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GENERAL GUISAN FUND.

The collection for the General Guisan Fund is now closed. In addition to the total published in the last number of the "Helvetia" of - £270. 16. 10 the following donations were received:-

Mr. T. E. Chamberlain, Kakaramaea.	...	...	5.	5.	0
Mr. B. Dorflinger, Kaponga.	...	...		12.	6
Mr. Alb. Lang, Menavale, Cambridge.	...	...	1.	0.	0
bringing the total to;	...	...	...	£277.	14. 4
After deduction of;	...	...	...	1.	11. 1
(for Telephone charges paid)					
The net proceed is;	...	...	...	£276.	3. 3

The equivalent of this amount has been forwarded to Switzerland by a cheque of Sfr.3794.47.

Heartiest thanks are expressed to all who have contributed towards this gratifying result.

"THE MOST EASTERLY POINT IN SWITZERLAND."

The extreme point on the eastern side of Switzerland is the mountain peak known as Piz Chavalatsch. It does not rank among the highest summits although its height is 2765 meters but nevertheless it forms a dominating view point. Its wooded slopes begin in the Mustair (Münster) valley and its higher slopes are celebrated for their floral profusion. Its summit is easily accessible although it finishes by a sharp foursided pyramid.

Good roads lead up to it from the Italian side, one from Gorenza (formerly Glurns in the Tyrol) and the other from Stelvio by the pass of the same name).

From Mustair (the ancient little Romanche city with a convent founded in 780 by Charlemagne) one reaches the summit through cool and shady pine forest. The region appears wild and isolated but it must be remembered that the river Rombach flows out at Etsch on the other side of the Swiss frontier, so that the Mustair valley is situated beyond the group of the Alps. It would seem almost to form part of Italy, only its inhabitants have always had a great and unwavering attachment to Switzerland.

The rushing mountain torrents have excavated deep and wild gorges in the countryside but the soil and everything else washed down by them during past ages, has levelled out the valley.

The view from the summit is magnificent. It opens on one side on the shining dome of the Ortler and on the other is spread out the grey rocks and thick vegetation of the National Park. This region is one of the most beautiful and characteristic of the Grisons Alps so it is hardly surprising that it has so many fervent admirers.

SUNDRY NEWS.

For the second time within the life-time of the generation, two large adjoining farmsteads were burnt out in Ober-Seglingen near Egisau. No lives were lost though one of the farmers named Fehr suffered badly from burns and had to be taken to hospital. Most of the cattle were saved but

ETWAS HUMOR.

Die Tätigkeit und die leidende Form

Lehrer: "Fritz, wenn ich sage, der Vater segnete seine 6 Kinder - ist das die tätige oder die leidende Form?"

Fritz: "Das ist die tätige Form."

Lehrer: "Ganz richtig, und wie heisst die leidende Form?"

Fritz: "Der Vater wurde mit sechs Kindern gesegnet."

REINFALL.

Lehrer zu einem Schüler, der seine Geduld stets auf harte Proben stellt: "Hier hast du 20 Rappen und holst in der Apotheke Weisheitspulver." Kurz darauf erscheint der Schüler. "Nun? Hast du's bekommen?" - "Ja, zuerst wollte der Apotheker mir nichts geben, aber da ich sagte, es sei für den Lehrer, bekam ich es sofort."

APPENZELLER UND ST. GALLER.

Ein Appenzeller und ein St. Galler rühmten die Vortrefflichkeit ihres Landes. Der St. Galler sagte: "Der Kanton Appenzell isch im Kanton St. Galle grad wie ne Kuehflade in-er-e Wiese." Worauf der Appenzeller korrigierte: "Nei, du seisch das lätz, der Kanton St. Galle wie ne Feufliiber in imene Kuehflade."

SUNDRY NEWS.

(Continued)

a large stock of cereals, fodder and agricultural implements were reduced to cinders. A short circuit is believed to have been the cause of the conflagration and the damage is stated to exceed 250,000 francs. (A.T.S.).

By a small majority the voters of Zug decided to impose an entertainment tax (Billetsteuer). The proceeds - Frs. 15,000 all told - are to be assigned to the up-keep and amortisation of gymnastic and sports installations and the furtherance of cultural, musical and sports activities. (A.T.S.)

In the district of Langenthal experiments encouraged by subsidies are being made by the local Aeroclub to produce rain by spraying an ice-preparation over the clouds. It is stated that these trials have so far been stimulating and in a few instances even successful but it has not been definitely established that rain supposed to have been produced was not the result of natural impulses. (A.T.S.)

Senseless form-filling, restrictions in treatment and medicaments and official interference in the relations between doctor and patient are given as the reasons for the resignation of 53 local practitioners from their contract or agreement with the sick-fund.

A row of six houses were destroyed by a fire which broke out in Kaisten in the Laufenburg district. Shortage of water hampered the efforts of the fire brigades from Rheinfelden and Brugg. The fire broke out just before midday and there is no loss of life or cattle but 300,000 francs worth of damage has been caused. About fifty people including twenty children have been rendered homeless. The conflagration is attributed to children playing with matches. (A.T.S.)

Speeding whether by car or cycle is generally considered by Swiss courts as a pardonable offence. In a case before a Basle court a young cyclist raced down a side street and ignoring a pedestrian crossing knocked down a woman without taking the slightest notice; she was not fatally injured but had to be taken to hospital. The magistrate stated that such callous and inconsiderate behaviour deserved severe punishment and sentenced the cyclist to eight days imprisonment. (A.T.S.)

The voters in St. Moritz refused to sanction a bill introducing uniform shop-closing; they also rejected a proposal to construct a ski-lift. (A.T.S.)

An exceptionally violent hail-storm was experienced in the canton Aargau on August 21st. Untold damage was caused to fruit cultures, hailstones as large as eggs being piled an inch deep in certain districts, specially the Wiggertal. In Zofingen the fire brigades were called out to clear the inundated streets. (A.T.S.)

The traditional festivities of the "Ferragosto" attracted an immense crowd to the Ticino. Apart from the many extra trains run by the Federal railways over 10,000 motorcars arrived in one day. Over half of the visitors were foreign tourists, the largest contingent being from Belgium and Great Britain. (A.T.S.)

Shortage of labour has induced many Italian workers, mostly women to cross the frontier in the morning for work chiefly in the tobacco and clothing industries and return in the evening; the Ticinese Government has now published a decree inflicting these day-workers with the payment of the cantonal and municipal taxes. (A.T.S.)

Lausanne's population on July 1st last is officially stated to have been 101,895 inhabitants. (A.T.S.)

The imposing sum of 219,661 francs has been left to the canton Vaud under the will of a local lady whose name is not revealed. The money is to go to a special cancer research fund of the cantonal hospital. (A.T.S.)

Digging for water resulted in the death of four young men on a farmstead near Puidoux. In order to combat the dryness of the soil the three brothers Chappuis excavated a deep ditch where they intended to bore for water. A motor pump had already been lowered but when Paul Chappuis descended to set it going he failed to return. His brother Georges went down to investigate but when he also remained below, brother Louis followed with the same futile result. Later on in the evening, an attendant on the Lac de Bret, Louis Rossier lowered himself with a rope and disappeared. The fire brigades from Vevey and Lausanne were called in and the four lifeless bodies were recovered; poisonous gases had overpowered the explorers. (A.T.S.)

A serious accident took place in front of the hotel "Belvédère" in Brigue when a large car drove down the Furka, the driver, a Belgian, suddenly discovered that his brakes refused to act. Realising that he could not negotiate the sharp curve in front of the hotel which would have meant certain death over the rocks into the Rhone glacier the driver looked for an obstacle that would check his progress. He spotted and steered for the wide staircase of the hotel and was fortunate in coming to a halt without injuring any of the occupants. However, a visitor, 89-year old Miss Wampfler, from Sigriswil (Bern), was caught in the staircase and badly jammed against the wall. Another elderly resident, a medical practitioner from Amsterdam, rushed to the scene but collapsed before he could render the lady any assistance. (A.T.S.)

After a long illness National-Councillor André Oltramare died in Geneva at the age of 63. For many years professor at the Geneva University, he entered the National Council last year only in place of the late Charles Rosselet as member of the Socialist party. (A.T.S.)

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

Our Secretary has left Auckland for a trip to Switzerland, and the Committee appointed Mr. A. Moosberger as Acting-Secretary until the end of our financial year. Please forward your Subscriptions or Correspondence to:-

Mr. A. Moosberger,
129 Crummer Road,
AUCKLAND. W.2.