

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: - (1949)

Heft: 1109

Rubrik: News at random

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: 13.12.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

EDITED BY A. STAUFFER WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SWISS COLONY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Telephone: CLERKENWELL 2321/2.

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

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

VOL. 32. No. 1109.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25th, 1949.

PRICE 6d.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

(Fortnightly issue.)

UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES	6 issues, post free	3/6
	12 issues, post free	6/6
	24 issues, post free	12/-
SWITZERLAND	12 issues, post free	Frs. 5.—
	24 issues, post free	Frs. 10.—

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



NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Mr. Trygve Lie, General Secretary of UNO, who arrived in Geneva in order to study the question of housing some of the special Departments at the Palais des Nations, had an interview with Federal Councillor Max Petitpierre in Geneva.

* * *

The Federal Council has given a farewell dinner at the "Wattenwyl Haus" in Berne, to the Greek Minister, Monsieur Pierre Metaxas, who is retiring from the Diplomatic Service. He represented his country in Berne for the last three years.

* * *

The Political Department (Foreign Office) in Berne has received news that the Swiss in Bangkok (Siam) are quite safe and not affected by the recent unrest in this country. The Swiss Legation in Nanking has advised the Swiss Foreign Office that all Swiss nationals living in Tientsin (China) are unhurt.

* * *

A monetary Bill revising the regulations of 1931 has been published by the Federal Government. The gold equivalent of the Swiss franc will be 203.22 milligrammes, which puts the value of the gold kilogramme at Frs.4,920 40-63rds. This parity has actually been in force since the Devaluation Act of 1936.

The reason for fixing it by law is that the Devaluation Act — which foresaw a variable equivalent of 190 to 215 milligrams — is only valid until the end of 1949.

As a consequence of the new law, new gold coins are going to be minted, one of Frs.25 and one of Frs.50 worth. The size will be according to the newly fixed gold content of 20 and 25 millimeters respectively.

It was not felt convenient to change the size of the present 10, 20 and 100 francs worth gold coins, the nominal value of which does not correspond any more to the gold content nor to the actual market price.

* * *

An Indian trade mission headed by Mr. K. Chattur, of the Ministry of Commerce, is travelling to Berne to negotiate an agreement with the Swiss Government.

Cantonal

The collection made throughout Switzerland for the victims of the fire which broke out last year at the village of Auen, near Linthal (Ct. Glarus), when a large number of dwelling houses were destroyed, has resulted in an amount of 54,157.—frs. having been subscribed.

[A.T.S.]

* * *
The accounts of the canton of Glarus for the year 1948, close with a deficit of 214,328.—frs. [A.T.S.]

* * *
The late Heinrich Kubli, from Netstal (Ct. Glarus) has left an amount of 50,000.—frs. to various charitable institutions. [A.T.S.]

* * *
Professor, Dr. Edgar Meyer, head of the Physical Institute of the University of Zurich for the last 33 years, has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

* * *
Mr. F. J. Voltz-Sprüngli, head of the firm Lindt & Sprüngli of Kilchberg, Chocolate Manufacturers, has celebrated his 80th birthday anniversary. He has, for many years played a leading rôle in the Swiss Chocolate Industry. [A.T.S.]

* * *
Dr. Walter Ott, at present assistant surgeon at the District Hospital Männedorf, has been appointed surgeon-in-chief of the surgical section at the "Kantonsspital" in Winterthur. [A.T.S.]

* * *
Professor, Dr. Emil Feer, Director of the University Clinic in Zurich from 1911-1929, and until recently President of the "Stiftungsrates" of the Childrens' Clinic in Zurich, has celebrated his 85th birthday anniversary. Professeur Feer is the author of a number of books on medical science. [A.T.S.]

CITY SWISS CLUB

Will Members kindly note that a

SPECIAL MEETING

is being held on **Tuesday, 5th April, 1949**, at the **Dorchester Hotel, London, W.1**, at **6.30 p.m.** Dinner starting at **7 pm.**

Our Principal guest of Honour and Speaker will be Mr. MORGAN PHILLIPS, who is the Secretary of the Labour Party.

Those wishing to take part should send their card to the Manager, Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London, W.1, to reach him not later than Monday morning, 4th April, 1949.

P. A. MOEHR,
Hon. Secretary.

The juridical faculty of the University of Zurich has bestowed the degree of *doctor honoris causa* upon Charles J. Steiger, of Winterthur and Dagmersellen. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Carl Vogler, at one time, Director of the "Konservatorium" Zurich, has celebrated his 75th birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The late Mayor and honorary citizen of the town of Porrentruy, Achille Merguin, has left an amount of 170,000.—frs. to the District hospital, 145,000.—frs. to the town and 28,000.—frs. to various Societies of Porrentruy. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Hans Stähli, a former member of the government of the canton of Berne, has been elected President of the Board of the "Kantonal Bank" Berne. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A serious motoring accident happened in Berne, when the driver of a Zurich motor-car, who was under the influence of alcohol, collided with a wall. Four lady passengers and a ten years old boy were seriously injured. The driver escaped injuries, but the car was totally wrecked. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Mgr. Hubert Savoy of the Cathedral Church St. Niklaus in Fribourg, and formerly rector of the College St. Michel and editor of the paper "La Liberté", has celebrated his 80th birthday anniversary in Fribourg. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Mgr. Lucien Bossens, Dean of the Cathedral of Fribourg, has celebrated his 80th birthday anniversary. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The accounts for 1948 of the canton of Fribourg show a credit balance of 982,995.—frs. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The accounts for 1948, of the canton of Solothurn, show a credit balance of 1,875,244.—frs. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The 12,000,000.—frs. Loan issued by the "Schweizerische Reederei A.G.", in Basle, at 3½ per cent., has been fully covered. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The General Meeting of the "Schweiz. Mustermesse" took place in Basle under the Presidency of States Councillor G. Wenk.

Do you read the 'ECHO'?

THE MONTHLY ORGAN
OF THE SWISS ABROAD

Published in Berne under auspices of the N.S.H.

SUBSCRIPTION: 12/- p.a. tri-lingual edition
9/- p.a. French edition

which can be paid direct to

Swiss Bank Corporation, 99, Gresham Street, E.C.2,
account Nouvelle Société Helvétique, London, "E" a/c.

VINS DU VALAIS

L'Etoile du Valais (Fendant Petillant)

Clos de Montibex (Fendant)

Johannisberg

Dôle Clos de Ravaney

Origineaux mis en bouteilles par
S.A. Alphonse Orsat à Martigny

Seuls agents pour La Grande Bretagne

MANETTA'S WINE COMPANY
LIMITED

12b, HALF MOON STREET,
LONDON, W.I.

'Phone: GROSVENOR 2964.

Dégustez ces Vins avec vos repas au

MANETTA'S RESTAURANT

CLARGES STREET,
LONDON, W.I.

'Phone: GROSVENOR 2964.

The accounts for 1948, which show a surplus of 1.2 million francs (1947: 686,302.—frs.) were accepted. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The Furniture Manufacturing firm, Bruno Martignoni of Roveredo (Ct. Grisons), has been completely destroyed by fire. The damage caused is supposed to exceed 100,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Arnold Büchli, the well-known writer, who was born in Lenzburg (Ct. Aargau), has received a cheque amounting to 3,000.—frs. from the cantonal government in appreciation of his work. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The late Madame Bébié-Rietmann, of Castle "Liebenfels" (Ct. Thurgau), has left a legacy of 300,000.—frs. to the "Krankenhaus" in Frauenfeld. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The President of the community of Sirmach (Ct. Thurgau), has been arrested owing to irregularities in the accounts of the community. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The late industrialist Pietro Molinari, of Lugano, has left an amount of 67,000.—frs. for charitable purposes. He was a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Ticino, and reached the age of 87. [A.T.S.]

* * *

William Mosley, an Englishman, who has lived in Brissago for the last thirty years, has been made an honorary citizen of the town of Brissago for the continued financial support he has given to old people in the district. [A.T.S.]