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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

Dr. Paul Ruegger, President of the International Red Cross in Geneva, has returned from his trip to the Near East where he had studied conditions in connection with the Palestine events on the spot. At a Press Conference he gave news relating to the safety of the personnel of the International Red Cross.

\* \* \*

The customs receipts during the month of May amounted to 41.6 million francs.

During the first five months of the current year altogether 168 million francs were collected by the Federal Customs Office, or 30.3 million more than during the same period in 1947.

\* \* \*

Monsieur Albert Posse Rivaz, the newly appointed Minister of Venezuela, has presented his credentials as Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to the President of the Swiss Confederation.

\* \* \*

It has been announced from Prague, that Dr. Jaromir Lang, a former Professor at the pedagogical faculty of the University of Prague has been appointed Czechoslovakian Minister in Berne. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The Hungarian Minister in Berne, Monsieur Jmre Oltvanye, has expressed to the Committee of the "Schweizerpende" the thanks of his country for the help they had given, he made, at the same time, a presentation to the Committee of an object of art.

### Cantonal

Dr. Julius Eberle-Beeler, a medical practitioner in Brunnen, was run over by a motor-cycle. He received serious injuries which proved fatal. Dr. Eberle was 68 years "Kollegium Sarnen." [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The death is reported from Sarnen of Dr. Pater Bruno Wilhelm, Professor of History at the of age. [A.T.S.]

M. Fritz Carpentier-Tschudy has, on the occasion of his 75th birthday anniversary, presented the Federal Technical University in Zurich with his valuable collection of Butterflies together with a sum of 25,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Dr. Adolf Gasser, a former Professor at the Technical College in Winterthur, has died there at the age of 71. The deceased, was for many years a member of the "Kantonsrat" and the National Council, where he sat as a Socialist. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The death occurred, during a holiday at St. Maurice, of Dr. Max Geilinger, a well-known writer, at the age of 64. The deceased was born in Zurich and was a citizen of Winterthur, he studied law at the Universities of Kiel, Zurich and Rome, afterwards he established himself as an advocate and later on became secretary of the "Zürcher Staatskanzlei." He made a name for himself for his many collections of poems. [A.T.S.]

## SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, 1st August, 1948  
2.30 to 5.30 p.m. (Doors open 1.45 p.m.)

AT THE

**COLISEUM THEATRE  
St. Martin's Lane, W.C.2**

(Nearest Tube Stations:  
Leicester Square, Strand, and Trafalgar Square)

Patriotic Address by the  
Swiss Minister, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté  
Swiss Orchestral Society  
Swiss Male Choir Corale Unione Ticinese  
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"Schweizerbund")

All Swiss and their families are cordially invited. Admission by ticket only, to be obtained in advance, free of charge. Applications for tickets must be made in writing to The First of August Committee, Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1. A stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed, and the name of each person for whom a ticket is required must be stated.

**TICKET HOLDERS TO BE IN THEIR SEATS BY 2.15 p.m.  
Refreshments will be available.**

Two experienced mountaineers, Albert Müller (30) from Tann Rüti, and Jakob Krebser (28) from Uster, were killed on an ascent to the "Sulzfluhgipfel."

[A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. Robert Just, for a great number of years head teacher at the Commercial School of the "Schweiz. Kaufmännischer Verein" in Zurich, has died in Glarus at the age of 64. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

M. Eugen Wyler, the author of many well-known novels, amongst them "Eidgenossen," "Der Staausee" and "Die Erbschaft" has celebrated his 60th birthday anniversary in Berne.

He made a name for himself with his Frontier Occupation books during the first world war such as "Schweizer im Waffenkleid," "Grenzbesetzung 1914/18" and "Grenzdienst der Schweizerin."

[A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

M. Georg Lemann, from Langnau (Ct. Berne) has been elected President of the Swiss Cheese Union, in succession to Paul Gerber who has relinquished his office. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

During the month of May, 1948, altogether 410 traffic accidents occurred in the canton of Berne. Three hundred and twenty persons were injured of whom twelve lost their lives. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

M. Alfred Moll, advocate in Bienne (Ct. Berne), has celebrated his 80th birthday anniversary. He was a former National Councillor and a Colonel in the Swiss army. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. Virgile Moine, Director of the seminary in Porrentruy, has been elected a member of the government of the canton of Berne with 28,130 votes. Dr. Moine is a member of the Liberal Party. His opponent, Dr. Pierre Ceppi (Cath. Cons.) received 19,177 votes.

[A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

A "Piper" sports machine crashed near the airport of Grenchen (Ct. Solothurn), both the pilot and the passenger received injuries. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. Jos. Braun, a well-known advocate and notary in Basle, has died at the age of 62. The deceased was President of the "Basler Advokatenkammer."

[A.T.S.]

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The Rt. Hon Richard Butler, one of the leading members of the Opposition in the House of Commons, and late Cabinet Minister, spoke in Basle on "The English social experiment."

Amongst those who attended the meeting were Federal-Councillor Dr. Etter and the British Minister in Berne. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. Robert Eberle-Mader, by profession a lawyer and President of the "Stickerei-Treuhandgenossenschaft" and the "Schulrat," has celebrated his 80th birthday anniversary in St. Gall. In the army, he reached the rank of a Colonel. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

The death is reported from St. Gall of Mr. Johannes Huber, late National Councillor, at the age of 69. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

The Annual Meeting and Competition of the Swiss non-commissioned officers Association took place at St. Gall on the 11th of this month. Federal-Councillor Kobelt, head of the Federal Military Department addressed the Meeting. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

Mlle. Joséphine Lany from Duillier (Ct. Vaud) has celebrated her 100th birthday anniversary. The cantonal government has presented her with the traditional easy-chair. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

Damage exceeding 25,000.—frs. was caused through fire at the Aluminium work in Chippis (Ct. Valais). [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

The strawberry harvest in the canton of Valais exceeds all expectations due to the warm weather. Altogether 6.5 million kgs. have been collected, of which 3 million kgs. were exported. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

Colonel of Brigade, Hans Bühler (Frutigen) has been made an honorary citizen of the town of Brigue (Ct. Valais) for the services he rendered during the last war, as commander of the Mountain Brigade 11.

[A.T.S.]

\* \* \* \* \*

On the occasion of the *Dies academicus* of the University of Neuchâtel, the following have been honoured with the degree of *doctor honoris causa*: Mlle. Alice

## CITY SWISS CLUB

Will Members kindly note that the next  
**MONTHLY MEETING**

followed by a **JASS AND BRIDGE EVENING**  
will be held on **Tuesday, July 6th, 1948**, at  
**Brown's Hotel, London, W.1**, at **6.30**. Dinner  
starting at **7 p.m.**

Those wishing to take part should send  
their application in writing to the Manager,  
Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, W.1, to reach  
him not later than the 5.7.48.

P. A. MOEHR,  
Hon. Secretary.

Descoedres, Professor at the Institut Rousseau in Geneva, Louis Thévenaz, Neuchâtel, Louis Glangaud, Professor at the University of Besançon, L. Defossez, Geneva, François Guisan, Professor at the University of Lausanne, Camille Gret, Philippe Daulte, Professor at the University of Lausanne. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

Two mountaineers, members of the Alpine Club "La Dôle" Begnins were killed when climbing the Arête Jaunes des Salèves. Their names are Durst and Henri Christinet, the latter is the father of four children. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

George Lemaître, a former Engineer of the town of Geneva has died there at the age of 64. [A.T.S.]

### Economics

The "Financial Times" in their issue of the 12th, of June, 1948, writes the following about the "Swiss Industrial Outlook":

"Most of the main Swiss industrial companies have now published their reports for 1947. The chief fact that emerges is that satisfactory profits have only been achieved by increased outputs to offset rising costs.

Generally the accounts show a much more satisfactory situation than that described in the managers' reports. This is due largely to the fact that statistics refer to the past and comments to the future.

With only a few exceptions net profits have been higher than those of previous years, but this was only made possible by a still higher output, in order to compensate for increasing costs.

This point has been given special consideration by all the Boards.

Whereas it was still possible for leading industries (such as chemistry, steel, machine-tools and aluminium) to step up their output and sales to a higher level during the past year, doubts have been expressed fairly generally on the prospects of continuing such increases in the future.

The position has been aggravated by exceptional circumstances which have on the one hand created and accumulated demands for Swiss products, and on the other hand have diverted to Switzerland orders that would have normally gone elsewhere.

Swiss industrialists tried to meet this demand for quantity without giving up quality and therefore had to comply with legitimate demands of workers from whom a great deal is required. But such demands are particularly important for a manufacturing industry since they add, in determining prices, a new element which varies from one country to another, but which is independent from the world market of raw materials.

Although, in most cases, industry is sure of full employment for more than two years, the prospective difficulties are serious.

The gigantic efforts of many countries to export, the currency softness of some of the usual customers, the development of European reconstruction which involves the rebuilding of competing industries and the progressive meeting of accumulated needs, are among international factors which must be taken into account.

As far as the technical and financial situation of Swiss industries is concerned, it is quite sound in comparison with that prevailing after the first World War.

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