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# The Swiss Observer

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## HOME NEWS

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### FEDERAL.

#### NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL.

The two Chambers have elected M. Hermann Schupbach, as President of the National Council for the year 1935.

M. Schupbach was born in 1877 at Steffisburg (Ct. Berne), he studied law at various Universities, both at home and abroad. Since 1900 he has practised as an advocate in Thun. The new "speaker" of the National Council entered into the political arena at an early age. From 1905 until 1919 he was a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Berne, over which he presided in 1917. M. Schupbach entered Parliament in 1911 (National Council), he was for many years Chairman of the "Schweizerische Unfallversicherungs Anstalt" in Lucerne. During four years he presided over the Swiss Liberal-democratic Party, which office he renounced on his election, last year, to the Vice-Presidency of the National Council. In the army, M. Schupbach reached the rank of a lieutenant-colonel in the artillery.

#### NEW PRESIDENT OF THE STATES COUNCIL.

M. Ernest Béguin was elected by the Federal Assembly, President of the States Council (Ständerat) for 1935.

M. Béguin was born at Neuchâtel 56 years ago, he is a lawyer by profession: from 1904-1907 he was President of the District Court in Neuchâtel. In 1907 he entered the Grand Council of the canton of Neuchâtel, of which he was a member until 1918, when he was made a member of the cantonal government. Until last summer he was President of the Swiss lawyers Association, and at present he is Central President of the Swiss Liberal-democratic Party, he was elected member of Parliament in 1921.

#### DIPLOMATIC RECEPTIONS.

M. Pilet-Golaz, President of the Swiss Confederation, has received the Chilean and Dutch Ministers, on the occasion of their presenting their credentials to the Federal Government.

#### NEW ARMY APPOINTMENTS.

The Federal Council has appointed Colonel Labhart to be the new chief of arms of the cavalry, in succession to Colonel Schué, who recently died.

Colonel Labhart was born in 1881 at Steckborn, and after having completed his studies as an engineer, entered in 1906 the Federal Instruction Corps. From 1916-1921 he was with the firm of Bally at Schönenwerd, where he occupied a leading position. Then he entered into the civil service as Vice-Director of the Federal Labour Office. Colonel Labhart was at one time commander of the 4th Artillery Brigade and the Infantry Brigade 13.

The Federal Council has also appointed Colonel Marcuard to be the new chief of arms of the artillery, in succession to colonel Bridel who has resigned from his post.

Colonel Marcuard was born in 1881 at Berne and entered the Federal Instruction Corps in 1907. In 1916 he was appointed a member of the General Staff, he held various commands such as the one of the 4th Artillery regiment, and the 2nd Artillery Brigade; in 1930 he was appointed commander of the Fortress of St. Maurice.

The new chiefs of arms will take up their posts at the beginning of January, when they will be promoted to colonels of division.

#### SCHEME FOR CONTROLLING PRICES.

The Swiss Government plans for the stimulation of trade and absorption of the unemployed were outlined by M. Schulthess, Minister of Economy, in a speech this week.

Switzerland, said M. Schulthess, must adapt herself to world economic conditions. The country's 75,000 unemployed must be got back into industry, which is only possible if fresh markets are found for exports. To find those markets costs of production must be reduced by 20 p.c. Government must obtain from Parliament necessary powers to enable it to exercise control of prices of goods and of rents, and to take steps against excessive rates.

#### SWISS COURT'S SENTENCES ON ARMS SMUGGLERS.

The trial at St. Gall of the three Austrian Nazis, Jacob Matt, Wilhelm Hämmerle, and Anton Kalb, accused of offences arising from the transport of bombs and explosives from Germany across Swiss territory last July, ended with the conviction of all three on all the counts, including that of conspiracy, and their condemnation to fourteen months' imprisonment and ten years' exclusion from Swiss territory.

The three men who escaped were convicted by default, and Collitz, the alleged organiser of the affair, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment and exclusion for life from Swiss territory. In the course of the proceedings it was revealed that Collitz is a German citizen, not an Austrian.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS BANNED.

The Swiss Federal Council has prohibited the projected meeting at Geneva at the end of December of an international congress against war and Fascists, which was to be held under the chairmanship of the French writer, M. Henri Barbusse.

#### TOURING IN SWITZERLAND.

Official figures show that 3,000,000 tourists have entered Switzerland by motor-car since the beginning of this year, the revenue from this source exceeding £5,000,000.

#### A CATTLE CENSUS.

Switzerland counts to-day nearly 200,000 owners of bovine cattle. The census shows a total of 1,650,000 heads of which 919,000 are cows.

#### LOCAL.

##### ZURICH.

Mme. Lili Haller, the well-known writer, celebrated her 60th birthday anniversary on the 3rd of this month. Mme. Haller was by birth a Bernese, but has lived for many years at Zurich.

\* \* \*

M. Reichling, a member of the peasant party, has been elected Vice-President of the National Council for 1935; he was born in 1890 at Stäfa.

##### BERNE.

M. Fritz Hug, senior chief of the Shoe manufacturing firm of Hug, in Herzogenbuchsee, has died at the age of 81. M. Hug retired as an active partner in 1911 and the management has been carried on since by his two sons.

##### BASEL.

M. Eduard Hoffmann-Krayer, since 1900 Professor of Philology at the University in Basle, has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary. Professor Hoffmann is the founder of the "Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Volkskunde."

\* \* \*

Dr. E. Zweifel has been elected a member of the cantonal government with 7405 votes, in succession to the late Dr. Aemmer who was killed in a motor accident. His opponent F. Störi, polled 1060 votes.

\* \* \*

M. Gottfried Goetz-Müller, chief of the Travelling Dept. of the firm of Danzas, was run over by a motor lorry at Giubiasco and was killed, he was 54 years of age.

##### GENEVA.

Dr. Arthur Schildlof, Professor of Physic at the University of Geneva has died at the age of 58; he was the author of many books on scientific subjects.

##### AARAU.

The Grand Council has passed a law to reduce the salaries of the cantonal personnel by 5 per cent. for the next two years.

##### OBWALDEN.

Dr. Amstalden, States Councillor, has been elected Vice-President of the States Council, he is 51 years of age and by profession a lawyer. Dr.

Amstalden was from 1910-1930 Public Prosecutor of the canton of Obwalden, and since 1930 he has been a member of the cantonal government. He entered Parliament in 1926.

##### NEUCHATEL.

The death is reported from Neuchâtel of Doctor Eduard Auer at the age of 66. Dr. Auer was a former President of the Medical Association of the canton of Neuchâtel, as well as chief of the municipal hospital.

##### SOLOTHURN.

M. Stuber, a former National Councillor (1917-1925 and 1928-1931) has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary, he was for many years Director of the "Solothurnischen Strafanstalt."

##### GRISONS.

The Swiss government has granted a concession to Mr. Ed. Zimmermann, engineer, for the construction of a cable railway up to the Diavolezza, considered to be one of the finest points of view in the Engadine. Thus another magnificent excursion point will be placed within convenient reach of tourists. In winter it will be a boon to devotees of skiing, especially since this region offers excellent snow conditions for this sport until late in April.

The new line, with a length of 7478 feet, will start at "Alp Diavolezza" above Pontresina, 7009 feet a/s. Here connection will be provided with the Bernina railway, of which the concessionaire Mr. Zimmermann is director, and the terminal will be at an altitude of 10,033 feet a/s. The total cost of construction is estimated at 1,700,000 Swiss Francs. Work on the project will start immediately and it is hoped that the railway will be in operation by 1936. The fare has been set at 10 Swiss Francs for the trip up, 5 Swiss Francs for the trip down, and 12 Swiss Francs for the round trip.

##### FOOTBALL.

25th November, 1934.

##### NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Nordstern	0	Young Fellows	1
Grasshoppers	2	Servette	1
Carouge	1	Concordia	1
Bern	0	Lausanne	2
Locarno	1	Lugano	5
Biel	1	Basel	2
Chaux-de-Fonds	4	Young Boys	1

Lausanne beat Bern away and thanks to Grasshoppers administering Servette their first defeat of the season, they now take the lead with 16 points from 9 games, Servette 15, Basel 14, Bern 12, Lugano 11 points following. No change at the tail-end.

1st and 2nd December, 1934.

##### SWISS CUP, THIRD ROUND.

On Saturday Young Boys beat Aarau 4:0 in the replay of their second round fixture and so gained the right to meet Servette the very next day. Not a very clever arrangement, but perhaps unavoidable, as midweek replays are not a feasible proposition in Switzerland. That they only lost narrowly by 2 goals to 1 is much to Y.B.'s credit and gives hope of their mending their ways after all, by beginning to gather sorely needed points in the championship, before it will be too late. It is almost sacrilege to say it, but their danger from the bogey of relegation is only too real. Two draws in 9 games and seven defeats, 12 goals for and 32 against, spells ruin, all the more so, as the nearest rival to be caught up is already four points ahead.

All the Cup results were again wins by the favourites. Urania is the only First League club left.

Grasshoppers	2	Young Fellows	1
Concordia	1	Nordstern	7
Basel	2	Chiasso	0
Lugano	4	Locarno	1
Chaux-de-Fonds	1	Bern	2
Urania	2	Solothurn	0
Lausanne	7	Carouge	1
Young Boys	1	Servette	2

M.G.