

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: - (1938)
Heft: 856

Artikel: Seasonal bulletin
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-689950>

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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 9595/9596. Published every Friday at 23, LEONARD STREET, LONDON, E. C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

VOL. 15—No. 356

LONDON, 9 APRIL, 1938.

PRICE 3d.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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Basle V 5718).



HOME NEWS

(Compiled by courtesy of the following contemporaries: *National Zeitung, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, St. Galler Tagblatt, Vaterland, Tribune de Genève* and *Schweizerische Verkehrszentrale*.)

FEDERAL.

SWISS LEGATION IN VIENNA ABOLISHED.

The Federal Council has decided to abolish the Swiss Legation in Vienna, it will be transferred into a General Consulate.

Dr. Jäger, who has been Swiss Minister in Vienna since 1926, will be transferred to Budapest.

NEW SWISS MINISTER TO POLAND.

M. Henri Martin, the newly appointed Swiss Minister to Warsaw, has presented his credentials to the President of the Polish republic.

LOCAL.

ZÜRICH.

M. Ernest Walter, National-Councillor, has severed his connection with the Communist Party, and is therefore relinquishing his parliamentary mandate.

Dr. h.c. Arthur Rohn, since 1926, President of the Federal "Schulrats" has celebrated his 60th birthday anniversary.

The death is reported at the age of 72, of Doctor Eugen Tschudi, for 41 years surgeon-in-chief of the "Theodosianums."

M. Hermann Escher, formerly director of the Central Library in Zurich, has died at the age of 81. The deceased entered into the service of the library in 1881, and was director from 1916-1932.

M. Escher was a *doctor hñnoris causa* of the University of Zurich.

FRIBOURG.

Dr. Alois Muller, holder of the Benoit Prize has been appointed Professor of Psychology at the University of Fribourg.

BASLE FAIR.

The "official day" at the Basle Fair took place on March the 30th, M. Baumann, President of the Swiss Confederation delivered a speech in which he struck an optimistic note.

OBWALDEN.

M. Anton Stockmann, the well-known Swiss portrait and landscape painter has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary, he studied in Karlsruhe, Munich, Belgium, Holland, Rome and Paris.

ST. GALL.

From St. Gall comes the news of the death of M. Karl Jakob Billwiler, a well-known embroidery manufacturer, at the age of 88.

GRISONS.

The election for the government of the canton of Grisons has resulted in only one member, Dr. Gadient being elected, the other candidates will have to undergo a second ballot.

THURGAU.

The strength of the parties in the newly elected Grand Council of the canton of Thurgau, are as follows:—

Liberals: 27 seats; Peasant Party 30; Young Peasant Party 6; Catholics 26; Socialists 22; Democrats 1; Evangelical Party 1; Freigeldler 1; total 114 seats. Both the Socialists and Liberals have lost seats.

TICINO.

A large number of forest fires are reported from various parts of the canton of Ticino, causing heavy damages.

VAUD.

The death has occurred in Chexbres of Dr. Marius Lacombe, late Professor of Geometry at the University of Lausanne.

The deceased was from 1894-1898 Professor at the Federal Technical University in Zurich, and later on Director of the school of engineers in Lausanne.

VALAIS.

The tower of Ravogne, which dates from the year 1,200 and is one of the oldest historical monuments in Switzerland has collapsed.

One of the best-known Alpine guides, M. Joseph Biner, has died at Zermatt, at the age of 89.

FOOTBALL.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

3rd April, 1938.

SWITZERLAND 4 CZECHOSLOVAKIA 0

15,000 spectators at the Rankhof in Basel had the surprise of their lives when witnessing a stirring and fully deserved win by our national eleven over one of the Continent's class footballing nations, Czechoslovakia. A result of four goals against nil does not allow of any quibbling. Moreover, there stood in the Czech team five of the eleven that pinned the might of England back to a narrow win of 5 goals to 4 last December at Tottenham. Heaven forbid that this should lead anyone to prophesy a Swiss victory over England on the 21st May next in Zurich. But one thing seems clear, we have at last got out of the rut and Swiss football has definitely moved forward and the many unkind things thought and said about it must now be forgiven and forgotten.

Our team stood as follows:— Huber; Minelli, Weiler; Springer, Vernati (all Grasshoppers), Loertscher (Servette); Amado (Lugano), Walacek (Servette), Monnard (Basel), Grassi (Lugano) and Aebi (Servette). Referee: Rudd (England).

The injured Lehmann had to be replaced by the old stager Weiler at left back, while in the forward line Amado moved from centre to outside right instead of Bickel, injured; Monnard was brought in at centre forward and Grassi at inside left, Trello being dropped.

The weather was stormy with rain threatening before the start which accounts for the comparatively small crowd. Right from the kick-off the Swiss dominated play but 30 minutes had gone by before Monnard opened the scoring by heading a freekick Minelli's into the net. This, paradoxically, was the signal for the heavens to commence to weep in earnest, which encouraged Grassi, 7 minutes later, to put Switzerland two up. Shortly afterwards, Boucek, the Czech centre half had to retire, injured through not a very creditable tackle by our Walacek. He only resumed after half-time, obviously handicapped. Shortly before the interval, playing against ten men, it is true, Amado (who played a fine game throughout) centred the ball and Aebi took it on the volley and crashed it past the helpless keeper.

3:0 at half time against Czechoslovakia! True, perhaps the Czechs were not as good as one had expected. Good in midfield, they could not bring themselves to finish off their happy approach-work with a telling shot. No doubt our smart and swift tackling defence had their say in that matter. Among our forwards, Monnard was rather disappointing, too much of the individualist, instead of a leader of the attack.

The second half was more evenly contested. Ten minutes before the end, Minelli places another free kick from fully 45 yards out into the goal mouth and through a wood of legs Amado succeeds in making the score 4:0.

Well done, the Reds!

M.G.

SEASONAL BULLETIN.

Spring/Summer 1938.

Planning holidays, we know, is half the fun, but how difficult it usually is to decide where to go. Tour Programmes are stuffed with tempting suggestions and hold you firmly in their lure, but what tips the balance and decides the holiday so often if not always must be the polished salesmanship of the man-who-knows behind the counter. Poor fellow, with tours to undreamt of places and a thousand-and-one holiday plans to "sell," how on earth is he going to make up the other fellow's mind, send him away booked and happy — the satisfied customer?

There are, of course, some strong selling lines in the bewildering selection of goods. *Switzerland* is one of them, with a capital "S" for Sure-selling and Sound value. Send a Customer to peaceful Switzerland and he'll come back to thank you for putting him on to a good thing. There's no "Pig in a Poke" element when you

"buy" a Swiss holiday — it's the Best Value in Holiday Travel.

Spring Ski-ing

is all the mode to-day, and indeed a very delightful form of enjoyment for those who prefer an action holiday to the more sedate pleasures of conventional Spring holidays.

Spring Ski-ing can be enjoyed certainly to the end of April and in some places well into May, at many Swiss resorts around or above the 5,000 ft. mark. It can also be had at places at lower altitudes where there are funiculars or other means of transportation to high-lying ski grounds. Famous resorts such as Adelboden, Andermatt, Arosa, Davos, Engelberg, Mürren, Pontresina, St. Moritz, Kl. Scheidegg, Wengen and Zermatt have developed the excellent facilities they possess for April ski-ing.

Spring Flowers

— are the attraction not only for aged folk revelling in the sight of young things, but have a magnetic attraction for quite a lot of ordinary folk too. It is not fashionable now-a-days, to extol the beauties of nature where wild flowers are concerned, but all the same a Kentish orchard takes a bit of beating in April — you must indeed come to Switzerland in April to see whole *mountain-sides* covered with orchard blossom (Lakes Lucerne, Geneva, Thun, etc.). In May it is nearly summer in some parts of Switzerland — some of us think it has been summer in England for the last few weeks — and in the sub-Alpine region of Switzerland, which is to say at places not more than 3,000 to 4,000 ft. above sea-level, the *Alpine flowers* come out in increasing numbers. Of course, if you get enquiries from people who want to see the Alpine flora *at it's best*, tell 'em to go in June, to any Swiss mountain centre at 3,000 to 6,000 ft. above sea-level. The mountains are Nature's own rock garden and when the flowers are out the beauty of the scene defies description.

Summer Holidays

— still remain our chief theme and there are one or two items of news you probably have been waiting for, such as the following dates:—

Montreux:

The Narcissus Festival at Montreux will be held on July 2nd and 3rd, 1938. (Note: the narcissi may be a bit over by then, but Montreux will turn out masses of other flowers to make up for them, and the Bevy of Beauty in the Processional Cars will be prettier than ever, we hear.)

Lucerne

is reviving a Passion Play which dates back 500 years. As befits the nature of this fine old work, it will be performed in front of the grave old Cathedral, famous for it's organ recitals. Performances will take place on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from July 9th to September 11th at 9 a.m. Seat prices will range from 2 to 8 francs.

Interlaken,

of course, carries on with it's increasingly popular "William Tell" Open Air Plays. In 1938 the Interlaken Tell Plays will take place every Sunday from July 10th to September 11th.

Locarno.

The Camellia Festival will be held for the twelfth time, together with an Exhibition of local handicrafts, from May 28th to June 5th. Locarno at that time of the year is a veritable flower bouquet.

(Swiss Federal Railways.)

UNIONE TICINESE.

A report of the Annual Banquet and Ball of the Unione Ticinese, which took place on Monday last, at Pagani's, will appear in our next issue.

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