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tion to universities in Germany, America, France etc.

Summer Courses

For those interested in holiday tuition, there is a possibility to attend summer courses (by way of holiday camps) in which preparatory teaching for examinations is provided.

AHV/IV and sickness insurance

Your questions – our answers

A repatriated Swiss woman is of opinion that the AHV should be made compulsory for all Swiss abroad considering the difficult situation of many Swiss living abroad.

Only a voluntary insurance is possible abroad. Switzerland cannot compel Swiss citizens residing outside their homeland to join a Swiss insurance.

Are there any Swiss sickness insurances abroad?

There are no recognized sickness insurances outside Switzerland. In art. 3, par. 1 of the federal law dated 13th June 1911, which concerns sickness and accident insurance (KUVG), it is stated that «insurances must be established in Switzerland».

Swiss events in retrospect

5th January

In the course of the third downhill race at the World Skiing Championship at Garmisch, the Swiss Bernhard Russi managed fourth place behind Franz Klammer and two other Austrians.

8th January

It was announced that the price of bread would be increased by 25 cts a kilo.

10th January

Following the rejection of the finance proposals by the electorate on 8th December, the Federal Council was compelled to work out considerable new measures for improving federal finances, involving a saving of 1,238m francs in public spending. These measures will result in decreasing subsidies, in reduced defence spending and a reduction in passing on federal taxes to the AHV.

12th January

The Chief of the Federal Department of Finance, Federal Councillor Georges-André Chevallaz, the President of the Board of the Swiss National Bank, Mr. F. Leutwyler, as well as the General Manager of the Swiss National

Bank, Mr. Alexander Hay, went to USA in order to attend the first meeting this year of the «Groupe des Dix». They were instructed to examine questions of investing Petrodollars during the two days of the meeting.

16th January

The Head-Physician of the medical station of the Triemli Hospital in Zurich was dismissed from his post. He was accused of having deprived chronically sick people of nourishment and of having given them only water.

17th January

In Berne, the Swiss congress on

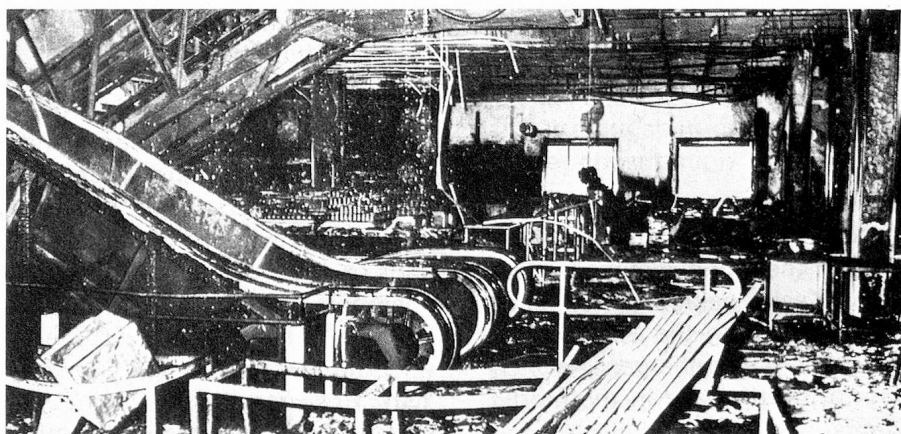
the occasion of international woman's year was opened.

22nd January

The development of the foreign exchange market brought with it a further move upwards of the Swiss franc, above all against the dollar. In agreement with the National Bank, the Federal Council tightened up the regulations for the protection of the Swiss franc.

25th/26th January

The largest store in Geneva, «Grand Passage», was gutted by fire in the night. It was the biggest fire in Geneva since the war.





27th January

In order to take in children from «Fifth Switzerland» as every year, the Foundation looking after children of Swiss abroad organised a collection all over Switzerland.

28th January

The tenth Meeting of the Swiss Film – a complete review of film production in 1974 – was opened in Solothurn. In six days, 80 films of which 16 full-length, were going to be shown.

31st January

In the month of January alone Swiss women skiers achieved five victories: two downhill races for Bernadette Zurbriggen, one for Marie-Thérèse Nadig, a giant and a special slalom for Lise-Marie Morerod.

2nd February

At the pre-olympic contest at Seefeld, the long-distance skier Alfred Kaelin gained fourth place after completing the 15 km race, and Karl Lustenberger finished also in fourth place in the nordic events.

◀ Thanks to Walter Vesti, René Berthoud and Philippe Roux, a convincing triple victory was won at the Arlberg/Kandahar downhill race at Megève.

At the international competition for young dancers, organised in Lausanne by the Foundation in Aid of the Art of Dancing, two Swiss and two French won the «Prix de Lausanne 1975», viz. an amount of 5,000 francs and year of free tuition at one of the great dancing academies in Europe.

11th February

In order to lower prices for sleeping-car berths, Swiss industry has developed a new carriage T2S which allows for a rational arrangement of compartments.

In Berne, a draft proposal for value added tax was published. This is intended to replace the turnover tax (WUST). All being well, this reform should come into force on 1st January 1978.

Icehockey: the final placing in National League A is as follows: 1. Berne, 2. La Chaux-de-Fonds, 3. Langnau, 4. Kloten, 5. Ambri-Piotta, 6 Villars, 7. Sierre, 8. Geneva-Servette. The Berne Skating Club thus became Swiss champion for the second time.

12th February

The Federal Council decided to increase payments to the AHV as from 1st July.

It was announced in Berne that ▶ Mr. Charles Lutz, former Consul, had died at the age of 80. It is thanks to him that tens of thousands of Jews were spared the gas chambers of Auschwitz.

13th February

After winning the giant slalom at

Mosses, which she had won for the first time in 1972 and which had been ceded last year at Lauchenalp to Bernadette Zurbriggen, Lise-Marie Morerod won the special slalom at Les Diablerets.

16th February

The Swiss Alpine Skiing Championships for men ended in victory for Peter Lüscher (special slalom) and Philippe Roux (downhill). In the meantime, Bernadette Zurbriggen won the downhill race and the combined downhill race at the Women's Championships at Les Diablerets.

21st February

Federal President Pierre Graber and Federal Councillor Brugger met the Shah of Persia in order to establish economic contacts between Switzerland and Iran.

Simone Drexel became Swiss prize-winner in the Eurovision Popular Hit Festival. She would represent Switzerland with «Mikado» in Stockholm on 22nd March.





23rd February ▲

On the run from Schwarzsee to Cervinia, Switzerland won the Bobsleigh (four) World Championship.

2nd March

The plebiscite on a Constitutional Article for regulating the economy was accepted by the electorate by 542,719 against 485,734. But as the Cantons were 11:11 and did not get a majority, the proposals were considered as rejected.

More than 20,000 workers demonstrated in over 30 villages and towns in Switzerland against reductions in pay and for the security of their jobs.

5th March

The Council of States, with 27 votes for, none against and one abstention, accepted the new filiation law intended to protect the unmarried mother and her child.

On the occasion of the centenary of the birth of the Austrian poet and author, Rainer Maria Rilke, who had spent some of the most important years of his life in the Valais, a rose was given his name. The initiative came from the Canton of Valais where a rose had

been specially cultivated for this occasion.

It was confirmed that the origin of 28 fossils found near Yverdon date back to 2,000–2,500 years B.C.

6th March

The National Council rejected the federal law regarding prevention of pregnancy, as well as the new regulations on abortion. Voting was 90:82, with 12 abstentions.

10th March

The Federal Council announced that the wearing of seat-belts would be compulsory as from 1st January 1976.

13th March

After the double victory by Marie-Thérèse Nadig and Bernadette Zurbruggen in the donhill race at Jackson Hole, USA (counting towards the World Cup), Lise-Marie Morerod won her first giant slalom of the World Cup in Sun Valley.

14th March

The 1975 tour of the national circus «Knie» began at Rapperswil. At the top of the programme, there is a particularly difficult

dressage number in which Louis Knie succeeds in working together with tigers and elephants.

16th March

With a record voting participation of nearly 93%, the three districts of Southern Jura, Courtelary, La Neuveville and Moutier, decided to remain with the Canton of Berne.

20th March

Lise-Marie Morerod proved that she is the best woman slalom skier in the world, for she won the special slalom event in the World Championships at Val Gardena.

23rd March

The 45th Motorcar Exhibition in Geneva closed its doors. There had been 437,716 visitors, compared with 406,044 in 1974 and 461,717 in the previous year.

24th March

In Perth, Scotland, Switzerland became world champion in curling, beating USA, Canada and Sweden.

31st March

At the Wankdorf Stadium in Berne, FC Basle won the Swiss Cup Final against FC Winterthur 2:1 after two extensions. There were 28,000 spectators.

1st April

300 members of the non-violent action group occupied the building site of the atomic power-works at Kaiseraugst, in order to prevent further construction.

2nd April

According to the last census in 1970, Swiss couples on average have only two children compared with three in previous decades. This was announced by the Federal Statistical Office.