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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

The patience of our subscribers has been severely tried by our three weeks' silence and we hope they will acquit us of negligence if we have not replied to the numerous letters complaining about the non-receipt of our publication. After the sudden interruption through enemy action we had reason to believe that the damage would be repaired in a few days and that the printing works would return to normal activity.

It is our intention to go to press once in every fortnight only in order to lighten the heavy financial sacrifice caused by the lack of advertising matter and the high postage. The difficulty or inability of obtaining reliable news from our home country also suggests this course.

Trade negotiations between France and Switzerland were discussed by the Marseilles section of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce. It was pointed out that both countries were eager to facilitate the re-establishment of trade relations.

The Management of the Federal Railways has announced that the number of week-end passengers has greatly increased since the issue of cheap Sunday tickets.

Dr. Baumann, Head of the Federal Department for Justice and Police, speaking on the occasion of an assembly of lawyers, stressed the fact that a united and resolute people stood behind the Army. He also expressed the thanks of the whole Nation to the Army. Continuing, he said that the Swiss would bear themselves courageously and loyally in spite of tribulations and that the Press would continue to fulfil its duty of supplying impartial and neutral information. Furthermore, it had always been the custom for Switzerland to stand on a friendly footing with her neighbours.

The social democratic party of Canton Zürich assembled under the presidency of M. Henkeler. The president of the social democratic party, M. Oprecht, spoke in favour of the creation of a social democratic order and for the preservation of the freedom and independence of Switzerland.

The teacher's association made a resolution when it assembled in Olten, accepting the introduction of the preparatory military instruction.

The Borough of Zürich has authorised a number of credits for road constructions, etc., also a sum of about Frs.2,000,000 for School and gymnasium.

The President of the French Red Cross, M. Valéry-Radot, visited the International Red Cross in Geneva recently.

The General secretary underlined the importance of the collaboration of the Red Cross and the League of the Nation Red Cross.

The Federal Council undertook the examination of the second report on measures taken for the security of the country. The report was passed.

The annual report of the political Department was accepted, also that of the Department of the Interior.

M. Paderewski has left Morges for Lisbon, whence he will go to the United States.

M. Stampfli, Federal Councillor, spoke on the subject of trade relations with foreign countries, particularly with Germany.

An attempt to institute a coach service between Lisbon and Switzerland has not yet been successful.

Swiss Radio announced the other day that after consultation the Federal Council had decided that it was not necessary to effect any change in the relations between Switzerland and the Soviet Republic.

National Councillor Gafner, Bernese representative of the peasant party, and National Councillor Troillet, representative of the Valais have proposed to unite all the federal agricultural services under one management in order to help the peasants.