

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1931)

Heft: 518

Rubrik: Home news

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 04.02.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

EDITED WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE LONDON COLONY.

Telephone: CLERKENWELL 9595

Published every Friday at 23, LEONARD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

VOL. 11—No. 518

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 26, 1931.

PRICE 3d.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES

UNITED KINGDOM	{	3 Months (13 issues, post free)	36
AND COLONIES	{	6 " " 126	56
	{	12 " " 52	12
SWITZERLAND	{	6 Months (26 issues, post free)	750

Swiss subscriptions may be paid into Postscheck-Konto
Basel V 5718.

is proposing to grant a subsidy of 40%, viz. Frs. 480,000.

SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS.

The traffic returns for the month of August are still on the down grade as compared with the same period last year. As regards passengers, 7.8% less were carried and the value of freights shows a decrease of 5.12%. The total surplus of the revenues for the eight months to August this year is about nine million francs (10.5%) down compared with last year. It is, however, interesting to note that considering the returns of the other continental railway systems the S.F.R. are exhibiting the lowest reaction to the prevailing crisis.

SWISS BANKING.

By common consent all the principal banking institutions have decided to publish monthly balance-sheets in a uniform manner.

BANKING CONTROL.

The radical members of the Swiss Parliament have petitioned the Federal Council to report as to the advisability of enacting rigid regulations for the safeguarding of deposits in banks. It is further claimed that the remuneration (Tantième) of directors of limited companies should be regulated so as to represent the equivalent for actual services rendered and the measure of responsibility involved.

UNION OF SWISS TRANSPORT UNDERTAKINGS.

The annual conference of the Union of Swiss Transport Undertakings took place in St. Gallen on September 11th and 13th. To this union belong nearly all the railway and tramway undertakings of Switzerland. In the opening speech of the conference Dr. Pilat, chief of the railway department in the Swiss Government, said that all railways, whether owned by the State or private companies, should work together not only in technical but also in administrative matters. Only by joint efforts would it be possible for them to overcome the existing economical crisis and the consequences of road competition.

A NEW SWISS HIGH-PRESSURE TESTING LABORATORY.

A new high-pressure testing laboratory has recently been completed and put in operation at the works of the Brown-Boveri Co., at Baden, Switzerland. The building, which measures 137ft. in length by 75ft. in width, houses a 12-pole short-circuit generator for a closing and opening capacity of 800,000 and 500,000 VA, respectively, a 2,200 kW driving motor with liquid starter, and a 55,000-kVA transformer which is intended to be connected between the generator and the oil-circuit breaker to be tested when a higher pressure than 11,000 V. is required. The actual test beds for the breakers are situated in the open air adjacent to the building.

SECRETARIAT DES SUISSES A L'ETRANGER.

The Swiss Government has increased the Subvention for next Year from 15,000f. to 18,000f.

OUR VICTORIOUS MARKSMEN.

The Federal Council has decided to present each member of the successful Swiss team, which took part in the International Shooting Competition at Lemberg, where they obtained the highest result, with a one hundred franc gold coin.

LOCAL.

ZURICH.

Prof. Johannes Spühler, for some years principal of the municipal Girls College died in Zurich at the age of 76. He was a well-known exponent and writer in the field of gymnastics and one of the Federal commissioners.

* * *

The late Jakob Ritter, who was cashier of the Maggi Company at Kempthal, left the whole of his fortune of Frs. 215,000 for the benefit of deaf, dumb and blind people. The estate is to be administered under the name "Jakob und Josephine Ritter-Müllhaupt" foundation.

* * *

After a three days' trial, the assizes at Pfäffikon sentenced the Italian Lino Bassi to three years' imprisonment for the attempted murder in January last of the Italian Consul General Bianchi in Zurich. The crime has no political significance and was committed in a moment of desperation caused by the disappointment at the refusal of obviously justified claims against Italian officialdom.

NEW ROADS.

A new road over the Passwang in the canton Solothurn is to be constructed at an estimated cost of 1.2 million francs. The Federal Council

A lady from Schaffhausen, who wishes to be unknown has presented the Zurich Zoo with a fine specimen of a male chimpanzee, this gift was very welcome, owing to the fact that the only female of this species had become widowed a few months ago. It has been reported that the arrival has caused great joy in the ape family, and we hope that the honeymoon went off without a hitch.

* * *

At the conclusion of the present term, M. Rudolf Stähli, Principal of the Commercial School of the Société Suisse des Commerçants in Zurich, for 40 years is retiring. For many years he was an editor of the "Fortschritt" a paper which was followed by the "Zentralblatt." M. Stähli is an honorary member of the Zurich Section of the S.K.V.

BERNE.

A novel and most opportune suggestion was made in the Grosse Rat to the effect that the principle of unemployment insurance should also apply to those engaged in trade or business on their own account.

* * *

The town of Burgdorf is in the happy position of closing its accounts with a surplus of 143,884f., a remarkable achievement considering the crisis which is acutely felt in Switzerland

* * *

The death is reported of M. Louis Chappuis, for many years President of the cantonal tribunal, at the age of 67. The deceased enjoyed a great reputation as a judge. He was a member of the Grand Council.

LUCERNE.

Some time ago the town of Lucerne had entered into an agreement to acquire the Richard Wagner estate in Tribschen for Frs. 275,000. As the publicity had attracted other interested parties who were willing to offer a larger figure, the town fathers have now offered another Frs. 75,000.

GLARUS.

The cantonal authorities have made a presentation to Karl Burlet-Horner of Oberurnen, a former tree feller, on the occasion of his 100th birthday which he celebrated on the 17th inst.

BASEL.

A fire at the Gas and Water-Works in Kleinhüningen caused damage amounting to 200,000f.

GENEVE.

M. Alexandre Moriaud, a former President of the Government of Geneva, was arrested on Wednesday and charged with complicity in the failure of the Banque de Genève, whose liabilities total £2,000,000. For thirty years M. Moriaud has been in the forefront of Swiss politics and international arbitration.

* * *

M. Eugène Miéville, former Manager of the Banque de Genève has also been arrested for fraudulent transactions.

ST. GALL.

The net proceeds of the annual "Bratwurstlitag" which was held last Tuesday week amounted to about Frs. 9,000: the sum is devoted to a charitable purpose. Altogether about 30,000 sausages and 5,000 Bürli were sold.

LAUSANNE.

The "Comptoir Suisse" was opened last Thursday at Lausanne. M. Haeberlin, President of the Swiss Confederation, officially opened the "Comptoir" by making an important speech. Federal Councillor Schuhthess, who was to be one of the guests, was unable to be present.

FOOTBALL.

Throughout the country matches for the championship have been played these last three Sundays under the new classification of the football clubs. So far "Young Fellows" and "Zurich" are at the top of the National League with four points each, having beaten Berne and Chaux-de-Fonds and "Nordstern" and "St. Gall" respectively. In the First League Fribourg (against Monthey and Stade Lausanne) and Olten (against Monthey and Solorthurn) have secured similar honours. Some surprise was caused in the National League II by the victory of Aarau over the much stronger Old Boys.