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COMMERCIAL NEWS

International Wheat Council.

A Swiss Delegation headed by Dr. Louis Capol from the Federal Wheat Administration participated at the 15th session of the International Wheat Council, which took place in London from 16th to 21st June 1954. Besides some administrative business, this meeting also dealt with the present wheat situation in view of the recent price drops on the international wheat market. The Council fully recognized the many problems and difficulties that exist at present and that lie ahead in the international trade in wheat. The members of the Council confirmed, however, their belief in the principles and objectives of the International Wheat Agreement and they showed further to be determined to fully support the Agreement in order that it may play its full part in assuring supplies of wheat to importing countries and markets for wheat to exporting countries at equitable and stable prices.

Ministerial Study Group of the OECE

At the last session of the Council of the European Organization for Economic co-operation (OECE) which was held on the 5/6th May, in Paris, it was decided to set up a Ministerial Study Group. The Group's aim is to study the various problems likely to arise if a number of States were to restore convertibility. The Group is composed of the President of

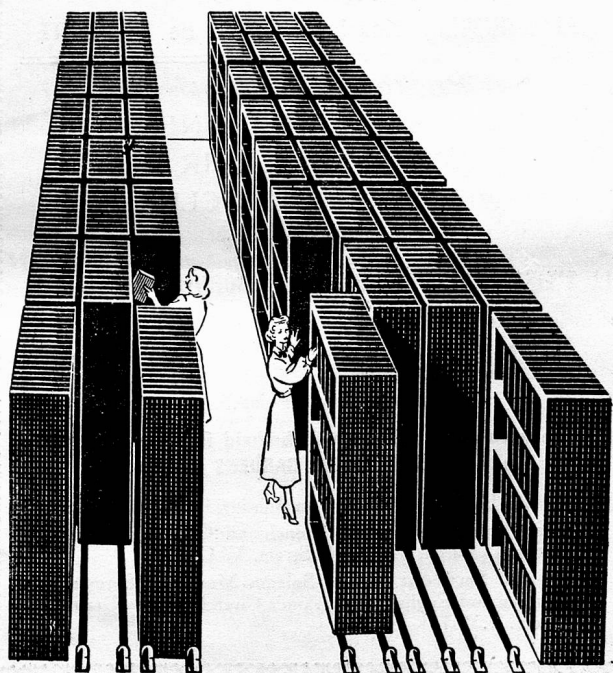
the Ministerial Council, Mr. R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, as Chairman, the representative of Benelux and the Scandinavian Countries. Switzerland has been invited as well.

The Federal Council has decided to delegate Federal Councillor Max Petitpierre, Head of the Federal Political Department, as their representative at the first meeting of this Group, to be held on the 15th July in London. M. Petitpierre will be accompanied, among others, by Minister Schaffner, Delegate for Trade Talks, and Mr. P. Rossy Vice-President of the Board of Directors of the Swiss National Bank.

Belgian Congo Exhibition in Zurich.

Thanks to the efforts of the "Centre d'information et de documentation du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi" there took place in Zurich between the 17th and the 26th June, an exhibition devoted to the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi. The exhibition covered an area of something like 3,000 m². It was staged in the "Kongresshaus". Its purpose was to give a true picture of modern Congo and to pay homage to those who created it. The Swiss pioneers who played a great part in the civilisation of Central Africa by the Belgians were also remembered. The visitors' attention was drawn to all aspects and activities of the Congo Territory. Moreover documentary films were shown daily.

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