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Here are further balances of the accounts for 1949 of the following cantons:—

Schaffhausen	Debit Balance :	481,500.—	frs.
Nidwalden	Credit Balance :	35,750.—	frs.
Appenzell J. Rh.	Credit Balance :	8,113.—	frs.
Obwalden	Credit Balance :	512.—	frs.
Ticino	Credit Balance :	103,186.—	frs.
		[A.T.S.]	

* * *

The next Federal Singing Competition (Eidg. Sängerfest) will take place at St. Gall in 1954.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

The 25th Comptoir of Neuchâtel will be held from May 24th-June 5th, in Neuchâtel. [A.T.S.]

—oOo—

The special foreign exchange allowance for British children to attend schools in certain European countries during the school year ending July, 1951, will be £320 for each child, compared with £305 at present. The sum will cover the whole year and will be available in Austria, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey.

* * *

British European Airways and Swissair will start cheap midnight flights to Switzerland next month. Return fares from Northolt: To Geneva, £21; to Zurich, £22.

ZURICH "SECHSELAUTEN".

The traditional "Sechseläuten" has taken place on April 23rd and 24th, 1950, in Zurich.

This celebration dates back more than 600 years and has maintained its popular appeal over the long years to become one of the most unique in Europe.

At one time Zurich's craftsmen and tradesmen were organised in guilds and these governed the town from 1336 onwards. Every year, on the Monday following the spring equinox, the bells of the "Grossmünster" pealed out for the first time after the winter months, to tell the craftsmen that at 6 p.m. the days' work was over. It was customary on that day for the members of the guilds to meet round the festive board at their respective guild house, and, at the first stroke of the bell, to drink a toast to the prosperity of the town and district of Zurich and thus to celebrate the return of spring. The craftsmen's guilds are still flourishing societies, some of them owning old and venerable guild houses.

On Sunday, the 23rd a long procession of children, of all ages, dressed up in historical and traditional folk costumes, was winding its way through the streets of the town gay with flags and bunting. Included in the procession was a cart bearing the figure symbolising the past winter, the "Böögg", an effigy several feet high and covered with cotton wool, which was burned on Monday when the grown-ups held their celebration. On that day a great historic procession was held. The members of the guilds in their traditional and elaborate costumes, some on foot and some on horseback, made their way with their guild emblems, flags and lanterns, their carts, carriages and bands, through the streets hung with blue and white flags. The entire population, together with thousands of spectators from outside the city lined the route. The procession finally gathered round the large lawn in the centre of the city where the "Böögg", stuffed with fireworks, and perched on a high pole over a gigantic pile of brushwood, was burnt amidst the pealing of bells of all the churches and the galloping round of picturesque horsemen round the blazing fire.

Swiss Reporter.

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Will Members kindly note that the next

MONTHLY MEETING

with "JASS and BRIDGE" will take place on **Tuesday, 2nd May, 1950, 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m., at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, London, W.1.**

Members wishing to attend should send their cards to the Manager, Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, London, W.1, to reach him not later than the 1st May, 1950.

C. E. SEINET,

Hon. Secretary.