

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 13 (1948)  
**Heft:** 2  
  
**Rubrik:** Sundry news

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Commerce" and three years later entered into the services of the v.Roll'schen Eisenwerke.

At the early age of 28 he was elected a member of the "Kantonsrat" of Solothurn to which he belonged until 1937. He entered Parliament (National Council) as a Liberal in 1931. In 1940, Dr. Stampfli was elected a member of the Federal Government in succession to the late Dr. H. Obrecht.

Federal Councillor Dr. W. Stampfli has rendered the Confederation great services, especially as one of the promoters of the Old Age and Survivors' Insurance Act, and his leaving the Federal Government is universally regretted.

#### BRITISH PEOPLE MAY AGAIN TRAVEL TO SWITZERLAND.

According to an agreement between British and Swiss authorities, British people travelling to Switzerland for holidays, will again be allowed to transfer funds as from the 1st of May, 1948.

The amount permitted within twelve (12) months is £stg.35 for adults and £stg.25 for children.

#### SUNDRY NEWS.

The Austrian Government has decided to open a Consulate-General in Zurich, and has appointed M. W. Peinsipp as Consul-General.

Revenue of the Swiss Confederation during 1948 is estimated at Frs.1,794,800,000 while expenditure is expected to amount to Frs.1,800,700,000, leaving an adverse balance of only Frs.5,900,000. The current year's budgeted deficit amounts to Frs.97,000,000.

On 31st October Swiss notes in circulation reached the record figure of Frs.4,192,000,000, an increase over the previous week of Frs.138,300,000. The latest weekly return of the Swiss National Bank ascribes this increase to end-month requirements. The gold reserve remained almost unchanged at Frs.5,374,000,000, so that the alleged recent gold transfers from England to Zurich and Geneva, reported by an English news agency to have amounted to many million pounds sterling, could not have been for the account of the Swiss National Bank.

Drastic electricity economy measures have been ordered by the Swiss Government. This is the result of the drought - the worst for 100 years in Switzerland - which has affected the output of hydro-electric plants. As from November 1st electric heating in private homes is forbidden, factories must reduce consumption of electricity by 70 to 80 per cent., and the consumption of electricity in hotels, restaurants, shops and places of entertainment must be cut by one-third.

Imports of cars into Switzerland which registered a decrease in the month of August increased again substantially in September, when 2,261 cars with a custom value of 17,500,000 Swiss francs arrived in the country against 1,110 in September, 1946. The United Kingdom heads the list of suppliers of small and medium sized cars, whereas the U.S. supplies chiefly heavy and large cars.

The "Tellspielgesellschaft" has announced that they will again give a number of "William Tell" performances during the Summer, 1948, at Altdorf. During the 1947 season altogether 13,300 persons attended the performances. (A.T.S.)

The late Xaver Iten, from Unterägeri (Zug) has left an amount of 30,000.-frs. to the community towards the erection of an orphanage. (A.T.S.)

Pierre Glasson, a member of the Government of the canton of Fribourg, has renounced his seat in the National Council. Edmund Blanc, from Villars St. Pierre, has been declared elected in his stead. According to the Swiss constitution not more than two members of a cantonal government can belong to the Federal Chambers, and as there are already two members sitting in Parliament, Glasson had to retire. (A.T.S.)

Edmund Dahler, a former "Stadtmann" and member of the cantonal government of Appenzell J.-Rh., has died at Appenzell at the age of 74. The deceased was a Member of Parliament (National Council) from 1926-1935. (A.T.S.)

The town of Aarau is the beneficiary to an amount of nearly 100,000.-frs., left by the late Sophie Wagner, of Aarau. The money is to be used for needy old people. (A.T.S.)

States Councillor Dr. Altwegg has tendered his resignation as a member of the government of the canton -- of Thurgau. (A.T.S.)

Despite the failure of a recent Three and a quarter per cent. loan of the canton Basle-City at par plus 0.6 per cent. tax, the canton of Ticino is inviting subscriptions to a Frs. 15,000,000.- loan, also at par, but including tax. As  $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. is no longer considered a sufficient rate of interest for long term loans, the offer is generally regarded as a "test case" for future loans. (A.T.S.)

At the frontier post Perly-Saint-Julien a motor-car coming from Geneva was stopped, and after investigations a case containing 550 gold coins was found. The two passengers, a man and a woman, were arrested and the motor-car, belonging to a garage proprietor in Geneva was confiscated. (A.T.S.)

The "Kinderhilfe" of the Swiss Red Cross has organised further transports of children. On the 20th of this month 500 children from Austria have arrived in Switzerland, another batch from Italy is expected to arrive shortly in our country. They will stay for three months and will be distributed amongst Swiss families. (A.T.S.)

Maschinenfabrik Oerlikon, Swiss machinery manufacturers, announces a gross profit for the trading year 1946-47 of Frs. 7,700,000 (against Frs. 6,900,000) and net profit of Frs. 1,380,000 (against Frs. 1,370,000). The dividend is maintained at 5 per cent. Orders received would have justified an increase in production, it is stated, but this was rendered impossible on account of shortage of labour. Substantial orders were received for steam turbines from Egypt and Canada.

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"A COMPATRIOT AND FRIEND IS TAKING LEAVE  
FOR A VISIT TO OUR HOMELAND."

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Frau Hedwig weiss-Zoller, die seit 1936 in Neu Seeland als Lehrerin tätig war wünscht allen Freunden auf diesem Weg Lebewohl zu sagen, und herzlichen Dank für erwiesene gastfrenndschaft und gutes Gedewken. In zwei Jahren hofft sie zurück zu sein.

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.