causa*.

Minister Stucki retired in 1935 from the Federal Administration, on his election as a Member of the National Council, but in the capacity of Delegate of the Federal Council with the rank of Minister continued negotiating with foreign countries.

In 1938 he was nominated Swiss Minister in Paris, and when the Legation was transferred to Vichy he was untiring in trying to obtain from the German occupying authorities more humanitarian concessions, which brought him the appreciation not only from the French Government but also from the French population. On his return to Berne in 1945 Minister Stucki was entrusted with the post of Chief of the Foreign section of the Federal Political Department; a year later (1946) he gave up his post on having been nominated Delegate of the Federal Council for Special Missions. This appointment took him to many countries as head of economic missions. From this post he retired in 1954, but he is still at the disposal of the Political Department.

National Councillor Gottlieb Duttweiler (70) of Zurich. He received his education in his home town, after which he entered the firm of Pfister & Co., in 1910. Seven years later (1917) he became associated with the firm Pfister & Duttweiler. On their behalf he travelled widely in many European and Overseas countries. From 1923 to 1924, he was farming in Brazil. In 1925, he founded the "Migros A.G.", which concern he donated in 1941 to his customers.

Duttweiler was from 1935 to 1940, and from 1943 to 1949, a member of the National Council, from 1949

to 1951, he sat in the States Council, and since then again in the National Council. He has been for many years a member of a number of parliamentary commissions. He is also the founder of the paper "Die Tat", the "Hotel Plan", the "Erwachsenenschulen", the "Klub Konzerte", and a number of similar cultural organisations. He has extensively written articles on economic, political and social subjects.

On the occasion of his 70th birthday, the commune of Capolago has bestowed on him honorary citizenship, for his support given to the Monte Generoso railway.

\* \* \*

National Councillor, Dr. Karl Renold (70) of Aarau. He was for many years, until 1956, head of the Insurance Office of the canton of Aargau, and since 1943 a Member of Parliament. He presided over the National Council in 1951/52. Dr. Renold was at one time commander of the 5th frontier brigade.

\* \* \*

Dr. Rudolf Schmid (70) of Baar. The septuagenarian was for a number of years President of the community of Baar, he sat in the "Kantonsrat" Zug for ten years, and was a member of the Government of the canton of Zug for eleven years. For 20 years he occupied the post of a member of the Superior Court of the canton of Zug.

\* \* \*

Norbert Bosset (75) of Avenches. He was a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Vaud from 1909 to 1922, a member of the Government of the canton of Vaud from 1922 to 1946. He sat in the States Council from 1928 to 1947, over which he presided in 1942/43.

\* \* \*

## LEGACIES AND DONATIONS.

The sons of the late Charles Schäublin, Industrialists, of Malleray-Bévilard, following the wishes of their father, have made the following legacies: 200,000.— francs for the erection of a school for domestic science in Malleray-Bévilard, 50,000.— francs for the Protestant church community of Bévilard, and 20,000.— francs for the "Hauspflegedienst".

The heirs of the late Theodor Schwarzbertschinger of Lenzburg, have made a donation of 20,000.— francs, the interest to be used for the promotion of orchestral concerts in Lenzburg.

The late Mrs. Rosa Linder-Dubler of Rapperswil has left the amount of 17,000.— francs to a number of charitable institutions. [A.T.S.]



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**TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.**

A great number of traffic accidents, causing much loss of lives are reported from Switzerland.

At a level-crossing between Lichtensteig and Dietfurt (Toggenburg) a jeep collided with a train. The driver of the jeep, Joseph Blattmann (58) farmer, his son Albert (23), and his eight-years-old daughter were killed.

Two motor-cars, when overtaking, were involved in a head-on collision between Nieder-Wichtrach and Münsingen (Ct. Berne). Mr. L. N. Ledermann, (29) notary of Grosshoochstetten, and Mr. Max Stauffer of Rüti nr. Büren were fatally injured.

At the road crossing Feldstrasse-Wilerweg in Olten a motor-car collided with a steam engine. The driver of the steam engine, Paul Dietschi of Winznau was killed.

A motor-car driven by a Mr. Willy Siegfried (38) merchant of Aadorf (Ct. Thurgau) skidded and fell into a ravine at the Susten road. He was found dead.

At a level-crossing at Suhr-Oberentfelden a lorry collided with a passenger train, the driver of the lorry Ernst Dietiker (24) of Hunzenschwil was killed.

Between La Brévine and Les Verrière a motorist lost control of his car which overturned at a road crossing. Mr. Ernest Montandon (60) of Bouillet was fatally injured.

Owing to excessive speed a motor-cyclist Fausto Ferrari (31) and his passenger Guerrini Solca (27), left the road at the Bernerstrasse in Zurich-Altstaetten, both lost their lives.

A motor-car driven at great speed collided, when out of control, with a tree between Schaffhausen and Waldshut. The wife of the driver, Mrs. Elsbeth Leu-Roessle (38) was killed, and the driver was seriously injured.

Two persons were killed in a head-on collision on the road between Raron and Visp. The names of the victims are Fritz von Kaenel (27) of Aeschi nr. Spiez, and Hans Schmid (25) of Frutigen.

The 18 years old Toni Schaffner of Anwil was killed when his motor-cycle, driven at excessive speed, ran into a hedge.

Mr. Claude Luescher (21) an engineer of Maegenwil, collided with his motor-cycle with a tree between Mellingen and Wohlenschwil, he was killed outright.

Two motor-cyclists, Paul Kern (22), and Jakob Schweizer (22) both of Rafz (Ct. Zurich) were killed when colliding with a tree. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

**DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.**

Mr. and Mrs. Pircher of Lucerne, Mr. and Mrs. Eggenberger-Muentener of Buchs (Ct. St. Gall), Mr. and Mrs. G. Schlauri-Schoch of Niederuzwil, Mr. and Mrs. Guentert-Sauter of Brugg, Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Zwick-Pauchard of Fribourg, Mr. and Mrs. J. Naef-Bruhin of Widnau, Mr. and Mrs. E. Meier-Schoenberger of Zurich.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Buechlin-Schweizer of Basle, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Kuhn-Wegmann of Hegnau (Uster) have celebrated their iron wedding anniversary (65).

\* \* \*

**VARIOUS.**

The "Ecole Commerciale", of Neuchâtel, has celebrated its 75th jubilee. [A.T.S.]

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