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# The Swiss Observer

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## HOME NEWS

The Federal Council will submit to next assembly of the National and States Councils a further credit demand of sixty million francs for combating unemployment. The funds will be primarily devoted to the creation of emergency employment for the coming autumn and winter months.

According to statistics published by the Federal Labour Office the total cost of unemployment from March, 1917, up to June, 1922, has been 391,735,764 frs., of which 218,232,526 frs. have been provided by the Swiss Confederation, 157,293,108 frs. by the Cantons and Communities, and 16,210,130 frs. by private enterprises.

\* \* \*

The Federal Labour Office further publishes the following figures with regard to unemployment in Switzerland:

	End of June	End of July
Unemployed ... ..	37,100	33,395
Working part-time only	36,629	28,279

Including those for whom emergency employment has been provided, the total of workers affected by the industrial crisis was 80,459 at the end of July, while in June the figure was 90,085.

It will be seen that a slight improvement has set in, which, it is hoped, will be maintained during the coming months.

\* \* \*

The Federal Military Department claims reimbursement of 651,000 frs. from the Canton of Basle and of 2,166,755 frs. from the Canton of Zürich for military aid rendered to the respective cantons during the General Strike of 1919.

\* \* \*

The Swiss Commission charged with investigating and reporting on the Rhine question assembled at Basle last Monday evening.

The Federal National Council is represented by the four members for Basle: MM. Miescher, Schneider, Gelpke and Brodbeck, and MM. Evéquo, Rothpletz, Grimm, Eisenhut, Gaudard, Mächler, Schwarz, Walther and Wynch.

The Federal States Council has appointed the following members of the Council to be members of the Commission: MM. Baumann, Béguin, Bolla, Brügger, Hildebrand, Huber, Savoy, Schneider and Wettstein.

The Commission is presided over by M. Evéquo.

After having inspected the plans of the projected lateral canal, the members embarked on Tuesday morning at the Basle St. Jean port for Strasbourg, where they visited the docks and other river installations, returning to Basle on Wednesday evening. The results of the commission's deliberations, which started on Thursday at Rheinfelden, will be made public towards the end of this week.

\* \* \*

The newly constructed bridge for foot and vehicular traffic, crossing the Rhine and connecting Flurlingen (Zürich) with Neuhausen (Schaffhausen), was opened last Sunday.

\* \* \*

Storms and gales have wrought great havoc in the forests of Filisur and Bergün (Engadine), where entire areas containing from 10 to 12,000 trees have been laid flat.

\* \* \*

Léonie Ravy, 52, of Les Avants, fell a victim to the frivolously careless habit which every year claims a number of lives in Switzerland, and that not only among the young and inexperienced.

A cook by profession, she wanted to speed up the fire in the cooking range by the aid of spirits of wine, with the usual result that the vessel containing the highly inflammable liquid exploded and set the victim's clothes alight. The unfortunate woman sustained terrible burns, to which she succumbed in extreme agony.

\* \* \*

*Alpinism.*

M. Léon Chappuis, from Estavayer-le-Gibloux recently ascended the Dent de Broc (1,832 metres), which may be regarded as an extraordinary feat, considering the age of the climber, who is 78. He cannot, however, claim to be the doyen of active alpinists, as a former pastor of Conches celebrated his eightieth birthday in 1920 by climbing the Col d'Anterne (2,360 metres) and in June this year achieved the ascent of the Môle (1,866 metres) at the age of 82!

\* \* \*

MM. Louis Sullivan, Neuchâtel, V. Taillarde, Chaux-de-Fonds, and E. Brupbacher, Zürich, who were guided by the brothers Henri and Théophile Theytaz, from Zinal, have made this year's first ascent of the Dent Blanche (4,364 m.).

The party left the Mountet cabane at one in the morning, reaching the summit eleven hours and forty minutes later under perfect weather conditions.

\* \* \*

Three citizens of Champéry, who have been searching for days for the English youth E. Abrahams from London, who disappeared from Champéry on August 4th, have found his body in a dried-up river bed at the foot of a precipice below the Croix de Cullet.

\* \* \*

## SWISS UNIVERSITY LECTURERS IN ENGLAND.

Under a mutual arrangement for the exchange of university lecturers, Prof. Dr. Friedrich Zschokke, from Basle