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The Swiss Observer

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Welcome to the Swiss Minister

By the time these lines reach our readers, the newly appointed Swiss Minister, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, will have arrived in London to take up his responsible office as Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of St. James.

We take this opportunity to extend to him, on behalf of our readers in particular and our compatriots in Great Britain in general, a hearty and sincere welcome, coupled with our best wishes for success in his high mission to which he has been entrusted by the Federal Council.

Monsieur le Ministre de Torrenté has a brilliant career behind him; he studied at the University of Geneva, where he obtained the *license en droit*, *license ès sciences sociales* and *license ès sciences commerciales*.

After several years abroad, in 1925 he entered into the service of the Federal Economic Department in Berne, where, a year later, he was promoted to secretary of the commercial section.

In 1938, he was appointed to the Swiss Legation in Paris, with the rank of 1st Secretary of Legation, and in 1932 was promoted to Counsellor of Legation. In 1935, he acted as Chargé d'Affaires in Paris.

When, in 1941, the offices of the Swiss Legation in the French capital were closed, Monsieur de Torrenté took over various commands in the Swiss army, where he holds the rank of Colonel on the General Staff.

In 1942, he again entered the Federal Economic Department in the capacity of Delegate for commercial treaties, and in 1945, was promoted to the rank of Minister, and sent to Nanking as Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary.

Monsieur de Torrenté is the 6th representative of the Swiss Confederation in London, his predecessors being Monsieur C. D. Boucart (1892—1902); Monsieur G. Carlin (1902—1920); Monsieur Ch. Paravicini (1920—1939); Monsieur W. Thurnheer (1940—1944); and Monsieur P. Ruegger (1944—1948).

Excellent relations between the diplomatic representatives and the Swiss Colony have existed in the past, and we deem it an opportune moment to state

here, that especially during the last few years the respective Ministers and their collaborators have taken an active interest in the life and doings of the Colony, a fact which has been appreciated and proved beneficial.

The Colony has been loyal to its heads, and this loyalty has been returned in a generous manner.

At the moment, when our new Minister is taking up his exacting post, we pledge ourselves to the same hearty collaboration, as far as the affairs of the Swiss Colony are concerned, which have been extended to his predecessors.

ST.



NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The Federal-Council has nominated Monsieur Charles de Jenner at present Swiss Minister in Sofia, to the post of Minister in China, in succession to Monsieur Henri de Torrenté, who has been transferred to London.

Monsieur Charles de Jenner, is well-known in the Swiss Colony in London, having been *en poste* here for thirteen years.

Minister de Jenner, was born in 1886 in Berne, he studied law at the Universities of Berne and Munich, after which he established himself as an advocate in Berne. He entered the Diplomatic Service in 1919.

After having been for five years at the Swiss Legation in Vienna, in the capacity of Secretary of Legation, he was transferred in 1925 to Belgrade as Consul General; the following year he was promoted to Counsellor of Legation.

In 1931, Monsieur de Jenner was transferred to London, and in 1943 he returned to the Federal Political Dept., in Berne; during the first part of the year

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1945, he occupied *ad interim* the post of head of our Diplomatic mission in Vienna. On January 17th, 1946, he was appointed Minister in Sofia.

* * *

The newly appointed Ministers of Finland and Norway have presented their credentials to the Federal Council in Berne.

Minister Reinhold, Konstantin, Sveto, was born in 1881, and started his career as a Journalist, he has been since 1922 a member of the Finnish Parliament, he was also at one time Foreign Minister of Finland, in which capacity he attended several meetings of the League of Nations at Geneva.

Minister Rolf Andersen, who was born in 1897, occupied posts in Paris and London, and afterwards was employed at the Foreign Office in Oslo.

* * *

The community of Lichtensteig has nominated Monsieur Karl Bruggmann, Swiss Minister in Washington, "citizen of honour," in recognition of his close connection with the town since his youth.

* * *

The Federal-Council has appointed Colonel Richard de Blonay, to the post of Military and Air Attaché in Paris.

Colonel de Blonay was born in 1898 in Blonay, and is a member of the General Staff, and the Federal Instruction Corps.

* * *

Monsieur Celio, President of the Swiss Confederation, has sent a telegram of congratulations, on behalf of the Federal-Council and the Swiss people, to Monsieur Luigi Einandi, the newly elected President of the Italian Republic.

During the last war, President Einandi spent several months in Switzerland as a refugee, during which time he made many friends.

* * *

An Irish-Swiss air transport agreement was signed in Dublin by Mr. MacBride, Minister for External

Affairs, and M. Walter de Bourg, Swiss Chargé d'Affaires in Dublin.

Full rights of commercial operation — i.e., the Five Freedoms of the Air — are granted by both countries. The agreement follows the form settled at the Chicago Aviation Conference in December, 1944.

The Irish Government has granted rights to Swiss airlines to operate services on the following routes:—

Switzerland (Zurich and/or Geneva and/or Basle) — Dublin, with or without intermediate stops, in both directions; Switzerland-Shannon-Newfoundland and/or U.S.A., with or without intermediate stops, in both directions.

The Swiss Government grants to Irish airlines rights to operate services on the following route:— Shannon and/or Dublin-Zurich (Geneva or Basle) and beyond, with or without intermediate stops, in both directions.

The condition of a compulsory stop at Shannon for aircraft flying on transatlantic routes has been included in this, as in other agreements concluded by Ireland.

At the request of the Swiss authorities, measures are also included for limiting competition between airlines of the two countries and for the regulation of fares.

The duration of the agreement is indefinite; it is terminable by 12 months' notice on either side.

* * *

The terms of an agreement signed between Britain and Switzerland for financing British schoolchildren's studies in Switzerland were announced. It is expected that the arrangement will permit about 540 British children to study in this country.

The sum of £115,000 will be made available from next August until August, 1949, for children under 18. Boys and girls up to 16 will be allowed £225, and those between 16 and 18 will get an additional £10.

* * *

The Swiss Federal Council is drawing up legislation to keep the Swiss merchant marine in permanent operation and to assure the nation of independence from vessels of other flags. Switzerland adopted temporary maritime legislation during the war when the Nazi invasion of Europe cut her off from Allied trade. The Swiss merchant navy has flourished since the end of the war, operating mainly in tramp services to South America. There is also a European coastal trade, in which Swiss-flag ships take part. The fleet consists of seven cargo vessels with a total carrying capacity of 53,257 tons and three tankers totalling 18,500 tons. Genoa, Antwerp and Rotterdam are the principal ports they use.

* * *

Commercial circles in Switzerland consider the denunciation by Spain of her commercial treaty with Switzerland merely legalises the existing deadlock.

The former agreement provided for a 30 per cent. premium to be paid to Swiss importers of Spanish products. An amendment agreed on in December, 1947, allowed additional premiums either to be paid by Swiss exporters to Swiss importers or by Spanish importers to Spanish exporters.

Spain disliked this system, which amounted practically to acknowledging the devaluation of the peseta. Moreover certain Swiss industries, especially watch-making, made use of these premiums to such an extent that Spanish importers found Swiss prices too high.

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Further, administrative difficulties in Spain slowed down the delivery of licences, while the Spanish Government, instead of importing all Swiss products agreed on bilaterally, selected some on a discriminatory basis.

* * *

A sagging market for Swiss Bonds during April resulted in rises to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for long-term and to $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. in medium-term money rates.

Some recovery is now taking place in State loans, but prices are still well below those ruling in January.

In Switzerland the influence of economic forces on the money market are stronger than any Governmental steps. During the war when there was practically no possibility of imports, industry was very cautious and looking for even provisional investment for funds.

The sagging of the money rate then indicated a certain degree of economic weakness. Now industrial needs as well as stocking of goods are draining resources that were previously available and which are diverted from the Stock Exchange.

* * *

Exports of British goods to Switzerland during April, 1948, rose by Frs.4.4 millions to Frs.38.1 millions, compared with the previous month.

Swiss exports to the United Kingdom having declined during the same period, from Frs.10.6 millions to Frs.7.8 millions, there remains a favourable trade balance for Britain of Frs.30.3 millions, against Frs.23.1 millions in March.

Cantonal

The "Landsgemeinde" of the canton of Schwyz was held at the historical "Ring zu Ibach." Georges Vohmann (Liberal, Brunnen) was elected as "Bezirksammann" and Xaver Blaser (Cath. Cons., Schwyz) was nominated "Statthalter." Anton Etter (Steinen) was elected "Säckelmeister." [A.T.S.]

* * *

The death is reported from Siebnen (Ct. Schwyz) of Karl Waldvogel, at the age of 72; the deceased was from 1934-1942 "Statthalter" and afterwards "Bezirksammann der March," he was also a member of the "Kantonsrat" of Schwyz and the Criminal Court. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The "Volksrecht," the organ of the Socialist Party, which is published in Zurich, has celebrated its 50th anniversary. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Ernst Baur (Peasant Party) and "Oberrichter" in Zurich, has been elected President of the "Zürcher Kantonsrat;" National-Councillor Dr. Häberlin (Liberal) and Ewald Zimmermann (Winterthur) have been nominated Vice-Presidents. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The death is reported from Berne of Dr. Emil König, formerly Director of the Federal Office for Weights and Measures, at the age of 77. [A.T.S.]

* * *

H. Schaer, the Manager of the "Holzschuhfabriken, A.G." in Lotzwil (Ct. Berne) was killed when his

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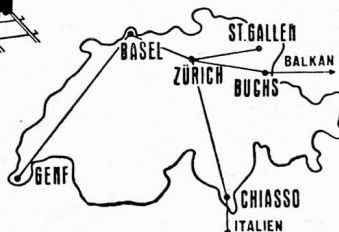
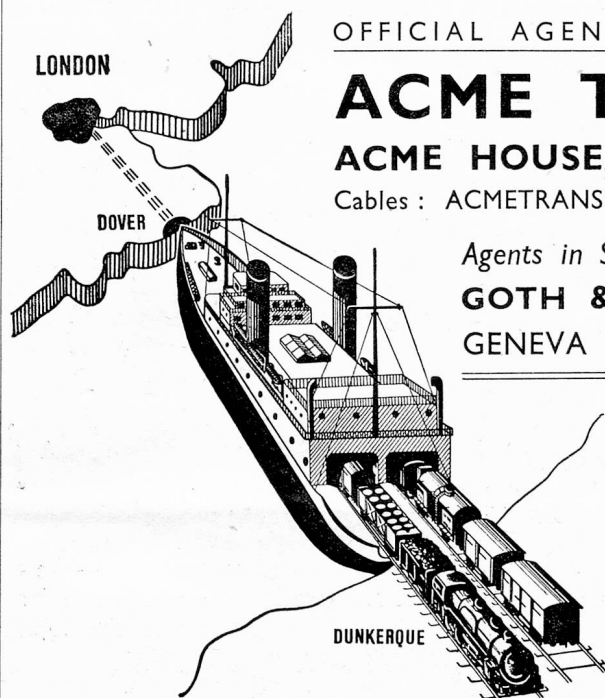
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car collided with a train at a level-crossing near Lotzwil. He leaves a widow and three young children. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The secondary school of Porrentruy (Ct. Berne) has celebrated the 75th anniversary of its foundation. The President of the cantonal government, Feldmann, has attended the celebrations. [A.T.S.]

* * *

During the month of April altogether 278 Traffic accidents occurred in the canton of Berne. 190 persons were injured, five subsequently died of their injuries. [A.T.S.]

* * *

National-Councillor, Dr. Albert Oeri, has resigned his seat in the Grand Council of the canton of Basle Town, which he has occupied since 1908. Dr. Oeri, who is 73 years of age, is a member of the Liberal Party. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Dr. Robert Binz, Professor of Neurology at the University of Basle, has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

* * *

On the occasion of the Johann, Peter Hebel, celebration in Basle, the "Hebelpreis" for 1948 was awarded to the Swiss writer Traugott Meyer in Basle. [A.T.S.]

* * *

In the presence of all the members of the government of the canton of Schaffhausen and representatives of the German authorities, the new station of the frontier village Trasadingen, on the line Waldshut-Schaffhausen, was opened. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The late Ida and Ernst Spengler, in Weinfelden, have left an amount of 206,000.—frs. to various charitable institutions of the canton of Thurgau. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Miss Marie Bachmann of Stettfurt, the owner of the castle Frauenfeld, has informed the authorities, that after her death, the property will be left to the canton of Thurgau, together with the furniture and objects of art, as well as a certain amount of money for renovations.

It is intended to keep this historical building as a museum. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The accounts of the canton of Thurgau for the year 1947 close with a credit-balance of 117.—frs. [A.T.S.]

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The well-known painter, Mario Ribola, has died at Lugano at the age of 40; he studied at the Academy in Paris, and many of his pictures were exhibited in Swiss and foreign art galleries. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The death has occurred at a clinic in Lausanne of Dr. Hans Schmid at the age of 65. The deceased had practised since 1909 as a radiologist at the clinics of Dr. Rollier in Leysin. He held the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the Swiss army medical corps. [A.T.S.]

* * *

During a stay at Interlaken, the death has occurred of Mr. Jaussi, a well-known Hotelier, who for many years had managed first class Hotels in Rome, Paris and London. Since 1918, he had been managing the Grand Hotel Territet, he was closely connected with the Hotel school at Cour, near Lausanne. He was 64 years of age. [A.T.S.]

* * *

M. Pierre Schmid, Vice-Director of the Municipal Library of Neuchâtel, has been nominated Professor of Latin at the University of Lausanne, in succession to Professor Denis van Berchem, who has resigned in order to occupy himself with archæological studies. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The well-known Vaudois writer, René Morax, known as the founder of the "Théâtre du Jorat" has celebrated his 75th birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The Grand Council of the canton of Vaud has elected National-Councillor Robert Piot, in Bournens, as its President, in succession to André Pauchaud, who has been nominated a Federal Judge. [A.T.S.]

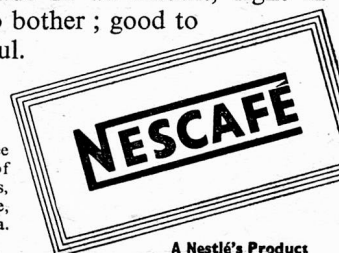


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From Le Sentier comes the news of the death of Jacques-David Le Coultre, at the age of 73. The deceased was a well-known personality in the Swiss Watch industry.

* * *

Carl Anthamatten (Conservative) has been elected President of the Government of the canton of Valais. Marcel Gard, (Radical) has been nominated as Vice-President. [A.T.S.]

* * *

M. Georges Béguin, has tendered his resignation as Mayor of the town of Neuchâtel. [A.T.S.]

* * *

M. H. Guinand, since 1936, Mayor of the town of La Chaux-de-Fonds, and for 36 years a member of the Municipal Council, has retired from his post. [A.T.S.]

* * *

On the occasion of the centenary celebrations of the canton of Neuchâtel, all employees in the service of the republic will receive a present of 100.—frs. each.

In addition, every citizen who has paid his income tax promptly during 1948, will receive a rebate of 5 per cent. on his assessment. It is estimated that this will cost the cantonal exchequer an amount of 700,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Dr. Pierre Marie Besse, until recently Professor of the medical faculty of the University of Geneva and head of the psychiatric institute, has died in Geneva at the age of 71. Professor Besse was at one time a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Geneva. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The paper "La Suisse" published at Geneva, has celebrated its 75th Jubilee. [A.T.S.]

Army

Major Pista Hitz (born 1910) from Berne, and Corporal Willy Kiene (born 1926) from Vernier (Geneva) were killed when effecting an emergency landing near the aerodrom eof Locarno.

Major Hitz had been since 1937 an instructor of the Swiss Flying Corps and was a member of the General Staff. [A.T.S.]

Lieutenant Emanuel Brühlmann (born 1923) of St. Gall, and Corporal Hans Giger (born 1926) of Zurich, were killed, when their machine crashed in the neighbourhood of Heiden (Ct. Appenzell A.-Rh.).

[A.T.S.]

Traffic

With a capital of 20,000,000 Swiss francs, Swissair is the only Swiss company operating regular services. It first started to carry passengers in 1922. Prior to 1947 it had one competitor, Alpar, but in February, 1947, all Alpar's air crews transferred to Swissair. Routes in Europe from Zurich serve Athens, Barcelona, Basle, Berlin, Brussels, Cairo, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, Geneva, Hamburg, Istanbul, Lisbon, London, Lydda, Madrid, Malmo, Paris, Prague, Stockholm and Warsaw. A trunk route is run from Zurich via Tunis, Kano, Leopoldville, Elizabethville, Johannesburg and another via Casablanca, Dakar, Natal, Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, Buenos Aires and a third via Shannon and Gander to New York.

The company's fleet consists of DC-3 and DC-4 aircraft, and it is understood that four Convair liners are shortly due for delivery. Chief personnel are: Technical Manager, G. de Meiss; Commercial Manager, E. Groh, and Chief Engineer, Mr. Huggler.

* * *

With the aim of developing traffic on the Lucerne-Milan line, the Swiss Federal Railways are doubling the St. Gothard line. Works on the section from Brunnen to Flüelen, one of the remaining parts of the St. Gothard Railway yet to be doubled, are now in good progress. The new line, 7½ miles long, is divided into two sections, from Brunnen to Sisikon and from Sisikon to Flüelen.

On the grounds both of economics and engineering, works started first on the Sisikon-Flüelen section in 1940. In 1942 a tunnel between Stutzeck and Axenberg was pierced through compact rock. The shape and the lining of the new tunnel are similar to those of the existing one. On the Brunnen-Sisikon section the Alps are crossed by means of two tunnels, the Morschach and the Frohnalp tunnels. Works on this section were begun in October, 1944, and are now approaching completion. For a distance of 455 yards from the north portal the Morschach tunnel is a double-track struc-

ture, 28ft. wide, then the line is forked into two lines, one crossing to a new tunnel, 175ft. wide and the other utilising the old one.

In addition to the construction of the tunnels, a ten-span concrete viaduct, with an overall length of 280ft., has been built near Brunnen station, as well as some other structures, destined to eliminate seven level crossings.

It is hoped that works, which include also improvement of the existing line, will be completed by the summer of 1948. The average cost of tunnelling was 2,200 Swiss francs per metre (£115 per yard).

Owing to a considerable increase in air traffic, works are now in progress in Switzerland for the construction of an airport at Kloten (Zurich Canton) and the modernisation of the Cointrin airport (Geneva Canton).

Works at the Cointrin airport, started in 1941, are now approaching completion. The airfield will be provided with a main runway, measuring 2,200 yards long and 55 yards wide. This runway, consisting of reinforced concrete slabs, is founded on a layer of quarry gravel, 6in. thick, laid directly on the soil, of great bearing capacity. The approach roads are 69ft. wide. The airfield will be provided with a terminal building, a reinforced concrete framed structure, composed of a central hall and two wings, the whole having an overall length of 1,600ft.

Large hangars for aeroplanes are also being built. There hangars will consist of a main section, 560ft. by 195ft., flanked by an assembly hall, 260ft. by 130ft. The roof of the main section is carried on steel trusses, spaced at 49ft. centres, supported in turn on double-span steel lattice girders, each 280ft. long. These girders rest on concrete pillars interconnected by concrete beams.

Humanitarian

A party of about 40 wounded British ex-service men have arrived in Switzerland to spend five weeks at Weggis, on Lake Lucerne, where they are the guests of a Swiss committee which last year raised by public subscription nearly £3,000 for providing hospitality to British war wounded. Another 40 men are expected soon. Most of them will undergo new operations on their return to England.

—oo—

The trial of Franz Burri, and his ex-followers (41 of whom are also charged) has come to a close in Zurich after a sitting of several weeks. They were accused of subversive activity and of attempts to bring about a change of government in Switzerland helped by Nazi Germany, with the aim of subordinating the country to Hitler's rule.

After having allegedly been active on behalf of the Nazi's in Austria, Burri founded the Swiss National Socialist Alliance, which reached its peak in 1942. His activities included recruitment of Swiss nationals in the "Waffen S.S.", the distribution of propaganda in support of Nazi Germany, and attacking the Swiss Government, which was described as being "in the service of the Jews, Freemasons and Anglo-Saxons."

The following sentences have been passed on the accused:—

Burri, Franz (1901) deprived of Swiss nationality, 20 years penal servitude, 15 years expulsion from the

country; Mange, Eduard (1893) deprived of Swiss nationality, absent, 12 years penal servitude; Ryser, Ernst (1915) absent, 4 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Waechter, Johann (1905) absent, 2½ years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Schneider, Rolf (1917) 1 year penal servitude, 3 years loss of civic rights; Achermann, Georg (1907) absent, 8 years penal servitude, 10 years loss of civic rights; Wildi, Siegfried (1877) absent, 1 year imprisonment; Schaad, Werner (1899) 4 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Bodmer, Robert (1911) now of German nationality, absent, 8 years penal servitude, 10 years expulsion from Swiss territory; Eichenberger, Ernst (1907) 2 years imprisonment; Wüthrich, Walter (1902) 1 year imprisonment, on probation; Schneeberger, Siegfried (1936) 1 year imprisonment, on probation; Lanz Willi (1908) deprived of Swiss nationality, absent, 10 years penal servitude; Lüthy, Ernst, (1885) absent, 18 months imprisonment; Menz, Johann (1907) absent, acquitted; Muff, Kurt, 1 year imprisonment, on probation; Hegner, Hugo (1880) absent, 1 year imprisonment, on probation; Flury, Emil (1915) absent, 7 years penal servitude, 10 years loss of civic rights; Hächler, Wilhelm (1888) 1 year imprisonment, on probation; Schnyder, Karl, 1 year imprisonment, on probation; Brunner, Rudolf (1907) absent, 2 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Lendemann Edwin (1901) 2 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Keller, Walter (1914) absent, two years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Walter, Adolf (1914) 2 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Kaufmann, Friedrich (1899) 12 years penal servitude, 10 years loss of civic rights; Forster,

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Ludwig (1898) absent, 18 months imprisonment; Gisiger, Erwin (1908) 2 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Meyer, Friedrich (1903) absent, 1 year imprisonment on probation; Reck, August (1896) absent, 1 year imprisonment on probation; Ammann, Adolf (1909) absent, 2½ years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Meyer, Ernst (1807) 1 year imprisonment on probation; Jegge, Richard (1910) 1 year imprisonment on probation; Jäger, Erwin (1912) absent, 18 month imprisonment; Neidhart, Fritz (1898) absent, 18 months imprisonment; Schmid, Otto (1907) 8 years penal servitude, 10 years loss of civic rights; Caviezel, Josef (1923) 1 year imprisonment on probation; Hepp, Heinrich, absent, 2 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Brogle, Werner (1912) absent, 2 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Froehlich, Hans (1898) 1 year imprisonment on probation; Deiser, Otto, absent, 3 years penal servitude, 5 years loss of civic rights; Noger, Gebhard (1887) 18 months imprisonment.

* * *

£420 was paid at Harmer's, Bond Street, W., for a 99-year-old Swiss black four-cent stamp.

* * *

To mark the 120th anniversary of Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross, the Swiss Red Cross has sent out a message calling for the freeing of mankind from fear and misery and for sacrifices to help create a human and peaceful world. It is not enough, the message stated, to assist the weak and helpless; the strong and independent, too, must learn to bridge the gaps which divided men, to break down barriers, to overcome suspicion and strife. For the millions everywhere who believed in the spirit and work of the Red

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Cross it must be a sacred duty to work with all their might for the prevention of war.

* * *

The administration of the "Schweizerische Schiller-Stiftung" has awarded the following prizes for the year 1947:—

German-speaking territory:

1,000.—frs. each to: Emil Balmer (Berne); Hans Roelli (Zurich); Alfred Fankhauser (Berne); Marcel Gero (Zurich); Ernst Hirt (Winterthur); Gustav Keckeis (Zurich); J. F. Vuilleumier (Ressan); Albert J. Welti (Geneva).

500.—frs. each to: Max Allenspach (Zurich); Gertrud Heinzmann, (Wichtrach).

French-speaking territory:

1,000.—frs. each to: Denis de Rougemont (Areuse); and C. A. Cingria (Geneva).

500.—frs. each to: J. Th. Brutsch (Geneva); and Lucien Marsaux (Neuchâtel).

Italian-speaking territory:

700.—frs. to: Vittore Frigerio (Lugano); 500.—frs. to: Pio Orтели (Mendrisio).

Romansch-speaking territory:

500.—frs. each to: Toni Halter (Villa); and Gion Cadieli (Sergein). [A.T.S.]

* * *

Anglers have caught, during 1947, altogether 25,500 kgs. of fish in the "Bodensee" to the value of 81,900.—frs. (1946: 26,700 kgs.: value 88,100.—frs.). [A.T.S.]

* * *

The following couples have celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversaries: (60 years) Mr. & Mrs. C. Tempemann-Amann, Uto-Kulm; Mr. & Mrs. Henri Rapin, Orbe.

The couple Decaillet-Revaz in Martigny have celebrated their iron wedding anniversary (65 years).

* * *

WAS DEN SCHWEIZER FREUT.

(Schweizerwoche, Pressedienst.)

In Solothurn fand die Uraufführung eines neuen Mundart-Schauspiels "Herti Chöpf" von Otto Wolf statt, das mit starkem Beifall aufgenommen wurde.

Gegen wirtschaftliche Ueberfremdung und Verdrängung im Filmwesen haben die schweizerischen filmwirtschaftlichen Verbände statutarische Massnahmen ergriffen.

In Rom ist ein neues "Schweizerhaus" eröffnet worden.

Zum ersten Mal wurde einem Schweizer Gelehrten, dem Zürcher Professor Marc Amsler die Ehre zuteil, in der Britischen Ophthalmologischen Gesellschaft die Gründungs-Gedenkvorlesung zu halten. Diese vermittelte einen Einblick in die Forschungsarbeit an der Zürcher Universitäts-Augenklinik.

In Budapest gastierte mit grossem Erfolg der Basler Dirigent Paul Sacher, mit Werken von Frank Martin und Arthur Honegger.

Das Interesse für Bücher aus der Schweiz ist in Oesterreich anhaltend rege, und die Nachfrage kann nur teilweise befriedigt werden.

In Zürich und Bern sind Vereinigungen der Freunde Finnlands gegründet worden.

In den nächsten Wochen wird die schweizerische Rheinflotte einen beträchtlichen Zuwachs an modernen 1000 Tonnen-Schiffen mit 680 PS — Sulzer-Dieselmotoren erhalten.

Während eines Jahres hat die Schweizer Spende täglich 2,000 Mahlzeiten an bedürftige Kinder von Triest verteilt. 315 Familien wurden Kücheneinrichtungen geschenkt. Für die Tuberkulose-Kranken in Oesterreich sind in der Schweiz 450,000 Fr. in bar und an Naturalien gesammelt worden.

* * *

Der Kinderpsychiater Dr. M. Tramer in Bern ist zu Gastvorlesungen an bayrischen Hochschulen eingeladen worden.

Dr. Max Mauderli aus Bern wurde als Dozent für deutsche Sprache und Literature an die Staatsuniversität von Florida in U.S.A. berufen.

Die Akademie der Kolonialwissenschaften in Paris hat dem Franziskaner-Missionar Pater Keller aus dem Berner Jura den Preis "Maréchal Lyautey" verliehen.

Bundespräsident Celio stattete den Talschaften von Italienisch-Bünden einen zweitägigen offiziellen Besuch ab, um mit der Bevölkerung die Hundertjahrfeier der Bundesverfassung zu begehen und ihre besondern Probleme innerhalb der Eidgenossenschaft persönlich kennenzulernen.

Zwanzig schwedische und dänische Journalisten trafen zu einer Studienreise in der Schweiz ein.

An der Mailänder Messe brachten der Präsident der italienischen Republik, Einaudi, und Ministerpräsident de Gasperi im Schweizer Pavillon ihre Sympathien für unser Land und Volk zum Ausdruck. Die ausgestellten Schweizerkühe der Braunviehrasse erhielten den ersten Ehrenpreis des italienischen Landwirtschaftsministeriums.

GRAND PRIX D'EUROPE POUR AUTOMOBILES COURSES INTERNATIONALES DE MOTOCYCLETTES.

3 et 4 juillet 1948.

Vers les grandes journées sportives bernoises . . .

Il n'est pas exagéré de dire que la crème des coureurs suisses et étrangers, qu'il s'agisse des meilleurs champions du volant ou du guidon, se mesureront les 3 et 4 juillet sur le magnifique et rapide circuit de la Forêt de Bremgarten, à Berne, à l'occasion du Grand Prix d'Europe des automobiles et des courses internationales de motocyclettes et sidecars, qui constitueront ensemble le meeting le plus brillant de la saison sportive suisse. L'intérêt que coureurs et public portent à cette manifestation est déjà considérable.

Le règlement des épreuves internationales de motocyclettes vient de paraître en français et en allemand. Le samedi 3 juillet, les machines de 250 et 350 cc. de cylindrée mettront le feu aux poudres en tournant sur 20 tours de circuit (145 km 600). Le dimanche 4 juillet, les concurrents de la toujours très intéressante et très spectaculaire épreuve des sidecars seront les premiers à descendre en piste pour couvrir 14 tours de circuit (101 km 900). Suivra la magnifique et poignante rencontre des machines de 500 cc. qui se déroulera sur 25 tours (182 km). Qui, cette année, sera l'homme le plus rapide, qui surclassera ses adversaires? Les journées des 3 et 4 juillet, qui promettent de passionnants duels, vous le diront.

Les prix, comparativement à ceux des précédentes manifestations, ont été sensiblement augmentés. Les inscriptions sont reçues jusqu'au 12 juin prochain. Le carburant officiel, fourni par les organisateurs, aura un indice d'octanes de 74. Les coureurs suisses sont assurés contre tout accident selon les prescriptions de la caisse de secours aux coureurs de l'U.M.S. Les concurrents étrangers qui, lors de la remise des numéros de départ, ne pourront pas faire état d'une police d'assurance contre les accidents, seront assurés par les organisateurs. Les courses seront régies par les règlements sportifs internationaux de la F.I.C.M. (Fédération internationale des clubs motocyclistes) ainsi que par le règlement particulier du meeting, lequel contient toutes prescriptions nécessaires intéressant les coureurs, les machines et les essais officiels. Les grandes lignes de règlement des épreuves automobiles seront communiquées incessamment.

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