

It happened in the Canton of Vaud

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Malgré la rapide évolution de notre temps et les progrès dans le domaine de la technique et des communications, la Suisse veut rester ce qu'elle est devenue dans le respect de sa vocation et de son originalité. Il y a là une tâche commune pour nous tous, Suisses à l'étranger et de l'intérieur. Vous représentez la Suisse dans les pays qui vous offrent leur hospitalité. Que l'image que vous en donnez la reflète telle que vous souhaitez qu'elle demeure, dans l'union de ses citoyens et de ses cantons, dans la qualité de son travail, dans la diversité de ses coutumes. Je vous remercie de l'attachement que vous portez au pays et dont nous recevons toujours de nouveaux témoignages. Nos pensées, nos saluts patriotiques et nos meilleurs vœux vont à vous et à vos familles, en ce jour de fête nationale.

Le Président de la Confédération:
Ludwig von Moos.

RACCOURCI DU PACTE DE 1291

Au nom de Dieu, amen.

Vu la malice des temps, et pour mieux assurer la paix et la sécurité au sein de nos vallées, nous, d'Uri, de Schwytz et d'Unterwald, jurons:

de nous secourir les uns les autres de tout notre

pouvoir, et même, s'il le faut, de nos corps et de nos biens, contre quiconque ferait tort à l'un d'entre nous;

de n'admettre à l'intérieur de nos vallées que des magistrats qui soient membres de nos communautés; de soumettre à l'arbitrage de confédérés tout conflit qui se produirait parmi nous, et de prendre, tous, fait et cause contre la partie qui s'y refuserait;

d'infliger aux criminels, dans nos trois cantons, les mêmes peines sévères, et de ne leur accorder nulle part abri ou protection;

de ne pas nous faire justice nous-mêmes, mais de soumettre tout litige aux juges établis, et d'aider, si besoin est, à l'exécution d'une sentence judiciaire.

Puissent, avec l'aide de Dieu, durer à perpétuité les engagements de ce pacte, que nous avons scellé des trois sceaux de nos communautés ce premier jour du mois d'août 1291.

Ce raccourci ne reproduit textuellement aucune phrase du pacte original. Il ne veut qu'exprimer, sous une forme plus concise et se prêtant mieux à la lecture en public, les engagements pris par les trois Waldstetten. L'auteur prie tous ceux qui s'en serviront de veiller à ce qu'aucune confusion ne se fasse à ce sujet dans les esprits.

IT HAPPENED IN THE CANTON OF VAUD

The Canton of Vaud has more interest focused on it this year than any other Canton in Switzerland. The reason is the Swiss National Exhibition, the EXPO in Lausanne. The number of national and international organisations which have chosen the Vaudois capital as venue for their congresses, annual general meetings and delegates' assemblies is larger than anywhere else. It is quite impossible to mention them all. Here are just a few of them. The representatives of the thirty-five Rotary Clubs of Western and Central Switzerland, the sections Lyons, Turin, Stuttgart, Graz and Lausanne of the Rotary International, the USEGO (Union Schweizerische Einkaufs Genossenschaft Olten), the Swiss Hotel Keepers' Association, the Federation of Swiss Women's Organisations, the Swiss Trade Federation, the International Federation of Tourist Centres and the French Chamber of Commerce in Switzerland met in Lausanne in May. Early in that month, the Ninth International Festival of Lausanne opened with the dramatic oratorio "Joan at the Stake" by Paul Claudel, with music by Arthur Honegger. It was under the patronage of the EXPO and a great success.

In June, The Seventh International Congress of Chronometry was held in Lausanne, so were the a.g.m.s of the Swiss Association of Pharmaceutical Chemists (Apothekerverein) and the Swiss Federation of Builders, the Swiss Publicans, the Swiss National Tourist Office, various Swiss and international educational bodies, the Swiss "Samariterbund", "Pro Infirmis" (Swiss organisation for the handicapped), and the Master Shoemakers. There was a symposium on hand surgery, and an international congress of Medical Laboratory Assistants (women).

Montreux was chosen, amongst others, by the Swiss Master Hairdressers, the International Federation of Advertisers, the Swiss Associations for Public Health and the Swiss Bakers and Confectioners. At Caux, the Moral Re-armament Movement held its Whitsun Conference, and at Yverdon, the Swiss Social Democratic Party met for its

congress. Villars was host to the Swiss book printers and the International Association of Millers.

But also before the opening of the EXPO, Lausanne and Montreux were favourite meeting places. Last summer, the Jewish World Congress met at Montreux and in December the "Association Romande de La Vallée du Rhône, Riviéra Vaudoise et Bassin du Léman", whilst the International Committee for Military Medicine and Pharmacy met in Lausanne in the autumn. There was an international congress of the glass industry, and in February the Red Army Choir gave its first concert in Switzerland, which caused a great deal of controversy; it coincided with the disappearance of a member of the Soviet delegation to the Disarmament Conference in Geneva, Jurij Nossenko. On 1st March the Sixth Salon for Tourism and Sport was opened at the Palais de Beaulieu in Lausanne with 120 exhibitors from eleven countries.

In 1963, the number of visitors to Lausanne was lower by 5% than in the previous year. The increase in 1964 will be out of all proportion owing to the EXPO. The town of Lausanne was ready to cope with the vast number of visitors. The Sévelin Bridge, the tunnel under the Place Chauderon and the pedestrians' subway in the main station were completed early in April. Police, Fire Brigade and First Aid Services were ready. Lausanne's population, incidentally, was 131,680 on 1st April, 205 fewer than at the end of April last year. Out of the total, 12,223 were municipal citizens, 52,265 Vaudois citizens from other communes, 43,884 Swiss from other Cantons and 23,308 foreigners.

The cantonal budget for 1963 had estimated a deficit of 14.14 million francs. But the accounts ended with a surplus of 10.34 million francs (expenditure 327 million francs). The budget for 1964 visualises a surplus of nearly 2.2 million francs. Thanks to increased revenue from taxes, the financial position of the Canton has vastly improved, and a reduction in taxes has been proposed by the State Council to the Vaudois Parliament. In the

course of the year, subsidies and grants have been voted for various schemes, such as the restoration of the Church of Cully, the purchase of an electronic computer (2.4 million francs), scientific research in the field of pneumology and phthisiology, a new vicarage at Puidoux, navigation on the lakes of Neuchâtel and Morat, for the building of cheap flats, for the erection of technical training colleges at Vevey and Yverdon and the extension of the Cantonal Hospital (over 16 million francs).

A 56-million project for a water purification plant in Lausanne was started in 1962. Part of it has already become operational. As the EXPO area is below the level of the plant, special pumps had to be installed to carry the waste water of the exhibition to the plant. New Police Barracks were opened in Lausanne at the end of April, and there is to be a sports centre comprising the district of Chalet-à-Gobet, Montblesson, Marin, Verschez-les-Blancs and Monthéron, and Château-d'Oex's citizens (men and women) decided to buy back the sports centre of the commune from the Vaudois Cantonal Bank. The atomic power works at Lucens are being built at a total cost of 77 million francs by the two national societies for atomic energy. The airfield of La Blécherette will be used more this summer thanks to the EXPO. In 1963 there were only 23,406 take-offs. A temporary control tower has been built, but it is planned to remove the airport to Etagnières-Bioley-Orjulaz later. The share capital of the regional airport of Montreux has been increased in order to safeguard the future of this particular airfield.

The Commune Council of Cully had granted a sum of Fr. 1,680,000.— for an administration building and a meeting hall. 260 citizens asked for a Referendum which meant a public poll. 473 voters, including 206 women, rejected the project.

Before Christmas the new motorway Geneva-Lausanne was inaugurated, the longest so far in Switzerland. Vaud was asked for a further (fifth) credit of thirty million francs towards the building of national motor roads on its territory. This will bring the total the Canton has to pay to nearly 109 million francs. Seventeen millions were needed in February to improve eight main roads and ten subsidiaries. The commune of Orbe with fewer than four thousand inhabitants voted 22.9 million francs for the building of new roads, including two by-passes.

There have already been several serious accidents on the motorway Geneva-Lausanne. The number of traffic accidents in the Canton increased by four hundred to 6,536 in 1963. 1,176 of these are attributed to excessive speed, 1,157 to insufficient distance between the vehicles, 847 to overtaking, 543 to ignoring the right of precedence, 507 to driving on the wrong side of the road and 505 to drunkenness. Most accidents happened in the rush hour after 6 p.m., and Saturday was the worst week-day for motor accidents.

Accidents of another kind which happened this spring and summer, were a railway collision in the station of Vevey, in which about forty people were injured, a bad explosion in a watch factory at Clarens, and a big fire at a garage at Morges, involving the destruction of a tyre store and damage to sixteen oil and petrol tanks. A French aircraft crashed at the airfield of La Blécherette on 12th April. Two French couples were killed. A fortnight later there was a serious collision at a level crossing near Chambésy, in which a train collided with a lorry and trailer. The two drivers of the lorry were killed. Fifteen million cigarette filters were destroyed on 15th June when fire gutted a paper factory at Renens.

In May vandals tried to force with dynamite Necker's grave at Coppet. It was revealed to the public that Madame Necker had been embalmed and that, after the death of her husband, the tomb was filled with spirit and walled up. Thirteen years after Necker's death, in 1817, the tomb was opened again and the body of Madame de Stäel, Necker's daughter, was put to rest there. The mausoleum was again walled up, and legend after legend has been spun around it.

29th June to 13th July marked the 1,000th anniversary of the famous abbey church of Payerne. Celebrations started with an evening church concert. The next day, a historic procession was held showing outstanding events in the long history of the town, right back to the days of the Romans, when it was the neighbour of the proud city of Aventicum (Avenches). The church was built in the year 595 by Bishop Marius. 962, Queen Bertha, widow of King Rudolf II, gave Payerne and its surrounding districts to the Abbot of Cluny who was to found a monastery. In 1536, when the Bernese occupied this region, the population converted to the Protestant faith. In 1817, archaeologists discovered a sarcophagus containing bones believed to be those of Queen Bertha. The abbey church has been beautifully restored.

The "Pix de Lausanne" was awarded for the first time this summer to the author Edmond Gilliard. The new rooms of the Musée du Vieux-Lausanne have been opened. The Fourth International TV Competition "The Golden Rose of Montreux" took place in April when twenty-four TV associations from twenty-one countries took part.

During the music festival season Lucerne and Montreux share some of the soloists, though conductors, with the exception of Ernest Ansermet, only appear at either one or the other of them. The festival last September saw three Polish conductors and one other conduct the National Philharmonic Orchestra of Warsaw, which gave six outstanding concerts. The "Times" had particular praise for Honegger's powerful third symphony, the "Liturgique".

From art to education — there are too many students in Lausanne. Within fifteen years, the number of university students alone has increased from 1,000 to 1,750. But the total of students is estimated at nearly 3,400. The increase of foreign students is alarming, as their number now accounts for 48% of the total. In Fribourg this is 42%, in Basle 35% and in Berne (summer 1963) only 13%. The majority of lecturers are of the opinion that the foreign contingent should not exceed one-third of the total. As to faculties, the foreign students make up only 4% in theology, but 57% in law and 91% in modern French. Amongst the foreigners the Germans and the French are the most numerous. There is also an acute shortage of students' digs. The foundation "Maison pour Etudiants de l'Université de Lausanne" has erected a building in Bellerive, which is at the moment at the disposal of the EXPO, but which will provide some 150 beds for students in the autumn. Other projects are planned, notably one at the Chemin des Roulottes, which will provide another 150 beds.

The Rectors of the universities in the Suisse Romande met early in July in order to discuss closer co-operation. At the end of May, over two hundred students from seventy countries, who hold scholarships from the Confederation, met in Lausanne at the end of May. Five hundred American students from Salt Lake City have arrived at Leysin for a French language course.

News at random: Lausanne now has a mobile library which carries 2,500 books to the outskirts of the town.

There is a new boat on the Lac Léman, the "Albatros" which has a speed of 60 km. per hour. It was built in Messina.

A new bi-monthly periodical is published in Lausanne, the "Domaine Public", founded by a group of Leftish intellectuals. The "Terre Vaudoise", an agricultural periodical, celebrated its 75th anniversary in March.

Three centenarians celebrated their birthdays in February and April — Mlle Augustine Epéron (101) at Rolle, Mme Estelle Ogier-Delavy (100) in Lausanne and Mme Esther Perzoff (100) at Vevey.

The wines of the Municipality of Lausanne were auctioned at the end of the year, a record of 235,000 litres. The quality was slightly below average, and the large quantity affected the price. In February, the wine of Aigle was auctioned. Of 55,600 litres offered only 29,500 were sold.

An auction of a different kind took place in Lausanne, also in February, when 260 kg. of jam, 22 litres of syrup and 25 kg. of golden syrup were sold, from the liquidation stock of the Swiss Antarctic Expedition. This was organised privately and was to take place 1963-1965, the first Swiss scientific and technical expedition. The organisation under Gilbert Caillet, Lausanne, miscarried, and the company went bankrupt. It must be stated that this was no national undertaking, Swiss science and officialdom stood aloof as soon as it was discovered that thorough preparation by experienced specialists was lacking. The twenty "huskies" which had been bought from the Danish government, were sold to a Norwegian expedition.

(Based on news received by courtesy of the Agence Télégraphique Suisse and S.N.T.O.)

A NEW REQUIREMENT

In a recent advertisement in the "Financial Times", which offered a position as Foreign Exchange Dealer, the linguistic requirements were listed as follows: "... Fluent French. Additional fluency in German, *Swiss-Deutsch*, Italian, or Spanish will be a rewarding advantage ...". The italics are ours — any applications?

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