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compatriots. General Guisan made an official speech in La Chaux-de-Fonds, where he was enthusiastically received.

#### SOLOTHURN.

Federal Councillor Kobelt, head of the Military Department, was the guest of honour at the 1st of August celebration in Solothurn. After paying tribute to the pioneers of our independence who assembled on the Rütli to ally as confederates, he stressed the results of the victory gained at the Battle of Dornach, which assured the independence of Switzerland for the future, and until it was officially recognised by the Congress of West Phalia; since then, until the Hitler Regime, however unsuccessfully, manifested the desire to re-incorporate the German-speaking part of Switzerland into the great German Reich. In his speech, Federal Councillor Kobelt referred to the importance of free criticism. The lively and passionate debates regarding internal politics often gave the impression that our people were disunited, but whenever the nation is faced with danger from the exterior, the ranks are closed. Jeopardy from outside was always necessary in order to totally unite the Swiss, and Mr. Kobelt recalled the time of the Souaben wars: the conflicts between cities and country, between aristocratic and democratic communities immediately stopped the moment Maximillian's Army threatened the country. This war was the most national of all wars fought in our history; all parties of the Confederation participated. The contingents of the Cantons were assembled and in a concentrated march proceeded to the danger points. The successful application of their knowledge of the terrain, together with surprise tactics, secured success for our ancestors at every turn. Today, we are still inspired by the primitive Swiss soldiers. Dornach was also a classical example of the combination of a stationary and mobile war. If the fortified sector of Dorneck had been unable to be maintained until the end, the ultimate victory of the Federal troupes would not have been possible. Mr. Kobelt added that the army of a country is useless unless coupled with the moral and spiritual forces of the people.

#### GENEVA.

In his speech during the 1st of August celebrations in Geneva, Federal Councillor Celio recalled two dates which are of particular importance to the people of Switzerland and Geneva: they are 1291, the foundation of the Swiss Confederation, and 1815, the entry of Geneva into the Confederation. He praised the spirit of independence of Geneva during centuries, recalling the resolute replies of the Geneva people to Charles 3rd of Savoie, when he demanded that the Exhibition of Geneva should pay special tribute to him: "What a price are exhibitions compared with liberty; it is better to live poor and free than rich and subject to servitude." As an historian put it, Geneva did not want to be France or Savoie, nor even belong to Bern. Mr. Celio honoured the double mission accomplished by Geneva:

The first being -

The collaboration with other cantons making Switzerland an harmonious polychrome;

the second -

The conferring on our country an international prestige rare and precious.

Mr. Celio paid particular tribute to General Dufour, the hero of the Sonderbund and Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross.

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X JURA SOCIAL PARTY ASSEMBLY X  
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The Central Committee of the Jura Social Party Assembly has announced the formation of this new party which resulted on account of a split within the Socialist Party. The new group is composed of eighteen sections comprising eighthundred members. The committee has decided to strengthen the action committee, which was recently formed, with the aim to maintain the railway route - Saigne-Légier-Glovelier. A special committee has been appointed to deal with the following questions:

1. Constitutional recognition of the existence of the Jura people.
2. Creation of an electoral district for the election of members of the Jura into the Federal Parliament and to the Cantonal Parliament and Government of Bern.
3. The theoretical and practical handling of linguistic rights in the Canton of Bern.

4. The extension of bursaries to Jura students and the distribution of diplomas issued by the Swiss universities to Jura students.
5. Forming a union of Jura deputies (M.P.'s and Councillors) who would study problems of special interest to the Jura.
6. Creation of a scholastic institution for the Jura.

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X PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT X  
X AT THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES OF BASEL. X  
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The chemical industries in Basel and Schweizerhalle found that they were compelled to dismiss three hundred workers out of their total of seven thousand five hundred. Protest meetings were immediately organised and representations made in the Cantonal Parliament. Lately, business has been on the decline; this is mainly due to the fact that foreign countries are unable to procure the foreign exchange necessary to buy Swiss goods. Stocks can be stored only in limited quantities. The large buildings that were erected last year, when business was favourable, are now standing empty. There are still approximately twice the number of workers employed in the chemical industry as there were before the war.

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X PARTIAL REVISION OF THE X  
X MILITARY COURT LAW AND MILITARY COURT REGULATIONS. X  
XX

The Federal Council has presented a new Bill to Parliament regarding partial revision of the military court law and military court regulations, together with a special message. The Federal Council recalled that during the period of active service the handling of the military law was satisfactory in general, however, certain supplementations through martial law were necessary. Several of these regulations have to be transformed into common law. As is the case with civil law, the practice has been showing the necessity for the revision of certain provisions in order to treat individual cases more justly. Any alterations made in civil law should be considered by military law; other alterations are necessary on account of the alterations made in the organisation of the army. Particular attention is being paid to Articles 29 and 46 dealing with mitigation for acts committed under mental strain.

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X THE PAYMENT OF GOLD. X  
XX

The Swiss National Bank informs as follows:-

Lately there have been communications in the press indicating that a gold release to the free market by the National Bank may be expected in the near future. It is right that the question of gold release in limited quantities has been dealt with in connection with the continuing liquefaction of the money market. Should a release of gold be decided upon, the National Bank would not fail to inform the public in good time.

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X A FURTHER LIFTING OF PRICE CONTROL. X  
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The committee appointed to deal with the question of reviewing the price control has recommended the lifting of price control on various articles; based on these recommendations, the Federal Price Control Office lifted control on the following items: Textiles, Wood, Tobacco, Paper, Soap and Leather Articles, except Shoes. The regulations governing the marking of prices still remain.