

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: 488

Artikel: The repercussion of the international crisis in Switzerland
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-687789>

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: 13.08.2025

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

THE REPERCUSSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRISIS IN SWITZERLAND.

Although Switzerland cannot escape the consequences of the present world-wide economic crisis, the general depression is decidedly less marked here than in many other countries. Its resistance may be accounted for by the country's moderate industrialization of the past few years and a timely constitution of reserves of which the entire economic body is now enjoying the benefit. And lastly, Swiss industry was able to avail itself of sufficient capital at comparatively favourable rates, to assure its maintenance and the modernization of its means of fabrication.

The consequences of the crisis are clearly shown in the figures relative to foreign trade. Exports, in particular, have considerably decreased in weight and value against those of the preceding year. The decline is important even if allowance is made for the slump of prices. Imports have not been affected to the same degree and an increase of manufactured goods has been reported (reckoned in quantity). This is a proof of the comparatively favourable situation of the home market and its purchasing power which, up to the present, has scarcely been touched. It will be interesting to examine the structure of the foreign trade more closely as soon as the exact figures have been given out.

The budget of the Swiss Confederation for 1931, is anticipating a deficit of 7 million Swiss francs. On the whole Swiss finances are very sound, and this applies to the Federal State and Cantonal accounts as well as to the circulation of bank-notes, stability of the Swiss franc and money market.

No lack of supplies was noted on the money market throughout the year. The abundance of short-term capital can be explained by the reduction of the needs of Swiss industry and the affluence into Switzerland of considerable quantities of foreign capital.

Great activity is reported on the issuing market, exceeding that of the preceding year, and connected, to a large extent, with the issuing of foreign securities.

With regard to unemployment, the crisis has not so much entailed an increase in the number of the unemployed, as a reduction of the demand for qualified workmanship. It may be added here that during the first six months of the year 1930, over 7,000 foreign workers came to work in Switzerland.

The index of wholesale prices has considerably diminished and that of the cost of living followed the general current, although somewhat less rapidly.

Touristic traffic shows a decrease of 5-10% compared with 1929 and the financial result will undoubtedly be 20% lower, owing to the tendency of foreigners residing and travelling in Switzerland to restrict their expenditures. The Swiss railways transported about the same number of passengers as in 1929, but receipts deriving from transportation of merchandise show a noticeable decline.

The activity of the building industry was satisfactory in 1930, especially in the larger towns. The year began well for machine and electro-technic industries, and it was only towards its close that orders became scarcer. Watchmaking has experienced a year of difficulties, which it is trying to overcome by different means of rationalization. Textile industries have suffered of course from the slump in raw materials and embroidery was particularly affected by the enforcement of the American custom-duties. Among the branches having, up to the present, escaped the consequences of the economic depression, the manufacture of braid for hatmaking is one of the most favoured.

With regard to agriculture, the situation shows little change since 1929. At all events the crisis does not seem to have grown worse. Crops varied greatly, according to their nature and the districts in which they were grown.

The summer 1930 was characterized for Switzerland by the choice Basle as seat of the International Bank for Settlements and the census of the population. Although the final results of the latter have not yet been given out officially, it is known that the population of Switzerland exceeds 4 millions, representing an increase of 160 thousand compared with the statistics for 1920. On the whole, the principal towns have witnessed an increase in population, with the exception of certain districts particularly affected by the economic crisis. Owing to an opposite phenomenon, the agricultural regions show a fairly important decline of their population. S.J.T.

ADVERTISE in the "SWISS OBSERVER"

It's Patriotic and it Pays!

The Fifteenth Swiss Industries Fair

will be held at

BASLE

April 11th to April 21st, 1931.

for Information apply to:

THE COMMERCIAL DIVISION OF
THE SWISS LEGATION,
32, Queen Anne Street, W.1.

or to:

THE SWISS BANK CORPORATION,
99, Gresham Street, E.C.2.; or at Basle.

Information regarding Travelling facilities may
be obtained from:

THE SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS,
11b, Regent Street, S.W. 1.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE
suivie d'une

Soiree Familiale

aura lieu le mardi 3 MARS au Restaurant Paganì
(Alexandra Room), 42, Great Portland Street, W.1.
Diner à 7 heures (prix 6/-).

ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal. Démonstrations. Divers.

SOIREE FAMILIERE

Productions musicales. On dansera.
Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard St. E.C.2
(Téléphone: Clerkenwell 9595).

TENUE DE VILLE.

**PHARMACIE SUISSE
SCHWEIZER APOTHEKE**

ZUM WEISSEN KREUZ

älteste Apotheke in London, gegründet 1827
Anfertigung Schweizer und ausländischer
Rezepte; Lager deutscher, englischer,
amerikanischer, italienischer, schweizer und
französischer Medikamente, Drogen, Chemi-
kalien und Mineralwasser. Fabrik für
Bandagen, Bruchbänder usw. Laboratorium
für chemische und mikroskopische
Untersuchungen.

M. SCHLIEPHAK, Ltd.

42, Charlotte Street, London, W.1.

Eske Goodge Street,

Telephon-No. Museum 5194.

GOOD TAILORING—

—always scores.

Better fit, better cloth and better
workmanship mean better value for
your money.
Suits from **3/- Gns. to 8 Gns.**, but
you get value for every penny you
pay. Mr. Pritchett is well-known
to the Swiss Colony. Ask to see him.
**A SPECIAL DEPARTMENT FOR
HOTEL UNIFORMS.** Compare our
prices.

W. PRITCHETT

183 & 184, Tottenham Court Rd., W.1.
2 mins. from Swiss Mercantile School.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

Not exceeding 3 lines.—Per insertion, 2/6; three insertions 5/-
Postage extra on replies addressed *c/o Swiss Observer*.

YOUNG LADY required as domestic help,
two in family, residing seaside in summer, Lon-
don in winter. Full particulars to 2 Leopold
Road, Wimbledon Park, S.W.19.

Private English lessons. Moderate charges.
Miss E. Soldan, 39, Clifton Road, Crouch End,
N.8.

The Swiss Institute Orchestral Society re-
quires a capable amateur pianist. Will any lady
or gentleman interested in orchestral music
please write to the Conductor, Mr. Paul Dick,
W.1., or call any Thursday at 8 p.m.

SWISS BANK CORPORATION.

(A Company limited by Shares incorporated in Switzerland)

99, GRESHAM STREET, E.C.2.

and 11c, REGENT STREET, S.W. 1.

Capital Paid up £6,400,000

Reserves - - £1,960,000

Deposits - - £43,000,000

The WEST END BRANCH

opens Savings Bank Accounts on

which interest will be credited

at 2½ per cent. until further notice.

FOYER SUISSE, 15, Upper Bedford Pl., W.C.1

SUNDAY, MARCH 1st, 1931

THE SLUM SETTLEMENTS OF THE
SALVATION ARMY

at 4 o'clock.

Leader—Mr. H. Joss. by Major MARY PATCH.

AT

FOYER SUISSE

Every Swiss Girl Welcome.

Tea Provided.

Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE (1762),

(Langue française.)

79, Endell Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.
(Near New Oxford Street)

Dimanche 1er Mars 11 h.—"Dieu nous conduit-
il?" Le centurion.

Math. 8 & 5.13. et Service St. Cène. M.R. Hoff-
mann-de Visme

3.6 h.—Club missionnaire au Foyer.

6.30 h.—Prédication et Communion, M.M.

7.30 h.—Répétition du Choeur.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux,
etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102,
Hornsey Lane, N.6. (Téléphone: Archway 1798).—Heure
de réception à l'église: Mercredi de 10.30—12 h.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.
(Near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 11. März 1931.

11 Uhr. morgens: Gottesdienst und
Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

8 Uhr: Chorpöbe.

Dienstag, den 3. März, nachm.

3 Uhr: Näherverein im "Foyer Suisse."

Sprechstunden: Dienstag: 12-1 Uhr in der
Kirche.

Mittwoch: 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche.
Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Monday, March 2nd.—UNION HELVETIA: Fancy
Dress Ball from 9 p.m. till 2 a.m. at
1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

Wednesday, March 4th, at 7 p.m.—SOCIÉTÉ DE
SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting fol-
lowed by Rev. R. Hoffmann-de Visme's talk
on "The History of our old Society", at 74,
Charlotte Street, W.1.

Friday, March 6th, at 7 o'clock p.m.—INSTITUTION
OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, Storeys Gate,
S.W.1: Lecture by Ingenieur Hug on the
Electrification in the Dutch East Indies.
No tickets required, as the lecture is free.

Saturday, March 7th—From 7 to 12 p.m.—SWISS
MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance, at
the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, Lon-
don, N.W.1.

Saturday, March 7th at 2.30 and 4.30 p.m.
"A Travers la Suisse." Swiss film show at
St. George's Hall, Caroline Street, Totten-
ham Court Road, W.1. Admission free.

Tuesday, March 10th.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual
Banquet, Ball and Cabaret, at the Monico
Restaurant, Piccadilly, W.

Wednesday, March 11th, at 7 p.m.—SOCIÉTÉ DE
SECOURS MUTUELS: Committee Meeting, at
74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Printed for the Proprietors, by THE FREDERICK PRINTING CO.,
LTD., at 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.