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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

The Federal Council has appointed Monsieur Franco Brenni, at present Swiss Minister in Cuba, to the post of Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary in Haiti with residence in Havanna.

The Consular Agency in Boston (U.S.A.) has received the status of a Consulate. Mr. Georges-Henry Barrel has been appointed Honorary Consul. He was born at La Chaux-de-Fonds in 1895 and is a citizen of this town. The new Consul has been in Boston for many years and occupies an important post in a commercial concern. In 1936, he was appointed Swiss Consular Agent.

The following diplomats have presented their credentials to Dr. H. Streuli, President of the Swiss Confederation and to Monsieur Max Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, at the Palais Fédéral in Berne: Monsieur Fernand Seymaeve, Belgian Ambassador, and Monsieur Petar Grigorow Bulgarian Minister.

The Federal Council has decided to raise the Swiss Consulates in Monrovia (Liberia) and Accra (Ghana) to the status of Consulates General. Mr. Rudolf Scheurer has been nominated Honorary Consul General, and Mr. Eduard Brugger has been promoted to the rank of Consul General.

The Swiss Federal Railways have carried 18.6 million passengers in the month of July, 1957, or 200,000 more than in July, 1956. Receipts: 36.8 million francs. (July, 1956: 36.5 million francs.)

2,420 million tons of goods traffic was transported, an increase of 109,000 tons over last year's July figures. Receipts 44.9 million francs. (July, 1956: 43.3 million francs.)

Customs receipts for the month of July, 1957, totalled 89.3 million francs; of this amount the

Confederation receives 66.6 million francs or 4.9 million francs more than in July, 1956.

The Swiss Government has offered a luncheon to Monsieur Habib Burgiba, President of the Republic of Tunisia, who is on holiday in Switzerland.

The Swiss Confederation has during the year 1955, paid the amount of 420 million francs in subventions.

Professor Dr. Theodor Heuss, President of the German "Bundesrepublik", who has spent his holiday in Switzerland, paid a courtesy visit to Dr. Streuli, President of the Swiss Confederation. The distinguished visitor was the guest of the Federal Council at a luncheon.

#### Cantonal

Three persons lost their lives on a mountaineering excursion into the "Fluhberggebiet" (Ct. Schwyz).

The victims are: August de Lazzer (55) his wife, and the latter's brother Hermann Erzinger (43) all of Fehraltorf (Ct. Zurich). [A.T.S.]

Mr. Josef Maria Bruhin, a former President of the commune of Schwyz and a member of the District Court of Schwyz has celebrated his 100th birthday.

[A.T.S.]

### Nouvelle Société Helvétique (LONDON GROUP)

#### OPEN MEETING

Tuesday, 17th September, 1957 at 7.45 p.m.

at the Swiss Hostel for Girls,

9, Belsize Grove, N.W.3.

DR. HANS CONZETT

National Councillor of Zurich

will speak in English on

THE SWISS PARLIAMENT, CULTURAL  
PROBLEMS AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Free admission to all Swiss and friends.