

Sundry news

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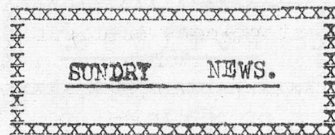
A variety of excursions by motor car and lake steamer have been arranged for the afternoons. The Congress will close with a gala banquet and ball. Special study tours around Switzerland are also planned after the four-day meeting at Lausanne.

JUNE FESTIVAL WEEKS IN ZURICH.

Throughout June, Zurich's 350,000 people enjoy the traditional "festival weeks" which draw thousands of visitors from foreign lands to this largest city in Switzerland. The Municipal Theatre is offering a full program of opera, symphony and concert performances featuring world prominent conductors and soloists. The Kunsthaus Museum and the Museum of Applied Arts are also showing a variety of painting, graphic and plastic art exhibitions that include some of the best examples of Swiss and European work available today.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION IN BASLE.

Philatelists from all over the world will come to the frontier city of Basle this Summer to attend the International Stamp Exhibition from August 21st to August 29th. The organizing committee announces that several large halls in a new building of the famous Swiss Industries Fair will be used, with space and display facilities for even the largest collections.



In the well-known Readers Digest, an American wrote about his impressions of Switzerland. "In the morning the bedding takes the air at the windows. The Swiss sleep well because they have a clear conscience. Every year three thousand new books are printed which would correspond to ninety-five thousand for America. The Swiss are not rich but they are generous. I have never met beggars. The Swiss hotels, large or small, are the best in the whole world. The railroads are a miracle in devastated Europe. Only the very high officials of the rail-roads travel first class. The large number of telephone apparatuses is a real marvel. At 7 a.m. people are attending to their morning toilet. The Directors of firms, the bankers, the professionals etc., are at their desks at 8 o'clock in Winter and at 7 o'clock in Summer; in Paris and in London you can only meet these gentlemen after 10 a.m. It is through hard and constant work that the Swiss have achieved such a high living standard."

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The aeroplanes of the Swissair have completed four million kilometers in 1947 as compared with one million kilometers in 1938. Since this latter year the number of passengers has trebled.

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The second son of King Leopold of the Belgians is attending the Secondary School of Fribourg.

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The Prime Minister of India, Pandit Nehru, spoke of the friendly sympathy of the people of India towards Switzerland. It is above all, the ancient tradition of liberty of Switzerland that attracts the Hindus, who had to fight long and arduously in the conquest of their emancipation. Switzerland, he said, is one of those countries with a capacity to propagate the cultural and scientific progress of the Occident without, by so doing, attempting to impose herself.

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The American Government has appealed to Dr. A. Moosbrugger, Director of the Federal Institute of Vaccines, Basel, to act as an expert in the fight against the foot and mouth disease that is spreading from Mexico. The research work made in Switzerland in this field has reached an advanced stage.

Long queues of English people desiring to spend their vacations in Switzerland were once more noticed before the doors of a Swiss Bank of the West End of London. Many of them had been waiting all night in front of the bank, which had to open its doors already at 5.30 a.m.

EXEMPLARY TAX PAYERS.

The voters of the Canton of Basel-Country have accepted the law regarding the measures for an improvement of the State's budget (law providing for increased taxation) with 10,444 ayes against 4,384 nays.

In pursuance of the discussion of the report of the Commission regarding the position of the women, the Committee for Human Rights accepted various propositions of amendments in order to induce those member countries who have not yet given to women the same political rights as to men; to do this in economic, national, cultural, social and political matters. The Committee points out that women are now much more interested in political matters and that they can only be stimulated in the exercise of their rights if they are given the opportunity to participate in all elections and be placed in important positions.

OBITUARY

Mr. Camenzind, an old compatriot, passed away in Auckland. We extend our sympathy to his relatives.

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X SWISS NOTICES X
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GREETINGS THROUGH SWISS RADIO!!

On Saturday, September 4th, 1948, the Secretary of the Swiss Benevolent Society, Mr. E. Merz, who is at present, on a trip in Switzerland, will speak from Schwarzenburg on "His Impressions in Switzerland." The broadcast will take place at 7.15 p.m. N.Z. time on the wave length 16.87m. - 25.28m - 25.61m.

The following Calendars for 1948 in colour, can be ordered through the Consulate of Switzerland:

"Berge und Taler der Heimat" - 9/- "Die malerische Schweiz" - 7/-
"Alpenblumen Kalender" - 6/-

The following Calendars for 1949 may be ordered in the same way as last year:

MA PATRIE .. DIE HEIMAT SWITZERLAND

at a cost of 9/-; also the educational and interesting Pestalozzi calendars can be ordered again:-

German for boys and girls @ 6/-

French for boys and girls @ 5/-

Italian @ 5/-

Orders together with fee should be submitted early so that the calendars can arrive here before the end of the year.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

Members of our Society are invited to send in names of fellow-members whom they wish to be elected as:

(a) President ... (b) Vice-President ... (c) Secretary ... (d) Treasurer
(e) Scrutineers ... (f) Executives for the different districts for our Annual General Meeting to be held at the end of our financial year, September 1948, in Auckland.

You can nominate an entirely new Committee if you so desire.

Our Secretary has left Auckland for a trip to Switzerland and the Committee appointed Mr. A. Moosberger, 129 Crummer Road, AUCKLAND, W.2., as Acting-Secretary until the end of our financial year.