

News from Switzerland

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9. **General:** a) The Committee of the "Society" is the top instance of the competition who decides finally on eventual divergencies.
b) The Committee of the "Society" designates from its members the "Society's" rifle master, who is at the disposition of the competitors for further advise and propositions, and acceptance of experience for competitions in future.
c) In doubtful cases of target results, the decision of the "Society's" rifle master is final.

Rifle master for the "Society," year 1965:

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NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND ● ● ●

MONTREUX AS A FILM SHOWPIECE

The Lake of Geneva's "Riviera" has long been a favourite residence of film stars. Now it has also come into its own as the setting for a new motion picture.

Under the direction of the famous English actor, film writer and author, Peter Ustinov, sequences for "Lady L" are currently being shot in and around Montreux. Mr Ustinov, an enthusiastic resident of the area, wrote the film script based upon a novel by Romain Gary.

Among the international stars taking part in the filming are Sophia Loren (Italy), David Niven (England), Paul Newman (USA), and Claude Dauphin (France).

The story is set at the turn of the century, and Montreux has a few buildings notably representative of that era—particularly the worthy old Palace Hotel which, alongside the much older Chillon Castle, is among the city's architectural landmarks.

Montreux's importance in the world of "Show Business" will be further emphasized when the 5th international Television Festival opens there (April 29-May 8). Highlight of the Festival will be the awarding of the highly prized "Golden Rose of Montreux."

INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE OF PORT

Further evidence of the international importance of the port of Basle was given recently by the most unusual load which passed through in transit, arriving by road and leaving by water.

This huge consignment consisted of two machine parts for a rolling mill, weighing approximately 200 tons each, measuring 36 feet long and 17 feet wide, and produced by the Schneider-Creusot works in France. After being transported by a Swiss river transport concern as far as Rotterdam, they were then taken by sea to Rumania, their country of destination. (OSEC).

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY ON INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

With an annual output valued at 650 million dollars, Switzerland is the biggest exporter of chemical products in the European Free Trade Area. The chief products of this branch are organic chemicals, in particular the active substances for the pharmaceutical industry, products for dyestuffs derived from tar, and synthetic perfumes. In the chemical sector, the balance of trade was a favourable one for Switzerland in 1962, imports totalling 245 million dollars and exports 416 million. The percentages are as follows by groups of countries:

Common Market: 68 per cent of Swiss imports, 35 per cent of Swiss exports; Free Trade Area: 11 per cent of Swiss imports, 16 per cent of exports; United States and Canada: 14 per cent of Swiss imports, 7 per cent of exports; Other countries: 6 per cent of imports, 41 per cent of exports.

In the fields of dyestuffs derived from coal tar, pharmaceutical products and synthetic perfumes, Switzerland is among the most important suppliers on the world market. (OSEC).

SUCCESS OF A SWISS DOCUMENTARY FILM ABROAD

The Swiss documentary colour film "Facets of Research," produced by Condor Film in Zurich, which had already been awarded a prize by the Swiss government, was recently awarded a distinction by the West German Documentary Film Office. This film, made under the patronage of Professor Alexander von Muralt, Ph.D., President of the Swiss National Fund for Scientific Research, depicts in a very lively and easily understood way, a number of problems of scientific research in fields as varied as nuclear science, forestry, philology, etc. (OSEC).

A GENEVA FIRM MANUFACTURES ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT FOR THE TRAMWAYS

At the beginning of 1964, the Secheron Engineering Works in Geneva delivered a prototype of an electronic control device to the Zurich tramway company. The apparatus having given complete satisfaction over a period of several months of testing under normal running conditions, the Zurich Public Transport Company has just ordered from the Geneva manufacturers a batch of similar appliances for installing in 60 tramcars with trailers.

These appliances control acceleration on starting and deceleration on braking, thus sparing passengers unpleasant jolts and jerks, and at the same time simplifying the driver's work.

In addition, the new apparatuses immediately stop any tendency of the driving wheel to spin and make it possible to stop and start on steep inclines under the worst possible conditions.

On braking, any tendency of the wheels to skid is automatically overcome, making it possible to achieve minimum braking distances. Finally, the new device helps save current. (OSEC).

AN INTERNATIONAL COLOUR CONGRESS IN LUCERNE IN 1965

The International Colour Congress will open in Lucerne on June 1st, 1965. This convention will be of interest to all those dealing professionally with colour, not only from the scientific but also from the practical point of view. The lectures will be grouped under eight main headings, viz: colour physiology, colorimetrics and colour systems, colour measurement, reproduction of colours, calculation of dye recipes, colour and art, colour conditioning and colour education.

The official languages at the congress, which will be held at the Congress Palace in Lucerne, will be English, French and German. Fourteen countries are represented on the international organizing committee, i.e. Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States and Western Germany. (OSEC).

A WATCHMAKING MUSEUM IN GENEVA

Although one of the oldest of Switzerland's watchmaking centres, the town of Geneva still does not possess a real watchmaking museum. Consequently the Geneva Municipal Council recently decided to create one in an old mansion in the Malagnou district.

This museum, which will be ready for inauguration in 1965 at the time of the famous annual "Montres et Bijoux" (Watches and Jewellery) exhibition, will not be restricted to an historical retrospective display of the Swiss and foreign watchmaking industries; the latest creations of the big Swiss watchmaking firms will also be put on display. Several rooms will be set aside for masterpieces of the Geneva watchmaking industry of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, other rooms being devoted to the history of watchmaking technique and the most recent achievements of the Geneva watchmaking industry and its related branches. The permanent exhibition will be completed by temporary displays of items from private collections. (OSEC).

SWITZERLAND, LAND OF INSURANCE

Sixty per cent of the premiums received by Swiss insurance companies come from abroad. In no other country in the world do the premiums from abroad exceed those from insurers at home.

Figures for the insurance premiums received by private insurers, in proportion to the population in the main countries, show that Switzerland, with S.Fr. 363 per inhabitant, comes fourth after the United States, Great Britain and Canada, with Australia following in the fifth place. Switzerland therefore occupies a prominent position in this respect. (OSEC).

SWISS MACHINERY IN LATIN AMERICA

The Swiss firm of Buhler Bros. at Uzwil recently received orders for the planning and execution of four macaroni factories in Mexico, Chile and Argentina. The total daily output of these factories will amount to 110 metric tons. In addition, the same firm put into operation in Peru, at the beginning of this year, three macaroni manufacturing plants with a total capacity of 42 metric tons per 24 hours, while another plant, with a capacity for 8 metric tons per 24 hours, is at present being set up in Mexico. (OSEC).

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Official Tourist Office of the City of Berne, in its preview of events in the Swiss capital from January to April in connection with the "Year of the Alps," mentions the remodelled Swiss Alpine Museum. Featuring reliefs, panoramas, cartographic material and alpine equipment, the Museum offers fascinating modern exhibits which illuminate the history of alpinism and scientific research in the Swiss Alps.

A hotel with 70 guest rooms, a restaurant and small conference rooms is rising on Zurich's Feldeggstrasse, just a few steps from the Lake Promenade and the Opera House, on a spot formerly occupied by an old, garden-ringed villa. The new urban hotel will have two notable advantages: its quite yet central location, and its ample parking facilities, which will make it especially popular among motorists.

The first-night audience at the Zurich Playhouse was recently treated to some cheerful improvisations by the members of the London Theatre Workshop, when the bus carrying the costumes and scenery for the scheduled production of "Oh, What a Lovely War" (a thought-provoking parody on World War I) got stuck between Constance and Zurich.

The audience remained in excellent humour despite the delay, and the English troupe had no trouble in establishing a delightful rapport with the first-nighters, who joined in the fun by singing Swiss folksongs. Thanks to a police escort, the tardy vehicle finally arrived and, despite a two-hour delay, the show went on.

Stage directress Maria von Ostfelden has been promoting the avantgarde in Zurich for ten years. Her latest effort is the production of "The Ballad of the Sad Cafe," currently at the Theatre an der Winkelwiese. The play was adapted by Edward Albee from the novel by Carson McCullers. Playwright Albee's reputation in Europe was secured by a recent tour of his "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf."