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The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

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NEWS AT RANDOM

An animated controversy is noticeable in the Swiss press and among the political parties about the increase of the members of the Federal Council, suggested by the socialist party. Whilst there seems to exist no general demand for a larger "cabinet," the opinion is freely expressed that the replacement and election of a new Federal Councillor follows orthodox lines, thus making it difficult for other cantons and political minorities to secure one of the seven seats available.

Colonel Jacob Huber has been appointed Chief of Staff in place of Colonel Labhart, who has taken over the command of an army corps.

The position of compatriots residing in Germany has been raised by a question in the National Council. The Federal Council admitted that through the prohibition of Swiss newspapers in Germany the Swiss in the latter country had become somewhat isolated and alienated; official steps had, however, been taken to improve the Position as a result of which the ban had been lifted in favour of the "Schweizer Echo," the official organ of the N.S.H.

Contrary to a previous announcement it is now officially stated that none of the Swiss ordinarily residing in Southern Tyrol (Italian) are affected by the emigration decree.

During last year 2,093 foreigners have been naturalised in Switzerland. More than half (1,313) hail from Germany and about 25% (488) from Italy; two Britishers only are included in the total.

What has been described as the smallest electric motor in the world has been constructed by engineer Huguenin in Tour-le-Peilz; it contains 42 parts and weighs 0.06 grams.

A.R.P. structures are occupying the minds of authorities even in the canton of the Grisons, which

one might consider immune from this danger on account of its geographical position and altitude. Chur alone has spent under this heading something like Frs.300,000.

A former bank clerk and treasurer of several local societies and clubs in Colombier has been sentenced to nine years hard labour for having helped himself occasionally to small sums from the funds entrusted to his care; the aggregate of these helpings during the last ten years exceeded Frs.100,000.

The snapping of the rope was responsible for a serious accident when a party was negotiating the descent from the Dent de Lys. Three climbers were flung into a couloir with fatal results; they are the Rev. Davet, Chaplain from Fribourg, his twenty-four year old niece Davet, from Geneva, and a boy named Aubert.

Avalanches by order is the subject of a message distributed by the "Associated Press" to provincial papers; here it is:—

Given a certain quantity of snow conveniently placed on an Alpine slope, one officer in every Swiss Army mountain and field battalion knows how to greet an invader with avalanches.

By the command of General Henri Guisan, Commander-in-Chief of the Swiss Army, one officer from every battalion has been to an avalanche school, where for two weeks he learns all that Swiss

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Mardi le 9 Avril au local du Club, Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Great Portland Street, W.1. et sera précédée d'un dîner à 7h. très précises (prix 5/-).

ORDRE DU JOUR :

Procès-verbal.	Election des Vérificateurs des Comptes.
Admissions.	Election des Fidei-commissaires du Club.
Démotions.	House Fund.
Rapport du Comité.	Réunion d'été.
Rapport des Vérificateurs des Comptes.	Divers.
Election du Comité.	

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à Monsieur P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 2321/2).