

**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:** - (1947)

**Heft:** 1060

**Rubrik:** Prepaid subscription rates

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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY 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 Twice Monthly at 23, LEONARD STREET, E.C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

VOL. 30. No. 1060.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31st, 1947.

PRICE 6d.

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

The council of the *Party of Labour* (Communists !) meeting at Bienne on the 19th inst., issued a declaration of war against their former friends, the socialists. The latter are accused of disregarding their original fight against capitalists which policy led to the formation of the new party which will strictly adhere to the elementary principles of the movement.

Under the patronage of Minister Charles de Jenner, well-remembered by his many friends in the London Colony, a Bulgaro-Swiss society has been formed in Sofia.

The military department published a warning in local papers in the Hasli Valley that the Dakota plane on Gauli Glacier has been taken into custody by military authorities and that it is prohibited to enter or damage the machine or to take objects dropped on the glacier, also that it is highly dangerous to fool around the plane as demolition charges were not removed.

There are still a number of objects strewn on the glacier even silver cutlery dropped by the Americans.

### Cantonal

In Lucerne a proposal to increase the members of the inner town council (Engerer Stadtrat) from five to seven was negatived by a large majority; this extension was contested by the liberal and conservative parties the other four recommending acceptance.

Here is a description of the Zurich sports stadium just completed and said to be the largest of its type in Continental Europe; it is taken from the January issue of "Civil Engineering":—

"This stadium was intended to serve, in the first place, as a velodrome with an elliptical track 820ft. in length and with a seating capacity of 12,000 (this number was reduced to 11,000 in the actual project).

The stadium is entirely covered. The stepping of the grandstand as well as the several floors are of reinforced concrete. The stadium has the form of an ellipse, of which the two axes measure respectively 395ft. and 347ft. This huge area of 107,000 sq. ft. is roofed over without intermediate supports. The hall is covered by a roof and suspended ceiling. The roof, having a very slight slope, is constructed of lightweight concrete resting on battens and rafters of wood. The suspended ceiling is constructed of asbestos-cement sheets attached to a framework of wood.

The space between the roof and the suspended ceiling enclose most of the steel framework, which is thus hidden from the view of the spectators.

The four main supports are placed at the corners of a 184ft. by 303ft. rectangle. The steel framework is composed of the following members: Two main trusses, 303ft. long and 32ft. 10in. high, each supported on two columns; two connecting trusses, 184ft. long and 32ft. 10in. high, supported by the main trusses; four longitudinal trusses of

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