

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: - (1940)

Heft: 962

Rubrik: News at random

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 13.08.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

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 THE LONDON COLONY.

Telephone : Clerkenwell 2321/2.

Published every Friday at 23, LEONARD ST., E.C.2.

Telegrams : FREPRINCO, LONDON.

VOL. 22—No. 962.

LONDON, 27th APRIL, 1940.

PRICE 3d.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES | { | 3 Months (13 issues, post free) | - - - - - | 3/6 |
| | 6 | " (26 " | - - - - - | 6/6 |
| | 12 | " (52 " | - - - - - | 12/- |
| SWITZERLAND | { | 6 Months (26 issues, post free) | - - - - - | Frs. 7.50 |
| | 24 | " (52 " | - - - - - | " 14.— |

(Swiss subscriptions may be paid into Postscheck-Konto Basle V 5718).



NEWS AT RANDOM

The Swiss Army Command issued a radio warning to all citizens that a large number of requests had been received by public bodies and private persons for the despatch of ordnance survey maps and bird's-eye views of Swiss localities. The recipients of such requests are asked to forward the correspondence received to the military headquarters in Berne.

* * *

Colonel Ernst Burgunder from Heimenhausen (Aargau) has been appointed secretary of the Federal Department in place of the retiring Colonel Kissling.

* * *

A message from the Federal Council — which we reprint in the French original in another column — contains detailed instructions in case of a "surprise attack." In a separate statement president Pilet-Golaz adds that there are no reasons for alarm or apprehension but in view of what has happened elsewhere precautionary measures and directions are not out of place.

* * *

Schaffhausen is to have an underground power station which will come into operation in an emergency; the cost is Frs.190,000, and the municipal gas-works will also contribute Frs.53,000 towards the purchase of coal transports (ships).

* * *

Strict orders have been issued for observing the traditional Labour Day on May 1st in Geneva, apart from outlawing all street manifestations, orators in private halls may not criticise the policy of foreign governments, any leaflets will have to be approved by the police; as an example, the Conseil d'Etat stipulates that such pious wishes as " Nous souhaitons la victoire des démocraties occidentales " must not be voiced.

* * *

Of the 1,715 unemployed registered in Zurich on the 15th inst., 484 or 28% were foreigners.

* * *

A "dog fight" developed in the Geneva Grand Conseil during the session last Saturday. The socialist, Nicole, delivered a spiteful attack against Avenol, the general secretary of the League of Nations; the president repudiated the remarks and suspended

the meeting. On its resumption Nicole was denounced by his former associate Rosselet, who in turn was described by a communist member as a spy and agent provocateur. Rosselet pounced upon his accuser which led to a vigorous exchange of fisticuffs between the two socialist groups of the council.

* * *

"La Gloire qui chante" is the title of a historic musical drama written by Gonzague de Reynold and recently staged in Berne by a troupe of mobilised artists. This first performance, at which the Federal President and high army officials attended, proved such a success that a number of representations are to be given in all the principal towns of western Switzerland. The proceeds will go to the National Defence Fund and the Red Cross.

* * *

Federal and cantonal technicians are making a complete survey of the plateau in the Valle Maggia (Ticino) on which the village of Campo is situated. A slight subsidence of this stretch of land has been noticed for many years, but during the last winter this movement has shown acceleration and is causing uneasiness.

* * *

Dr. Gustave Clément, a well-known surgeon at Fribourg, died suddenly at the age of 72; he had performed several operations at the municipal hospital on the eve of his death. Dr. Clément was president of the Grand Conseil of which he has been a member for the last 26 years.

* * *

The "Ciba" (Ges. für Chemische Industrie in Basle) has allotted out of its profits for 1939 one million francs to the National Defence collection, and another million to the pension fund of its employees.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Mardi le 7 Mai à 6.30 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

Over a quarter of a million francs has been left bequeathed to philanthropic institutions by Dr. Clément who died recently at Fribourg.

* * *

In Geneva about 6,000 apartment owners are clamouring for tenants; in addition a large number of small houses remain unoccupied.

* * *

While a gang of fifty labourers were clearing the Klausenstrasse from snow, five of them were caught in an avalanche; one lost his life and others were slightly wounded.

* * *

No great importance is attached to the arrest in Berne of Lt.-Colonel Dr. Hans Trüb, who is charged with espionage in favour of a foreign power. Dr. Trüb was employed in the juridical section of the Federal Military Department for a number of years and has always enjoyed the complete confidence of his superiors. It is said that the state of his private affairs and his financial commitments have influenced the espionage defence service of the army command to keep him under observation. Dr. Trüb has made a confession which enables the authorities to state that his is an isolated case though some civilians have also been detained in this connection.

* * *

Another Swiss banking concern is establishing itself in New York; the Schweiz. Kreditanstalt is opening offices on May 9th under the title "Credit Suisse, New York Agency."

hommes des services complémentaires qui ne peuvent pas atteindre leur destination, se rendent sur la place de rassemblement de corps la plus rapprochée.

2. Les services complémentaires non armés, conformément à l'affiche de mobilisation collée dans le livret de service;

3. Les chevaux sommiers et véhicules automobiles soumis à réquisition seront conduits immédiatement sur la place de fourniture.

4. N'ont pas à se présenter :

a) les militaires dispensés pour le cas de guerre, c'est-à-dire dispensés à titre permanent ou pour un temps indéterminé.

Tous les autres hommes dispensés sont tenus de rejoindre comme les autres militaires, conformément aux chiffres 1 et 2.

b) les hommes en congé à l'étranger.

* * *

La "Mobilisation de guerre en cas d'attaque par surprise" ordonnée, les militaires sont soumis aux lois et coutumes de la guerre. Tout officier a le devoir de rassembler les militaires et de procéder avec la dernière rigueur contre les parachutistes, l'infanterie aérienne et les saboteurs. En l'absence d'officiers et de sous-officiers, chaque soldat agit de sa propre initiative avec la plus grande énergie.

Dès qu'il est à prévoir qu'en certains endroits les attaques de l'ennemi ou de ses alliés peuvent être repoussées par les organisations des troupes territoriales et des services complémentaires armés, les autres militaires doivent tenter par tous les moyens de rejoindre leur état-major, leur unité ou la place de rassemblement de corps la plus proche. Il faut garder le moins d'hommes possible dans les localités, afin de ne pas affaiblir le front par une dispersion inutile des forces.

Les nouvelles repandues par la radio, par tracts ou par tout autre moyen mettant en doute la volonté de résister du Conseil fédéral et du commandant de l'armée, doivent être considérées comme des mensonges de la propagande ennemie.

"NOTRE PAYS S'OPPOSERA JUSQU'AU BOUT ET PAR TOUS LES MOYENS A L'AGRESSEUR QUEL QU'IL SOIT."

Dans de telles circonstances, la population civile gardera tout son calme et toute sa discipline; elle restera chez elle, vaquera à ses occupations, évacuera les rues et les places et se conformera strictement aux ordres des autorités légales.

Au Nom du Conseil fédéral suisse :

le Président de la Confédération : Pilet-Golaz;
le vice-chancelier : Leimgruber;
le général Guisan."

**SPECIAL PROGRAMMES FOR SWISS,
residing abroad, transmitted at 9 p.m.
from the following Swiss stations.**

6. Mai, Beromünster 539.6 m. = 556 Kc.
Nationale Sendung: Einheit in der sozialen Vielfalt.

13 Mai, Sottens 443.1 m. = 677 Kc.
Lundi de la Pentecôte: Printemps suisse.

20. Mai, Beromünster 539.6 m. = 556 Kc.
"Chüschtgegi Volksmusik usem Bärnbiet."

27 Maggio, Monte Ceneri 257.1 m. = 1167 Kc.
"Valmaggina" una visita alla Vallemaggia.