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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

M. Obrecht was present last Tuesday at a meeting of the Federal Council to take leave of his colleagues. The President, M. Pilet-Golaz, expressed the gratitude of the Federal Council, both Chambers of Parliament and of the whole country for his services during the last few years. The new Federal Councillor was then introduced and a discussion concerning the distribution of the various Federal Departments followed. The new Federal Councillor succeeds M. Obrecht in the Département Fédéral de l'Economie Publique. He will act at the same time as Vice-Chief of the Department of Finance and Customs.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council has elected Director Cottier as chief of the Federal Department for Tourist Traffic; he was up till now in charge of the second district of the Swiss Federal Railways.

\* \* \*

Last Thursday afternoon Solothurn gave a hearty welcome to the new Federal Councillor, Dr. Walter Stämpfli. The train on which Dr. Stämpfli travelled to the capital of his home canton stopped in Gerlafingen, where he has lived for nearly twenty years as Director of the von Roll Iron and Steel Works, and also at Büren, his native village. Deputations greeted him in both places as well as, of course, later on and with due pride in Solothurn.

\* \* \*

About 100 members of foreign legations from Holland and Belgium passed through Basle last Wednesday week in a special diplomatic train.

With the diplomats were ecclesiastical dignitaries from the United States and South America and a number of members of the International Court at The Hague.

\* \* \*

The Government of the Canton Aargau has submitted proposals to the Federal Council for the construction of a double track on the line between Rapperswil and Goldau. They hope that the Federal Council will agree to incorporate this construction in their new scheme for the creation of work for the unemployed.

The Government of the Canton of St. Gall has decided that in future all disputes regarding rents are to be submitted to the authorities. Cases where both land-lords and tenants are satisfied are, of course, exempted.

\* \* \*

The Government of the Canton Uri has declared itself in favour of the construction of a road along the left shore of the Lake of Uri instead of the projected Titlis road.

\* \* \*

The Swiss Radio announced that another train carrying food is about to leave for France. The first train left Geneva on July 8th and the second a week later. The food is distributed under the auspices of the Red Cross authorities to refugees in France.

\* \* \*

With the help of the Society for the Preservation of Castles and Historical Ruins, Castle Ehrenfels in the Grisons has been restored. University students participated actively some time ago in this work and Ehrenfels is to be used for the housing of refugees for the time being.

\* \* \*

German-Swiss trade negotiations have begun in Berlin. The Swiss delegation is headed by Dr. Hotz of the Département Fédéral de l'Economie Publique.

\* \* \*

On July 22nd a collision occurred between Erstfeld and Amsteg on the Gotthard line. An express and a goods train were involved and some passengers were slightly injured. The line was blocked for some hours.

\* \* \*

A land-slide blocked the Great St. Bernhard Pass some days ago.

## CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

### L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Mardi le 6 Août à 7.0 h. précises au Restaurant PAGANI 42, Great Portland Street, W.1.

#### ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.

Démissions.

Admissions.

Divers.

Le souper est facultatif et les participants sont priés de bien vouloir s'inscrire au plus tôt auprès de Monsieur P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 2321/2).

Le Comité