

**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:** - (1943)

**Heft:** 1009

**Rubrik:** Prepaid subscription rates

### **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 MEMBERS OF THE LONDON COLONY.

Telephone: Clerkenwell 2321/2.

Published Monthly at 23, LEONARD STREET, E.C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

VOL. 25 — No. 1009.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26th, 1943.

PRICE 6d.

## PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

(Monthly issue.)

UNITED KINGDOM	( 6 issues, post free) . . . . .	3/6
AND COLONIES	(12 issues, post free) . . . . .	6/6
SWITZERLAND	One Year (12 issues, post free) Frs. 5.—	

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



## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

The postal service from and to Switzerland continues to be very unsatisfactory; as far as we can gather no newspapers have come through at all unless sent by airmail which latter is also erratic. According to an official statement issued at Berne the ordinary mail to Great Britain travels via Basle-Müllheim-Müllhausen-Belfort-Paris-Lisbon as the frontier at Geneva is closed. The airmail is loaded at Zurich for Stuttgart where it is held up for censorship and then dispatched to Lisbon.

\* \* \*

In the National Council a short discussion dealing with the introduction of a Federal death duty terminated with a negative resolution. Federal Councillor Wetter though not excluding the possibility of future Federal legislation preferred to leave the matter to the jurisdiction of the cantons as heretofore. The parallel of the English death duties was not applicable, he said, as in the latter country no annual property tax was levied.

\* \* \*

Another socialist motion seeking to limit the payments of dividends to five or six per cent. met with a similar fate. Federal Councillor Wetter in his reply stated that during the last twelve months about a third of the capital invested in Swiss undertakings went without dividends and the average dividend on the remainder was at about the rate as was earned by debenture or mortgage holders; it was a fallacy to base the argument on the nominal capital of companies as in a good many instances the present shareholders had acquired their shares at a much higher price.

\* \* \*

A new and far reaching initiative is being launched; it seeks to add to our Constitution a new article which eliminates speculation in land and residential property. Agricultural land can only be acquired by persons who actually cultivate the land for their own existence.

\* \* \*

A draft decree—both alarming and reactionary—is being discussed in parliamentary circles and commissions and has no less an object than the denationalisation of Swiss citizens living abroad who have committed offences against the independence or security of the

State. This obnoxious notion has obviously infiltrated from abroad; it offends against one of the basic articles of our constitution and would lead to an arbitrary treatment of our constitutional guarantees. The bill is in charge of Federal Councillor von Steiger.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council discussed in camera several military and economic questions. The new call-up procedure would, it was stated, place the army in a state of thorough preparedness.

\* \* \*

Dr. Peter Vieli has been appointed Swiss Minister in Rome; he was born 52 years ago at Rhäzüns (Grisons). From 1924 to 1931 he belonged to the staff of our Legation at Rome and was subsequently made a Councillor of Legation. Most of his official career was spent at Berne until in 1937 he joined the Credit Suisse in Zurich where he occupied a leading position.

\* \* \*

The cost of living index to the end of December, 1942, is given as 199.6 (June 1914 — 100) which is an increase of half per cent. as compared with November; since the beginning of the war the increase has been 45.5 per cent.

\* \* \*

The index figure for wholesale prices is stated to be 214.8 per cent., which is an increase of nearly 100 per cent. since the outbreak of the war.

### Cantonal

On account of lack of space to accommodate the steadily increasing number of students the Zurich educational authorities have been forced to refuse admission to the Gymnasium to scholars residing in adjoining cantons; the Gymnasium is a public state school devoted to the classical side of education.

\* \* \*

The population of the town of Zurich has increased during the last year by 3096 and had reached at the end of December last 339,622.

## CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les Membres sont avisés que

### L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Samedi, le 6 Mars à 1 p.m. au Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, (near Green Park Tube Station).

#### ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.	Divers.
Admissions.	Continuation de la discussion sur l'activité du Club.
Démissions.	

Les participants sont priés de bien vouloir s'inscrire au plus tôt auprès de Mons. H. Binggely, 167 Clapham Road, S.W.9. (Téléphone: Reliance 4150).  
Le Comité.