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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED IN 1919 BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

# The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain

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## **NEWS AT RANDOM**

Federal

Swiss voters have rejected by 550,712 votes to 128,237, a proposal of the Communist party for the abolition of

purchase tax. This is one of the Governments main sources of revenue. Here are detailed results of the voting:— Yes. No.

| g:—             | Yes.    | No.     |
|-----------------|---------|---------|
| g :—<br>Zürich  | 30,538  | 112,928 |
| Bern            | 12,274  | 72,685  |
| Luzern          | 4,661   | 26,142  |
| Uri             | 503     | 4,477   |
| Schwyz          | 1,179   | 7,909   |
| Obwalden        | 356     | 2,549   |
| Nidwalden       | 353     | 2,936   |
| Glarus          | 1,128   | 5,877   |
| Zug             | 768     | 4,075   |
| Fribourg        | 2,200   | 13,930  |
| Solothurn       | 3,716   | 21,286  |
| Baselstadt      | 7,130   | 16,527  |
| Baselland       | 3,728   | 11,222  |
| Schaffhausen    | 3,206   | 11,045  |
| Appenzell A.Rhr | 1,797   | 7,595   |
| Appenzell I.Rh  | 248     | 1,623   |
| St. Gallen      | 9,100   | 47,504  |
| Graubünden      | 1,800   | 19,115  |
| Aargau          | 9,623   | 59,282  |
| Thurgau         | 4,423   | 26,820  |
| Ticino          | 3,374   | 9,450   |
| Vaud            | 11,686  | 29,564  |
| Valais          | 3,455   | 11,411  |
| Neuchâtel       | 4,213   | 12,191  |
| Genève          | 6,778   | 12,569  |
| Total           | 128,237 | 550,712 |
|                 |         |         |

48% of the electors went to the Poll.

Monsieur Jean-Marie Musy, a former Federal-Councillor, has died at the Cantonal Hospital, Fribourg.

He was born on January 10, 1876, at Albeuve (Ct. Fribourg); on finishing his schooling he studied law at the Universities of Fribourg, Munich and Berlin, and

practised for several years as a lawyer. Later on, Monsieur Musy was appointed Manager of the "Crédit Gruyérien" in Bulle. From 1912-1919, he was a member of the Government of the canton Fribourg.

Monsieur Musy entered the Federal Government in 1919 as head of the Finance and Customs Department. He retired in 1934 after having twice been President of the Swiss Confederation (1925 and 1930).

Monsieur Max Grässli, Swiss Minister to Hungary, has been appointed Swiss Minister to India and Thailand, in succession to Minister Armin Daeniker, who has been transferred to Sweden.

Minister Grässli was born at St. Gall in 1902, and is a citizen of Grabs (St. Gall). He studied juris prudence at the Universities of Geneva, Paris and Berne, afterwards practising as a lawyer in Berne, Aarau and Geneva. In 1930, he entered the Diplomatic Service and was attached to the Swiss Legation in Paris. Three years later (1934), Monsieur Grässli returned to Berne and was promoted to Secretary of Legation. In 1936, he was sent to Berlin, which post he left in 1942 on his appointment as Consul General in Bratislava. In 1945, he was promoted to the rank of Counsellor of Legation and transferred to Washington, which post he occupied until 1948, when he was sent on a diplomatic mission to Japan. After a few months, Minister Grässli returned to Berne. From May 25th to September 22nd, 1948, he was Chargé d'Affaires in Moscow and the following year he was appointed Swiss Minister to Hungary.

Monsieur Ch. Weibel has been nominated Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Tokio. (Monsieur Weibel was a former member of the diplomatic staff of the Swiss Legation in London.)

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