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Armaments-Loan: On September 4th, the Federal Council proclaimed the conditions and terms of the first 80 Mill.Fr. "Defence" Loan. Subscriptions are opened as from September 21st to October 15th. Bonds are divided in scripts of 100, 500, 1000, and 5000 denominations. They bear interest at 3%, payable every 1st April; no Emission or Stamp Duties are charged. The nominal 100 Fr. Bond is offered at Fr.98.75. The Minister of Finance published the following appeal: "Every subscriber of this defence loan helps to protect and maintain the liberty and independence of our republic. He protects his family and insures property and income. In financing the great defence measures he assists home industry and puts thousands of unemployed back to work. The critical international situation forces the authorities to demand great sacrifices from our people."

Catastrophe in the Entlebuch Valley: Great havoc and loss of lives have been caused by torrential rain and storm in the Entlebuch. Many homes and a textile factory were ruined. Bridges collapsed, all telephone and electric connections broke down, many large landslides occurred burying and killing cattle. In Emmenegg the new and imposing farmstead of Alfred Rosli was completely destroyed, killing the entire family of seven. Eye-witnesses report the terrible occurrence: "We traversed the Entlebuch valley in the early morning and suspected not that the ominous thunder coming from the west should impart disaster. Battling against torrents of water flowing over the roads everywhere, we were lucky to reach Entlebuch. Just outside the town a river tore across the street blocking all passage. Hardly alighted from our car, we heard anxious shouting and crying from people assembled nearby. Everyone was fascinated to witness a terrible calamity only a few hundred yards away: a large new homestead, besides a big barn and stable, started to move down hill caused by a landslide. Suddenly the rear part was lifted high and the buildings tumbled over: the entire block smashed and crashed down the steep hill, burying all inhabitants and stock. A large landslide followed, covering the wreckage and the unfortunate inmates in a terrible grave."

BERNE: Of 3,700 Swiss domiciled in Spain, 1800 have returned to Switzerland. There are still about 500 in Barcelona and 300 in Madrid. The position regarding those who returned home is very precarious in many instances, as most have no means of living, having lost all their property in Spain. Assistance has been organized by the headquarters of the Society of Swiss in foreign parts.

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With greatest regret we have to announce the death of our esteemed member, Mr. A. Diggelmann, Kati Kati. His wife followed him two days later. On behalf of the Society, we extend our most sincere sympathy and regrets.

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NEW MEMBERS :

Merz, Hugo,	Henderson.
Schumacher, Ben.,	Waitira.
Fischer, Rob.,	Fortune Rd., Poro Poro, Whakatane.
Notter, John,	Ngahape Rd., Te Kawa, King Country.

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