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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Customs receipts during the month of July, 1952, amounted to 60.8 million francs or 7.6 million francs more than during the same period in the previous year.

The receipts for the first seven months of the year 1952 total 352.8 million francs, which is 12.6 million francs less than for the same period in 1951.

Switzerland, concerned about continued access to its traditional coal and steel sources, will follow closely the operations of the Schuman Plan. Monsieur M. Petitpierre, the Swiss Foreign Minister, expressed his country's readiness to conclude a general agreement with the High Authority set up by the Schuman Plan and to encourage its work so long as it remains an instrument of co-operation between constituent members and does not prejudice the interests of countries which are not members of the Plan.

Mr. Ch. W. Thomas, for the last three and a half years, American Consul in Geneva, has been transferred to Rome, he is succeeded by Mr. R. J. Redington of the Consulate.

The Swiss National Day was celebrated officially for the first time in the Union on August 1st in Pretoria. The Prime Minister, Dr. Malan, proposed the toast to Switzerland.

Cantonal

A woman employee of a business house in Lucerne, having just collected an amount of 4,000.—frs. from the Post Office, was followed by a man, who snatched her bag and ran away. The young woman called for help, and some of the passers by pursued the man, who was later on arrested. [A.T.S.]

A pupil at a Flying school in Lucerne, was practising air acrobatics accompanied by an instructor when for reasons so far unknown the sports machine crashed. The instructor was able to jump clear by

parachute whilst his pupil, a Gottfried Rölly (36) from Willisau, was killed. The machine was totally wrecked. [A.T.S.]

A boy playing with matches caused a fire at the Court building at Präflikon (Ct. Zurich). The damage caused is estimated to be between 200-300,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

A serious railway accident occurred on the Bönigen-Interlaken line near the Interlaken East station, when a passenger train collided with a goods train.

Four persons were killed, and about 10 injured. The names of the dead are: Mlle Y. Foubert (64). Directrice du Collège des Jeunes Filles, Montargis (France), Christian Michel, Spiez, H. Schallenberg-Baumann (30), Thun, Fritz Heiz-Wafelman, Berne. An investigation has been ordered by the authorities. [A.T.S.]

Two persons were killed when motoring through the "Taubenlochschlucht" (Ct. Berne). The car collided with a rock. The names of the victims are: Albert Burri (40) of St. Imier and Mme. Müller (45) also of St. Imier. [A.T.S.]

On the occasion of the 100th Jubilee of the "Bünder Tagblatt", a special illustrated number has been issued. [A.T.S.]

Two persons were injured when on the "Sessellift" Arosa-Hörnli, two of the seats became detached and fell down. The authorities have ordered an investigation. [A.T.S.]

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