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HOME NEWS

FEDERAL.

SWISS PARLIAMENT AND DEVALUATION.

The Council of State (Ständerat) adopted by thirty-six votes to five the Government devaluation proposals. The National Council accepted the proposal of the Government to devalue by 99 votes to 60.

SWISS DEFENCE LOAN.

Although subscription lists for the first Frs. 80,000,000 tranche of the Swiss Defence Loan amounting to Frs. 235,000,000 will not close until 15th October, it appears that there is a rush all over the country to buy Defence bonds. Even in districts hit most by the depression subscriptions are unusually high.

The government of the canton of Zurich has subscribed 1 million francs; 250,000 frs. have been subscribed by the "Schweiz. Konsumvereine," the Banque Populaire Suisse has applied for one million francs. Amongst other subscribers are the Swiss Teacher Association (10,000 frs.); Schweiz. Pfadfinderbund (2,000); four "Auslandschweizer" subscribed 100,000 frs.; Freimaurerloge "Zur Freundschaft" Basle (150,000 frs.); Cantonal Government Schaffhausen (150,000 frs.); Cantonal Bank Schaffhausen (200,000 frs.); Cantonal Government Glarus (250,000 frs.).

FEDERAL JUDGE DR. H. AFFOLTER.

Dr. Hans Affolter, Federal Judge, has died at Lausanne, after a long illness.

The deceased was a member of the government of the canton of Solothurn from 1917-1930, he represented his canton in Parliament (National Council) from 1911-1930. He was elected a member of the Federal Supreme Court in December 1930. Dr. Affolter was born on the 2nd of October 1870 at Solothurn.

REDUCTION STAFF OF THE SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS.

In June 1935, the staff of the Swiss Federal Railways numbered 30,031, in June this year, the staff numbered 28,809, or 1,222 employees fewer.

LEAGUE LOANS COMMITTEE (LONDON).

The League Loans Committee (London) announces that M. Pierre Lombard, its Swiss member, has resigned from the Committee. Dr. Rudolf Speich, general manager of the Swiss Bank Corporation in Basle, has consented to fill the place left vacant by M. Lombard's resignation.

GUN-RUNNING ON SWISS FRONTIER.

The Swiss police have arrested four men in connection with the recent cases of gun-running into France. Two are Frenchmen, one is a Russian, and one a Spaniard. They have been expelled from Switzerland after being cross-examined.

Yesterday the Swiss frontier guards overtook near the Geneva border two Frenchmen, who escaped into France after abandoning two heavy parcels containing some munitions and two machine-guns.

FRENCH DIPLOMATE RETIRES.

Count Clauzel, the French Ambassador in Berne, is shortly retiring from his post, on having reached the age limit. The departing of Count Clauzel is greatly regretted in Swiss government circles, where he was considered to be a great friend of our country. He first came to Berne in 1914 where he was 1st Secretary of the French Embassy. Count Clauzel, after having occupied many important posts in the meantime, was appointed French Ambassador in Berne in 1933. It is stated that M. Alphonse, at present Ambassador in Moscow will be transferred to Berne.

MORATORIUM FOR SWISS BANKING HOUSE.

The banking house of Gut and Co., Aktien-Gesellschaft, of Lucerne, has been granted a moratorium.

SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS' EARNINGS.

The earnings of the Swiss Federal Railways from passenger and parcels traffic in August 1936,

amounted to £844,000, a decrease of £26,500 compared with the corresponding month of 1935. The number of passengers carried was 9,035,000, a decrease of 350,000. Goods traffic showed a decrease of 171,754 tons compared with that of August, 1935; while earnings from that source were £803,000, or £130,000 less than in the corresponding month of 1935. The total earnings show a decrease of £170,000. Operating expenses in August, 1936, were £1,226,000, or £100,000 less than in the corresponding month of 1935.

SWITZERLAND TO CONDUCT PUBLICITY ABROAD.

The Swiss Federal Government has decided, as part of its measures for improving exports and tourist traffic to run a propaganda campaign abroad. In the Budget for 1937, 500,000 francs are being included for this publicity, a large share of which is to be spent in the British Empire. The Swiss Central Office for Trade will be in charge of this publicity work.

Mlle. PAYOT TURNS PROFESSIONAL.

The latest recruit to the ranks of lawn tennis professionals, Mlle. Payot, the Swiss star who headed her country's ranking list for a number of years, is planning to open a tennis school at Lausanne. It will be only the second establishment of the kind in Switzerland.

GERMAN SECRET AGENTS IN SWITZERLAND.

Two German agents of the Gestapo, Herr Muller, who was absent, and Herr Römer, his accomplice, were sentenced by a Zürich Court, the former to 16 months' imprisonment and perpetual banishment from Switzerland, and the latter to six months' imprisonment and 10 years' banishment. They were convicted of political espionage and of having kept, while in Switzerland, an unlawful watch over the activities of Dr. Bruning, the former German Chancellor.

COLONEL THEO. PETRI.

The death is reported from Balsthal of Colonel Theo Petri. The deceased was for many years connected with the "von Roll'sche Eisenwerke" in Klus. In the army he advanced to the rank of colonel, and during the Frontier occupation he was a member of the Staff of the "Hauenstein" fortress.

LOCAL.

ZURICH.

A committee has been formed in Zurich under the Chairmanship of Dr. Klöti, mayor of the town of Zurich, to collect Funds for erecting a monument to our national poet Gottfried Keller, on the 50th anniversary of his death, (July 15th, 1940.)

Dr. Hermann Balsiger, President of the Superior Court in Zurich has celebrated his 60th birthday anniversary.

* * *

Doctor Kesselring, Director and surgeon-in-chief of the "Nervenheilanstalt" Hohenegg near Meilen, has celebrated his 20th service anniversary with this institution.

BERNE.

Burglars entered the premises of the "Ersparniskasse" in Konolfingen, and after forcing open a safe, made away with an amount of over 35,000 frs.

* * *

The Federal Council has elected M. Paul Kradolfer, formerly Vice-Director of "Eidg. Amtes für Verkehr" to the post of Director of the same office, in succession to M. Hunziker.

* * *

Dr. Werner Friedli, Professor of mathematics at the University in Berne has died at the age of 43.

* * *

A serious tramway* accident happened in Berne, when a tramway-car, conveying passengers from a football match collided with a stationary

CITY SWISS CLUB.

PLEASE RESERVE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27th

for the

ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL

at the

Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W.1.

Admission by ticket only, obtainable from
Members of the Committee.

tramway car near the "Eilgut" station. About 80 passengers were injured more or less seriously. The material damage caused is estimated to exceed 30,000 frs.

ZUG.

In Zug died, at the age of 85, M. Alois Uttinger-Ineichen. The deceased was for many years a member of the "Kantonsrat," and from 1886-1895 he was in command of the "Zuger" battalion.

FRIBOURG.

The Swiss Bankers Association held their Annual Meeting at Fribourg on the 20th Sept., on which occasion, M. Meyer, President of the Swiss Confederation addressed the Meeting.

SOLOTHURN.

In Olten died the well-known pedagogue, rector E. Allemann, at the age of 60. The deceased was in charge of the municipal education department since 1924.

BASLE.

The death is reported from Basle of M. Carl Wieland, Professor of law at the University of Basle, at the age of 72. The deceased was at one time Attaché at the Swiss Legation in Paris. In 1897 he was appointed Professor at the University in Basle.

BASLE-COUNTRY.

Pastor Ernst Lotz-Suter, in Reigoldswil, has celebrated his 50th jubilee as a preacher.

* * *

The death has occurred at Waldenburg of M. Adolf Ast, late National-Councillor, at the age of 62. M. Ast was from 1911-1931 Vice-President, and from 1931 President of the District Court in Waldenburg. The deceased was a member of the "Landrat" since 1920, over which he presided in 1922. M. Ast sat in Parliament (National Council) from 1922-1935, representing the Peasant Party.

SHAFFHAUSEN.

M. Jakob Sigrist-Haggenmacher, the founder of the well-known "Masstab-Fabrik, Sigrist & Co., A.G." in Stein a. Rh., has died at the age of 60.

VAUD.

M. Pierre Grellet has celebrated the 25th anniversary as a member of the editorial staff of the "Gazette de Lausanne." M. Grellet was for some time President of the Swiss Press Association.

* * *

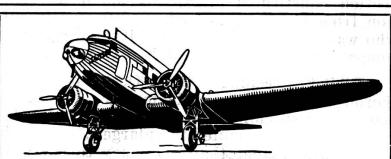
M. Gustave Doret, the famous Swiss composer has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary; he was born in Aigle and studied music at the conservatories of Lausanne, Paris and Berlin.

VALAIS.

M. Josef Escher, member of the cantonal government has been elected a member of the National Council, he belongs to the catholic-conservative party.

GENEVA.

Ugly scenes were witnessed during the sitting of the Grand Council in Geneva, when M. Nicolle, head of the cantonal government was, with difficulty restrained from fighting one of his opponents.



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