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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. P. BOEHRINGER.

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## After Whipsnade, SWISS RALLY for the 'BUNDESFEIER' - 'FETE NATIONALE' on Bank Holiday AUGUST 1st next at the S.R.A. Shooting Ground at the Old Welsh Harp, Hendon.

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### FEDERAL.

#### JUBILEE OF FEDERAL COUNCILLOR EDMUND SCHULTHESS.

On the 17th of this month twenty years ago, M. Edmund Schulthess (Aargau) was elected by the two Chambers a member of the Federal Council, and he is the second Federal Councillor in office, who has twenty years of service to his credit.

In 1931, M. G. Motta, President of the Swiss Confederation, celebrated his 20th anniversary as a member of the Government. There are few Federal Councillors who have been in harness for twenty or more years, the exceptions being: Naef (St. Gall), Knüsel (Lucerne), Schenck (Berne), Müller (Berne), and Deucher (Thurgau). The latter was in fact, the predecessor of M. Schulthess. During his long term of office, he has been, without interruption, at the head of the "Volkswirtschafts Dept.," and has in this capacity rendered great and valuable services to our country, a fearless and clean fighter, he has untiringly worked for the welfare of Switzerland, in face of heavy odds, especially during the great war period, and we unite ourselves with our native press in wishing him ad multos annos!

The Federal Council, has sent to M. Schulthess, who is at present on leave, the following telegram:

Morgen vollenden sich zwanzig Jahre seit Ihrer Wahl in den Bundesrat. Ihre Kollegen entbieten Ihnen bei diesem denkwürdigen Anlaß die herzlichsten Glückwünsche. Sie haben in den schwierigsten Zeiten mit beispiellosem Hingebung und Arbeitskraft dem Vaterlande gedient und dienen ihm weiter. Wir sind wohl die Dolmetscher für die Volksgeföhle, wenn wir Ihnen für Ihr in der Geschichte der Schweiz auf immer eingeprägtes Lebenswerk den tiefstempfundenen Dank aussprechen. Ich füge den Ausdruck meines persönlichen Dankes hinzu, und versichere Sie meiner höchsten kollegialen Verehrung und meiner unveränderlichen freundschaftlichen Treue. Gez: Motta, Bundespräsident.

#### PROFESSOR PICCARD'S FLIGHT POSTPONED.

The flight of the world famous scientist Professor Piccard, which was timed to take place at Zurich on the 20th inst. has been postponed for a fortnight.

#### DIPLOMATIC CHANGES.

Monsieur Zdenek Fierlinger, Czechoslovakian Ambassador in Berne is leaving his post at the end of this year, having been transferred to Vienna; he has represented his country in Berne since 1928.

#### WORLD'S HIGHEST TELEPHONE.

The highest telephone installation in the world, it is claimed, has been opened at a point near St. Moritz, 9,680 feet above sea level. This is at the Diavolezza Hut, one of the Swiss Alpine climbers' huts. The telephone connects this lonely spot with Pontresina, and, in the event of climbing accidents, should be of great value in directing rescue work.

The Diavolezza Hut is built close to the "She Devil" glacier in the Bernina range. It is much used as a starting point for big climbs and ski tours in the Bernina Alps.

### GLACIER MOVEMENTS IN SWITZERLAND.

The observations made during the season 1930-31 on the Swiss glaciers show that snow was more abundant and persistent than usual, owing to the prolonged winter and to the cold and wet summer, which prevented the snow from melting. The consequence was that the glaciers generally increased in volume and in length, though the progress is very small on many of them.

Bad weather during the summer months made it possible only to study and measure 92 glaciers out of 100, and it was ascertained that in 1931, 20 were advancing (against six in 1930), 12 were stationary (12 in 1930), and 60 were retreating (66 in 1930).

Among the glaciers which advanced, the Thäli glacier, in the Binn valley, advanced 69ft., and the Rossboden glacier 60ft. On the other hand, the Roseg and Morteratsch glaciers retreated 36ft., the Upper Grindelwald glacier 57ft., the Rosenlau glacier 54ft., the Paneyrosse glacier 99ft., the Rhône glacier 48ft., and the Findelen glacier, near Zermatt, 75ft.

#### FLYING ROUND THE ALPS.

Great Britain is represented among the six entries for the 31st International Aeronautical meeting, which is to be held in Switzerland on July 26, or, in case of bad weather conditions, July 27 or 28.

The contest is to be a circuit of the Alps by commercial machines, the round flight course covering Zurich, Geneva and Milan.

The winner will receive a prize of about £500 and the Chavez Bieder Challenge Cup. This cup was won in 1927 by the German aviator Roeder with a Junker machine in 4hrs. 37min. 52sec.

Points are awarded not only for the speed, but for security of flight, economy of fuel, and weight carried.

#### AUSTRIA'S THANKS TO M. MUSY.

The Austrian Chancellor, Dr. Dollfuss has sent a congratulatory telegram to Federal Councillor Musy on the conclusion of the deliberations of the International Loan Commission over which M. Musy presided.

#### SWISS COMPANY FRAUD.

Emil Johann Paul Mehling, who has been on trial on a charge of floating a bogus company for the extraction of beryllium — a light metal — from rocks, has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment and ten years loss of civil rights.

#### LOCAL.

#### ZURICH.

An accountant who had fetched an amount of 20,000fr. from a Bank on the Paradeplatz has been robbed of this amount in a tramcar, the thief has not yet been traced.

\* \* \*

Dr. Julius Maurer, chief of the Swiss Meteorological Central office has celebrated his 75th birthday anniversary; at the same time exactly 50 years have elapsed since he graduated at the University of Zurich.

#### BERNE.

A terrible storm in the environs of Biel has caused considerable damage to the vine yards, especially at Twann and Schaffis.

#### BASLE.

The death occurred at Basle of M. Fritz Brändlin a former Editor of the *National Zeitung* at the age of 79. He was for 34 years a member of the editorial staff of this paper, and was well-known all over Switzerland as an efficient "Festberichterstatter." F. Brändlin was also a member of the Grand Council for 21 years. In 1915 he retired owing to eye trouble.

#### GENEVA.

Lord Baden-Powell, the Chief Scout, is to visit the second Swiss Federal Camp for Boy Scouts at Geneva on August 4th.

#### ARGAU.

At the conclusion of the Centenary Federal Gymnastic Festival at Aarau, an official Banquet took place, at which M. Motta, President of the Swiss Confederation, and Federal Councillors Schulthess, Pilet and Minger were present, the

two Chambers, the Federal Tribunal and the Army were also represented. The following countries sent delegations: Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Holland, Portugal, Poland and Czechoslovakia. Exactly 21 speakers were in action during the Banquet. (We wish to correct an error in last week's issue, the drill exercises were executed by 25,000 men, not by 50,000 as mentioned).

#### GRISON.

A motor car accident near Mezzaselva caused the death of two people. Mrs. Hürliemann, wife of Dr. Hürliemann from Lyon, and their maid were killed, and Mr. Hürliemann, Dept. chief of the Embroidery firm Reichenbach at St. Gall, received serious injuries.

\* \* \*

From Splügen comes the news of the death of M. Andreas Schwarz-Derungs, a prominent member of the Grand Council, at the age of 67.

#### VALAIS.

At Chandolin, in the District of Savièse, a disastrous fire has destroyed many houses, more than 20 families are without shelter.

#### TICINO.

M. J. Cattori, head of the Ticino Government died at Locarno after a short illness. M. Cattori was the leader of the conservative party. He was born in 1866 and studied law at the University of Berne and Freiburg, and established himself as an advocate. At the early age of 40 he was elected a member of the Grand Council; in 1909 he entered the government of his native canton, to which he belonged until 1912, when he was elected a member of Parliament; he sat in the National Council until 1923, when he again became a member of the cantonal Government. M. Cattori was also a distinguished journalist, and his services to the canton of Ticino and the country were manifold.

### SCHWEIZERISCHER LANDESENDER

Studio Zürich 459 M.

#### BUNDESFEIER-PROGRAMM:

19 h. 30	1. Orchester: Festmarsch von Kempter
	2. Männerchor: Schweizerpsalm
	3. Rede
	4. Orchester: Nationalhymne
	5. Glockengeläute
	6. Szenen aus dem Dialektstück v. Hans Kriesi, Frauenfeld "Die Gründung der Eidgenossenschaft"
	a. Der Hofbescheid zu Baden.
	b. Männerchor: "Das weisse Kreuz im roten Feld"
	c. Rütti
	7. Männerchor: "Die Gründung der Eidgenossenschaft"
	8. Männerchor: In der Fremde
	9. Männerchor: "Die Gründung der Eidgenossenschaft"
	10. Orchester: Werner Wehrli: Präludium und feierliche Musik
	11. Männerchor: "O mein Heimatland"
	12. Orchester: Marsch aus dem Klein-Basler Festspiel von Hans Huber, Vorträge einer Ländler-Kapelle
21 h. 40	a. Liedervorträge des Sängerpaares Mary & Ernst Frey-Bernhardsgrüter:
	1. Kühlerlein, von Krenner
	2. Nach der Heimat (Volksweise)
	3. Leibjodel, von M. Frey-Bernhardsgrüter
	4. Aelplertanz, von Grolimund
	5. De plonet Hansli (Volksweise)
	6. Appenzeller-Jodel, bearbeitet von Frey-Bernhardsgrüter.

WELSCHSCHWEIZERISCHER LANDESENDER  
Studio Genf 760 M.

20 h. 00 Concert patriotique de la Landwehr

20 h. 40 Allocution, évocation du 1er août par Fécrivain & poète, René-Louis Piachaud

21 h. 22 Concert de musique suisse par l'orchestre de la station.