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Swiss Watch Exports.

In his annual report, M. Paul Renggli, Chairman of the board of Ebauches S.A. (Société Holding de l'industrie suisse des ébauches), stressed that 1951 has been a record year for production since 33 million watches and movements were exported. Such figures suggest that it would be wise to prepare for a stabilisation, if not a slowing-down.

From other sources it has been announced that the total value of Swiss watch exports in April, 1952, came to 72.2 million francs, showing a drop of 20.5 million francs when compared with the preceding month, and a drop of 11.4 million francs when compared with April, 1951. This is mainly due to the development in the export of finished watches, which has passed from 2.1 million pieces in March to 1.6 million pieces in April. The drop is less pronounced with regard to watch works.

Swiss Machine Industry.

In the machine and apparatus industry production continues on the whole at a pace similar to that of the end of last year. In certain branches orders have declined a little as compared to the previous quarters. This decline is partly due to the slump in the textile industry and to the currency difficulties experienced by certain member countries of the European Payments Union.

Swiss Wine Exports in 1951.

The Swiss Wine Growers Association recently held its annual meeting under the chairmanship of Robert

Campiche, First Secretary of the Swiss Office for the Development of Trade.

Exports of Swiss bottled wine in 1951 reached a total of 436,000 frs. worth, which is a definite improvement on 1950. The most important importing countries were the United States, Great Britain, Austria, the Netherlands, Canada and Belgium. Though these exports were comparatively small, they still form an important factor in the measures that are being taken in favour of the Swiss wine industry.

LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE RALLY.

In surroundings reminiscent of their native country, members of the Swiss Clubs Manchester, Leeds and Bradford, held their annual gathering on Sunday, June 15th, 1952.

There was an attendance of 120, and in the afternoon they held a "Landsgemeinde" at which nineteen cantons were represented. Mr. O. Schneider, Swiss Consul in Manchester, presided and the speaker was Mlle. A. Briod, Joint Director of the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger, Berne. Speakers also included Pastor H. Spörri of the "Schweizerkirche", London and Father A. Lanfranchi.

Various questions affecting Swiss Nationals at home and in this country were discussed.

Heavy rain caused the meeting to be adjourned to the Victoria Hall, Hebden Bridge.

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