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The recently deceased Mme. Emma Schaub of Basle has left 200,000.—frs. to social, cultural and charitable institutions.

The family Birchmeier, Proprietors of the "Metallwarenfabrik Birchmeier & Cie", Künten, have given an amount of 50,000.—frs. to the commune of Künten (Ct. Aargau) towards the costs of a new school building, and 50,000.—frs. towards the costs of a new church.

The firm Ruepp & Co., A.G., "Mechanische Strickerei" in Sarmenstorf Ct. Aargau) has made a donation of 100,000.—frs. towards the building of a new school.

An anonymous donor has informed the community of Meilen (Ct. Zurich) that he will give an amount of 200,000.—frs. for the building of a home for old people.

The late Mme. Elise Forrer-Anderes of Zurich has left a legacy amounting to 23,648.—frs. to the community of Erlenbach (Ct. Zurich) towards the erection of a parish hall.

The recently deceased Charles Ruchonnet of Cully, has left an amount of 27,000.—frs. and 100 paintings to the hospital of Cully.

The late Jakob Hugentobler-Heer of Anlikon (Ct. Thurgau) has given a legacy of 8,000.—frs. to the parish of Bussnang.

The Board of the Georg Fischer, A.G., Schaffhausen, has made the following donations to the town of Schaffhausen: 50,000.—frs. for a public park at the top of the "Geissberg"; 25,000.—frs. for decorations at the new Municipal Theatre; 25,000.—frs. to the Georg Fischer Fund for cultural purposes, and 10,000.—frs. to the "Schaffhauser Musikollegium".

The late Mme. Frieda Hochstrasser of Münchenstein has left a legacy amounting to 35,000.—frs. to the "Pflegeheim am See", Küssnacht (Ct. Zurich).

[A.T.S.]

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#### DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES.

Mr. & Mrs. C. Soliva-Baumann of Altdorf.

The Xmas collection of the "Schweiz. Kaufmännischer Verein" amounted to 30,000.—frs. This amount will be used for members who are receiving treatment in hospitals and sanatoriums. [A.T.S.]

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The Swiss Automobile Club has launched a campaign to popularise "friendly hand signals" among motorists.

The campaign aims at increasing road safety, making traffic more fluid on busy streets, and creating an atmosphere of courtesy and camaraderie among motorists.

\* \* \*

King Paul and Queen Frederika of Greece have sent a New Year's gift of 1,000 francs (about £80) and a silver-framed picture of themselves to a Swiss woman in charge of a level crossing who saved their lives.

Last November, the woman, Mme. Haenni, saw a large car speeding towards her level crossing at Oberwinterthur. The crossing had its gates closed to allow an express to pass.

Realising that the car could not stop in time, she raised the gates again and let it through just before the train was due.

In the car were King Paul and Queen Frederika on a visit to Switzerland.

#### ACROW TO MANUFACTURE IN CANADA.

Over the past twelve months the demand in Canada for Acrow Steel Scaffolding and Formwork and other equipment for the construction industry has outgrown the capacity of the Company to supply from the United Kingdom. Acrow (Canada) Limited, a subsidiary of the Acrow Group, is therefore setting up a plant and housing scheme on a 250 acre site at Orangeville, Ontario, which when in full production will manufacture the entire range of Acrow equipment. In view of the high cost of internal transportation in Canada, however, the production of the new Works is intended to cover mainly the vast developments in central Canada, whilst the growing demands of Eastern and Western Canada will continue to be exported from Acrow's present U.K. factories and the new Coronation Works at Saffron Walden in Essex, now about to come into production.

#### SWISSAIR-DAIMLER CAR HIRE AGREEMENT.

Swissair and Daimler Hire Limited of Knightsbridge, London, have concluded an agreement covering the hire of "Drive-Yourself" cars by passengers abroad. Daimler have so far made arrangements with car hire companies in France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland for cars to be available to passengers on arrival at their destination. Provision for the same facilities in Austria, Greece and Turkey is under negotiation.

The present allowance of £35 under Exchange Control Regulations for the payment of car rental in Europe will apply to this scheme.

Rentals in Italy, for example, range from £2.17.2. per day for a Fiat 600 with 100 kilometres free, plus 4½d. per additional kilometre, to £6.8.7. per day for a Lancia Aurelia for an unlimited distance. These rates include insurance, oil and tax but not petrol. In Germany they range from 12/11 per day for a Volkswagen Standard, plus 4d. per kilometre for a minimum of 80 kilometres, to 28/7 per day for a Mercedes 300 plus 10½d. per kilometre.

In France they range from 19/8 per day for a 2 H.P. Citroen, plus 2½d. per kilometre (minimum 60 kilometres), to £2.2.10. per day for a Chevrolet or a Plymouth plus 7d. per kilometre. Discounts on the above rates are available, depending on length of hire and season.

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