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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY P. F. BOEHRINGER.

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

The elections for the 33rd legislature period of the Swiss Parliament, took place at the end of October, the strength of the various parties in the new Parliament are as follows:—

	1947	1943
Radical-Democrats . . . . .	52	47
Socialists . . . . .	48	55
Cath.-Cons. and Christian-Soc. . . . .	44	43
B.G.B. (Bürger, Gewerbe & Bauern) . . . . .	21	22
Landesring (Duttweiler) . . . . .	8	7
Liberal-Cons. . . . .	7	8
PdA. (Communists) . . . . .	7	—
Democrats . . . . .	5	6
Independent . . . . .	2	6
	<hr/> 194	<hr/> 194

The following were elected:—

### URI.

*National Council:*

F. Arnold, Fluelen (Lib.) new. (1 seat.)

*States Council:*

Dr. G. Muheim, Altdorf (Cath.-cons.) hitherto; L. Danioth, Andermatt (Cons.) new.

### SCHWYZ.

*National Council:*

K. Knobel, Schwyz (Cons.) hitherto; E. Ruoss, Buttikon (Lib.) hitherto; J. Heinzer, Goldau (Soc.) new.

(1 Socialist gain) J. Schuler, (Peasant Party), was not re-elected. (3 seats.)

*States Council:*

Dr. F. Stähli, Siebnen (Cons.) hitherto; A. Gwerder (Cons.) hitherto.

### UNTERWALDEN.

*National Council:*

A. Wagner, Stans (Cath.-Cons.) hitherto. (1 seat.)

*States Council:*

No change.

### OBWALDEN.

*National Council:*

Dr. G. Odermatt, Sarnen (Cath.-Cons.) hitherto. (1 seat.)

*States Council:*

No change.

### LUCERNE.

*National Council:*

O. Studer, Escholzmatt (Cons.) hitherto; Dr. K. Wick, Lucerne (Cons.) hitherto; A. Kunz, Hergiswil (Cons.) new; Dr. V. Winiker, Lucerne (Cons.) hitherto; C. Beck, Sursee (Cons.) hitherto; Dr. M. Wey, Lucerne (Lib.) hitherto; Ch. Clavadetscher, Dagmersellen (Lib.) hitherto; K. Bucher, Lucerne (Lib.) new; P. Fröhlich, Lucerne (Soc.) hitherto. (9 seats.)

*States Council:*

Dr. Egli (Cons.) hitherto; Dr. Züst (Cons.) hitherto.

### ZÜRICH.

*National Council:*

Dr. A. Meili (Lib.) hitherto; Dr. H. Häberlin, (Lib.) hitherto; Dr. M. Brunner (Lib.) new; Dr. R. Bühler (Lib.) hitherto; Dr. P. Gysler (Peas. Party) hitherto; R. Reichling (Peas. Party) hitherto; R. Meier (Peas. Party) hitherto; H. Farner (Peas. Party) hitherto; Dr. W. Seiler, (Christ. Socialists) hitherto; Dr. E. Duft (Christ. Soc.) new; K. Müller (Christ. Soc.) new; E. Woog, (Communist) new; Ph. Schmid-Ruedin (Democr.) hitherto; Dr. H. Ruegg (Democr.) hitherto; G. Duttweiler (Landesring) hitherto; W. Trüb (Landesring) hitherto; H. Sappeur (Landesring) hitherto; Dr. H. Munz (Landesring) hitherto; Dr. E. Jaecle (Landesring) new; Dr. R. Bucher (Landesring) new; P. Zigerli (Evang. Pop. Party) hitherto; W. Schmid (Lib. Soc.) new; Dr. H. Oprecht (Soc.) hitherto; E. Frei (Soc.) hitherto; O. Schütz (Soc.) hitherto; H. Leuenberger (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. H.

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Meierhaus, (Soc.) hitherto; J. Uhlmann (Soc.) hitherto; J. Kägi, (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. W. Spühler (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. W. Gitermann (Soc.) hitherto. (31 seats.)

*Not re-elected*: E. Graf (B.G.B.); E. Moser (Soc.); H. Oldani (Soc.); A. Stähli (Soc.); P. Steinmann (Soc.); Dr. H. Schläpfer (Lib.); B. Widmer (Christ. Soc.).

**States Council:**

Dr. Klöti, Zurich (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. Wahlen, Zurich (B.G.B.) hitherto.

**GLARUS.**

**National Council:**

Dr. H. Schuler, Glarus (Lib.) hitherto; Ch. Meier, Netstal (Soc.) hitherto. (2 seats.)

**States Council:**

No change.

**ZUG.**

**National Council:**

K. Hess, Zug (Cons. Cath.) new; Dr. M. Stadlin (Lib.) new. F. Jost (Soc.) has not been re-elected. 1 Liberal gain. (2 seats.)

**States Council:**

No change.

**BERNE.**

**National Council:**

Dr. M. Feldmann (B.G.B.) new; H. Hofer (B.G.B.) hitherto; H. Stähli (B.G.B.) hitherto; D. Buri (B.G.B.) new; E. Schmid (B.G.B.) hitherto; P. Burgdorfer (B.G.B.) hitherto; H. Gfeller (B.G.B.) hitherto; H. Kästli (B.G.B.) hitherto; W. Meister (B.G.B.) new; J. Grossot (Cath. Pop. Party) hitherto; L. Lovis (Cath. Pop. Party) new; R. Bratschi (Soc.) hitherto; R. Grimm (Soc.) hitherto; A. Steiner (Soc.) new; S. Brawand (Soc.) hitherto; H. Roth (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. M. Weber (Soc.) hitherto; F. Meyer (Soc.) hitherto; E. Aebersold (Soc.) new; E. Jakob (Soc.) hitherto; K. Geissbühler (Soc.) new; Dr. E. Freimüller (Soc.) hitherto; F. Schmidlin (Soc.) hitherto; F. Grütter (Soc.) new; E. Giroud (Soc.) hitherto; H. Müller (Lib.) new; A. Seematter (Lib.) hitherto; Dr. E. Bärtschi (Lib.) hitherto; E. Studer (Lib.) hitherto; P. Kunz (Lib.) hitherto; Dr. V. Moine (Lib.) hitherto. (33 seats.)

*The following have not been re-elected*: A. Held (B.G.B.); A. Ryter (Soc.); F. Segessemann (Soc.)

**States Council:**

No change.

**FRIBOURG.**

**National Council:**

A. Pasquier (Cons.) hitherto; E. Philipona (Cons.) hitherto; J. Ackermann (Cons.) new; P. Torche (Cons.) new; P. Glasson (Radical) new; A. Droz (Radical) new; R. Mauroux (Soc.) hitherto; The Socialist lose one seat to the radicals. (7 seats.)

**States Council:**

No change.

**SOLOTHURN.**

**National Council:**

Dr. U. Dietschi (Lib.) hitherto; W. Arni (Lib.) new; Dr. K. Obrecht (Lib.) new; Dr. A. Boner (Pop. Party) hitherto; A. Müller (Pop. Party) hitherto; J. Schmid (Soc.) hitherto; A. Furrer (Soc.) hitherto. No change. (7 seats.)

**States Council:**

Dr. Häfelin (Lib.) hitherto; second ballot for 2nd seat.

**BASLE-TOWN.**

**National Council:**

Dr. E. Dietschi (Radical) new; Dr. A. Schaller (Radical) new; Dr. A. Oeri (Lib.) hitherto; Prof. Brogle (Cath. Pop. Party) new; H. Bernoulli (Landesring) new; E. Herzogg (Soc.) hitherto; F. Schneider (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. Miville (Communist) hitherto. (8 seats.)

**States Council:**

No change.

**BASLE-COUNTY.**

**National Council:**

Dr. K. Leupin (Democr.) hitherto; Dr. L. Mann (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. W. Degen (B.G.B.) new; Dr. E. Boerlin (Rad.) hitherto. (4 seats.)

**States Council:**

P. Brodbeck (Lib.) new; Schaub (Soc.) not elected, 2nd ballot necessary.

**SCHAFFHAUSEN.**

**National Council:**

W. Bringolf (Soc.) hitherto; K. Scherrer (Lib. Democr.) new. (2 seats.)

**States Council:**

Dr. Schoch (Lib.) hitherto; Lieb (Peasant Party) new.

**APPENZEL J.Rh.**

**National Council:**

Dr. Albert Broger (Cath. Cons.) hitherto. (1 seat.)

**States Council:**

No change.

**APPENZEL A.Rh.**

**National Council:**

P. Flisch, Walzenhausen (Soc.) hitherto; A. Keller-Reuter (Lib.) hitherto. (2 seats.)

**States Council:**

W. Ackermann, Herisau (Lib.) hitherto.

**ST. GALL.**

**National Council:**

Dr. E. Anderegg (Lib.) hitherto; Dr. Schwendener (Lib.) hitherto; Pozzi, Wattwil (Lib.) new; A. Zeller, Wallenstadt (Lib.) new; Dr. Holenstein (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; Dr. Eugster (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; J. Scherrer (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; Dr. Gemperli (Cons.) new; Dr. Th. Eisenring (Cons.) new; H. Schwitzer (Cons.) new.

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(Nat. Counc. Kappler (Christ. Soc.) has not been re-elected).

Eggenberger Uzwil (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. H. Huber (Soc.) new; Eggenberger (Indep.) hitherto.

(Nat. Counc. Spindler (Young Peas. Party) has not been re-elected.) (13 seats.)

*States Council:*

No change.

#### GRAUBUNDEN.

*National Council:*

Dr. J. Condrau (Cons.) hitherto; Dr. L. Albrecht (Cons.) hitherto; Dr. E. Tenchio (Cons.) new; Dr. A. Gadiant (Democr.) hitherto; Dr. G. Sprecher (Democr.) hitherto; Dr. G. R. Mohr (Lib.) new. 1 Cons. gain, 1 Democr. loss.) (6 seats.)

*States Council:*

No change.

#### AARGAU.

*National Council:*

Dr. A. Schmid (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. Sigrist (Soc.) hitherto; W. Allenmann (Soc.) hitherto; A. Aeschbach (Soc.) hitherto; W. Widmer-Kunz (Lib.) new; E. Speiser (Lib.) new; E. Triebold (Lib.) new; Dr. E. Bircher (B.G.B. hitherto; Dr. K. Renold (B.G.B.) hitherto; Dr. M. Rohr (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; E. Meier (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; J. Käch (Cath. Cons.) new.

A. Schirmer, Baden (Soc.) has not been re-elected. The Socialists lose one seat to the Liberals. (12 seats.)

*States Council:*

A. Fricker (Cath. Cons) hitherto; K. Killer (Soc.) hitherto.

#### THURGAU.

*National Council:*

R. Schümperli (Soc.) hitherto; Dr. H. Roth (Soc.) new; Dr. Müller (Lib.) hitherto; Dr. Eder (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; Otto Hess (Peas. Party) hitherto; Otto Wartmann (Peas. Party) hitherto; O. Höppli, Frauenfeld has not been re-elected. No change. (6 seats.)

*States Council:*

D. P. Altweg (Lib.) hitherto; E. Ullmann (Peas. Party) hitherto.

## Xmas Greetings

Following former years' practice we propose to publish again in our December issue a collective greeting.

The scarcity of paper and the costs of Xmas cards, should induce many of our subscribers to make use of this facility to extend to their friends the compliments of the season.

Those of our readers and friends wishing to be included should forward name and address to our office not later than Thursday, December 11th, 1947, together with remittance for 6/-.

#### TICINO.

*National Council:*

Janner (Cons.) hitherto; Bordoni (Cons.) new; Pini (Lib.) hitherto; G. B. Rusca (Lib.) hitherto, F. Rusca (Lib.) hitherto; Agostinetti (Soc.) new; Maspoli (Cons.) hitherto. Nat. Counc. Riva has not been re-elected. The Liberals gain one seat from the Socialists. (7 seats.)

*States Council:* No change.

#### VAUD.

*National Council:*

R. Piot (Rad.) hitherto; J. Peytrequin (Rad.) new; P. Chaudet (Rad.) hitherto; H. Cottier (Rad.) hitherto; E. Pidoux (Rad.) new; L. Rubattel (Lib.) hitherto; F. Devenoge (Lib.) hitherto; G. Bridel (Lib.) new; P. Graber (Soc.) hitherto; R. Bringolf (Soc.) hitherto; P. Perrin (Soc.) hitherto; Roulet (B.G.B.) hitherto; M. Jeanneret (Com.); A. Muret (Com.); André Muret (Com.); Dr. Miéville (Com.). (16 seats.)

Not re-elected are: Addor, Péclard and Anet (Rad.); Baudet (Lib.); Brochon (B.G.B.). Communists gain.

*States Council:*

Desplands (Rad.) new; Fauqueux (Lib.) hitherto.

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**VALAIS.***National Council:*

Favre (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; Moulin (Cath. Cons.) new; de Courten (Cath. Cons.) new; Escher (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; Schnyder (Cath. Cons.) hitherto; Crittin (Rad.) hitherto; F. Germanier (Rad.) new. (7 seats.)

Nat. Counc. Kuntschen and Carron have not been re-elected.

*States Council:*

Troillet (Cons.) hitherto; 2nd ballot for 2nd seat.

**NEUCHÂTEL.***National Council:*

T. Perrin (Rad.) hitherto; P. R. Rosset (Rad.) new; R. Robert (Soc.) hitherto; H. Perret (Soc.) hitherto; S. de Coulon (Lib.) new. No change. (5 seats.)

*States Council:*

No change.

**GENEVA.***National Council:*

A. Pico (Nat. Dem.) hitherto; A. de Senarclans (Nat. Dem.) hitherto; A. Guinand (Rad.) hitherto; A. Lachenal (Rad.) hitherto; F. Perréard (Rad.) hitherto; F. Cottier (Christ. Soc.) new; L. Nicole (Com.) new; J. Vincent (Com.) new. The Socialists lose two seats to Communists. (8 seats.)

*States Council:*

A. Malche (Rad.) hitherto; M. Raisin (Nat. Democr.) new.

*National Council:* Old Members 134; New 60.

The Assuan hydro-electric power station in Egypt is definitely to be fitted with Swiss turbines and dynamos. Representatives of Escher-Wyss, of Zurich, and Ateliers des Charmilles, of Geneva, have signed the final contract at the Egyptian Ministry for Public works.

\* \* \*

Switzerland has concluded a trade agreement with Hungary for the next 12 months. Hungary will supply agricultural products worth Frs.23,000,000 (£1,330,000) and industrial products valued at Frs.36,000,000 (£2,750,000) in return for Swiss exports consisting mainly of machinery of Frs.12,000,000 (£692,000).

A financial agreement on capital transfers was reached simultaneously in talks at Berne lasting over five weeks. Hungary's trade and financial delegations were led respectively by M. Alexander Ronai, Minister of Trade, and Dr. George Kemeny, Secretary of State.

\* \* \*

Lloyd's Underwriters in London may now also extend their activities to include Switzerland, with all kinds of insurances, but excluding life and transport insurance, a licence having been granted to them by the Swiss Federal authorities.

\* \* \*

The Swiss Government has decided to abolish restrictions, imposed in March, 1945, on the import and export of foreign bank notes.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council has nominated Minister, Dr. W. Stucki, to represent Switzerland at the International Commercial Conference which will begin on the 21st of November at Havana. He will be accompanied by Dr. M. Fumasoli, Counsellor of Legation, at the Swiss Legation in Madrid, Dr. H. Hauswirth,

Chief of Section, Federal Economic Department, Dr. F. Real, 1st Secretary of Legation, and Dr. J. Humbert, Attaché at Swiss Legation in Buenos-Aires.

\* \* \*

Cesare Lucchini, until recently, Director of the District II of the Swiss Federal Railways, has been elected General Manager of the Swiss Federal Railways in succession to Dr. Maurice Paschoud, who has retired on reaching the age limit.

**Cantonal**

The death is reported from Stans (Schwyz) of Anton Zumbühl, late States-Councillor and member of the cantonal government, at the age of 85. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The death occurred in Lucerne of Walter Bucher, son of the well-known dialect writer "Zyböri." The deceased was himself a writer of dialects and was often heard over the Swiss Radio. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Burglars entered the premises of the watch-maker shop, Albert Heer "am Graben" in Winterthur, and got away with a quantity of watches valued at 15,000.— frs. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

A terrible tragedy occurred at the Post-Office in Urdorf (Zurich). The 37 years old post-master Hegetschweiler, after closing the office was busy making up his accounts, when a stranger entered through a back door, and struck a blow at his head which killed him outright. About the same moment the nine year old son of the post-master arrived, and he too was attacked by the intruder and seriously

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injured (the boy has since died). The murderer then got hold of a cash box containing an amount of 5,700.—frs.

On leaving the premises he was surprised by an assistant, who, on seeing the two bodies laying on the floor, called for help, the attacker then took to his heels with the booty.

The police was called in, and after two days intensive enquiries were successful in arresting a man by the name of Streuli, a commercial traveller from Adliswil. He was interrogated, and charged with murder. Streuli confessed and whilst the examining magistrate walked to the door to call in the police, the murderer opened a window and jumped out of the office which was on the third floor. He was killed instantaneously.

Streuli, who was married, was reported to be in financial difficulties, he had been on several occasions assisted by Hegetschweiler, who was a friend of his. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The oldest inhabitant in Pfäffikon (Zurich) has died at the age of 93 in the person of David Furrer. The deceased, was from 1902—1934 "Feldkommissär" of the 4th Division. He was for many years a director of the "Volksbank Wetzikon." [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

A railway man returning home from his work in the early hours of the morning was attacked in the Stampfenbachstrasse in Zurich by a woman, who hit him on the head with a small axe. The man collapsed and the woman tried to extract his wallet. On shouting for help the woman disappeared without the wallet.

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The attacker, an Austrian subject, was later on arrested when trying to pass the frontier at Diepoldsau. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

From Zug, comes the news of the death of Mgr. Albert Hausheer, Director of the "Inland Mission," at the age of 72. The deceased was formerly a priest at Brugg. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Dr. E. Reinhard, Director of the Federal Finance Administration in Berne, has resigned from his post, having been appointed one of the General Managers of the "Crédit Suisse." Dr. Reinhard has been in the service of the Swiss Confederation since 1935 during which time he has rendered valuable services to our country. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The electors of Soubey in the Clos du Doubs district have elected Charles Streuillet, as President of the community. Streuillet, who is 21 years old, is the youngest President of a community in Switzerland. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

A donor at Leubringen, near Bienne, has offered her property, including several acres of land, estimated to be worth 123,000.—frs. to the town of Bienne. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The administrators of the Marcel Benoist Foundation have awarded the Marcel Benoist prize, amounting to 20,000.—frs., to Dr. Alexander von Muralt, Professor at the University of Berne, for his work on "Die Signalübermittlung im Nerven." [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

"Alpar" (Schweiz. Luftverkehrs A.G.) in Berne have gone into liquidation. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The senior partner of the well-known firm Hasler, A.G., in Berne, has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The late Alois Harder from Niederbüren (Berne) has left an amount of 20,000.—frs. to the community of Niederbüren for charitable purposes. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The late Mlle Hélène Dinichert, the sister of the former Swiss Minister in Stockholm, has left an amount of 10,000.—frs. to the "District du Lac" in Murten, and 1,000.—frs. to the Swiss Red Cross. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Pater Fridolin Utz, a member of the Dominican order, has been appointed Professor of Theology at the University of Fribourg. Dr. Vincent Kiper has been nominated Professor of Philosophy. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The 3½ per cent. loan for 40 million francs, issued by the canton of Basle Town has not proved to be a success, only 25 million francs have been subscribed. [A.T.S.]

Professor T. Reichstein, Professor in ordinary for organic chemistry at the University of Basle, has received the title of *doctor honoris causa* of the Sorbonne in Paris.

Dr. F. Jaeger, Professor of Geography at the University of Basle, has been dismissed from his post, for activities against the security of the State. [A.T.S.]

A woman employee of the "Gemeindekasse" in Wilchingen (Schaffhausen), has been arrested for embezzlement. The amount in question is reported to be 20,000.— frs. [A.T.S.]

A fire which broke out at the "Bronzenwarenfabrik" in Vogelsang near Turgi (Aargau), caused damage amounting to half a million francs. [A.T.S.]

A motor-car on the road between Vaulien and Romainmôtier was overturned. Mme Witz-Schneider, from Pully, was killed, and two other passengers had to be taken to hospital in Lausanne with serious injuries. [A.T.S.]

The military tribunal of the 4th Division, sitting at Lausanne, has passed a sentence of three months imprisonment, on 1st lieutenant Bovard for having refused to attend an officer's course. Lt. Bovard is the manager of the "Suisse Contemporaine" and head of the Information Service of the "Schweizerspende." [A.T.S.]

The canton of Vaud is celebrating on January 24th, 1948, the 150th anniversary of its independence.

This event will be celebrated by a special service at the cathedral in Lausanne. [A.T.S.]

Professor Edouard Bauer has been appointed rector of the University of Neuchâtel. [A.T.S.]

The death is reported from Geneva of Léon Martin, a well-known solicitor and former President of the Swiss Lawyers Association, at the age of 73. [A.T.S.]

### Economics

Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Holding Company Ltd., Cham and Vevey — Unilac, Inc., Panama-City — Alimentana Company Ltd., Kempthal. Discussions have taken place recently between the boards of directors of these three companies with a view to assuring a more rational use of the various commercial and technical assets at their disposal. It is now proposed to offer the Alimentana shareholders an exchange on the basis of 15 Nestlé shares (including the corresponding Unilac shares, the dividend coupons for 1947 and the coupon of the Nestlé sinking fund certificate due for payment in December 1947) against each Alimentana share. This proposal has yet to be ratified by the general meetings of shareholders of the companies concerned. Nestlé and Unilac will, of course, have to increase their share-capital if the merger goes through.

(Swiss Bank Corp. Bulletin.)

### Traffic

A delegation of the Swiss Federal Railways, consisting of General-Manager Paschoud, R. Grimm, Manager of the Lötschberg railway, Branger, Manager of the Rätischen railways, have returned from Istanbul where they attended a time-table conference. [A.T.S.]

The American Civil Aeronautic Board has granted a licence to Swissair for air traffic from Switzerland to New York City via Shannon (Ireland) Santa Maria (Azores) and Gander (Newfoundland). [A.T.S.]

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The following have celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary (60 years): Mr. and Mrs. J. & A. Müller-Signer, Herisau (Appenzell a/Rh.); Mr. and Mrs. N. Hefti-Hefti, Haslen (Glarus); Mr. and Mrs. Eugster-Oertli in Egg — Steinlenten.

General Guisan and Mme. Guisan have celebrated their Golden wedding anniversary. [A.T.S.]

Forty five Hotel employees have been engaged by the "African Caterers Ltd." in South Africa. A first batch of 26 men have left Switzerland for Capetown, they will be employed at the Hotel Carlton in Johannesburg, one of the Luxury Hotels in South Africa. The General-Manager of this company is a Mr. Thomas from Sils. [A.T.S.]

The next Federal Musical Festival will be held in St. Gall from the 10-12th July, 1948. [A.T.S.]

### SWITZERLAND'S GIFT TO PRINCESS ELIZABETH.

The Federal Council has decided to give the Princess a watch with a diamond bracelet, and an embroidery made by the best workers of St. Gall as a wedding present.



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