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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The King and Queen of Greece, with a suite of twenty, paid an official visit to the Confederation from September 10th to 13th.

On stepping on to Swiss soil at Basle they were greeted by M. and Mme. M. Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, by the Chef de Protocol, M. A. Dominicé, the Swiss Ambassador at Athens, the Greek Ambassador in Berne, and a delegation of the Government of the canton Basle-Town, headed by M. Wullschleger. A military band played the Greek and the Swiss national anthems, after which the King inspected the Guard of Honour.

The royal couple and their suite then boarded the special train *en route* to the Swiss capital, where they were received by Dr. Thomas Holenstein, President of the Swiss Confederation, and Madame Holenstein, Mr. Siegenthaler President of the Government of the canton of Berne, and the Mayor of the town of Berne, Dr. Freimüller. Soon afterwards they were conducted to the "Lohn" where the distinguished visitors resided during their three days visit. After a private luncheon the King and Queen accompanied by Mons. Petitpierre drove in open carriages to the Palais Fédéral. Large crowds watched the procession, which wended its way through the gaily decorated streets of the capital.

On its arrival at the Palais Fédéral a military band played the Greek National anthem, and after inspecting the Guard of Honour, the Royal Guests entered the building of the Federal Parliament, where they were received by the members of the Federal Council *in corpore*.

Dr. Holenstein, in his address of welcome, stressed the friendly relations which exist between the two countries. The King in his reply thanked the Federal Council for the friendly reception accorded him and the Queen, and referred to the long-standing and happy good relations which have been maintained even in the darkest hours of his country.

The first day of the visit terminated with a State Banquet at the Bellevue Palace Hotel.

On the second day, the King and Crown Prince, accompanied by Federal Councillor Chaudet, head of the Federal Military Department, visited a number of military establishments, whilst the Queen and Princess Sophie visited the town and various institutions. In the evening the King and Queen held a reception at the Bellevue Palace Hotel at which five hundred persons attended.

The visit of the Greek royalties terminated on Friday, 12th of September.

* * *

The Federal Military Department, with the consent of the Federal Political Department, (Swiss Foreign Office) has appointed Lt.-Colonel Reinhold Gallusser, a member of the General Staff and the Instructors Corps, to the post of Military and Air Attaché at the Swiss Embassies in Sweden, Finnland, Norway and Denmark, with residence in Stockholm, in succession to Colonel Raeber.

* * *

The newly appointed Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the Republic of Cuba, has presented his credentials to M. Th. Holenstein, President of the Swiss Confederation, and to Vice-President M. Paul Chaudet, at the Palais Fédéral in Berne.

* * *

The traditional conference of the heads of Swiss diplomatic Envoys abroad, took place in Berne under the presidency of M. Max Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister.

CITY SWISS CLUB

A Card Meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 9th, 1958.** As no circulars will be sent out for this meeting will members kindly note the date and advise the Dorchester Hotel of their intention to be present by the day previous to the Meeting. (This can be done by telephoning Miss Martin at the Dorchester Hotel, Telephone: MAYfair 8888).

Th. von SPEYR,
Hon. Secretary.

The Federal Council has made the following changes in the Swiss Consular Corps:

Vice-Consul Othmar Rist to be in charge of the Swiss Consulate at Dacca, in succession to M. G. Falquier, with promotion to the rank of Consul whilst at Dacca. M. Rist was born in 1914 at Zurich and is a citizen of Altstaetten. He entered the service of the Political Department in 1943, and has held previous appointments in Hanover, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

M. Georges Falquier to be in charge of the Swiss Consulate at Nice, in succession to M. J. Birchler. M. Falquier was born at Geneva and is a citizen of Veytaux (Ct. Vaud). He entered the service of the Political Department in 1930. His former appointments were at Mülhausen, Singapore, Sidney, Brisbane, Tangier and Dacca.

M. Josef Birchler to be in charge of the Swiss Consulate in Casablanca, in succession to M. A. Prisi. M. Birchler was born in 1907 and hails from Einsiedeln. He entered the service of the Political Department in 1930. Former appointments: Munich, Breslau, Paris, Dijon, Budapest and Nice.

M. A. Prisi, to be in charge of the Swiss Consulate in Oporto, in succession to M. G. Hurni, with promotion to the rank of Consul.

M. Prisi was born in 1907, and is a citizen of Neuchâtel. He entered the service of the Political Department in 1929. Previous appointments were at Besançon, Lisbon, Leopoldville, Sofia, Lyons, and Casablanca.

Vice-Consul, M. Guillaume Hurni to be in charge of the Swiss Consulate in Trieste, in succession to M. A. Berla, with promotion to the rank of Consul.

M. Hurni was born in 1911 at Monza (Italy) and is a citizen of Gurbrue (Ct. Berne), and Chezard — St. Martin (Ct. Neuchâtel). He entered the service of the Political Department in 1939. Former appointments were: Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Venice, Lisbon and Oporto.

M. Angelo Berla, to be in charge of the Swiss Consulate in Istanbul, in succession to Consul H. Baehler, who will shortly be assigned another appointment.

M. Berla was born in Berne in 1912, and is a citizen of Ponto Valentino (Ct. Ticino). He entered the service of the Political Department in 1946. Previous appointments were in Rome and Trieste.

Cantonal

The Richard Wagner Museum at Tribschen (Ct. Lucerne) has celebrated its 25th jubilee. [A.T.S.]

The Federal Council has appointed General Staff Colonel Bernard Cuenod (1899) of Lausanne — a member of the Instructors Corps — to the post of lecturer on military science at the Federal Institute

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of Technology (ETH) Zurich, in succession to Dr. A. Steiger. [A.T.S.]

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On Saturday, September 6th, the 1½ millionth visitor to the "Saffa" exhibition Zurich went through the turnstiles.

Miss Regula Hermatschweiler (16) of Zurich was greeted with flowers by the exhibition authorities who also handed her various presents. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A rumour was started in Berne, that an attack on the French Embassy was planned by Algerian terrorists living in Switzerland. Both the federal and municipal authorities took at once every step to face such an eventuality. A large police force guarded the Embassy building and all approaches to it. Similar precautions were taken at the premises of the French Consulate General in Geneva. So far nothing has happened. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Mrs. Marie-Rose Curly (25) of Fribourg, was run over by a motor-car on the Perolees bridge, and received fatal injuries. The motorist did not stop but was later on arrested by the police. [A.T.S.]

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The town of Rapperswil and its adjoining commune of Jona have celebrated the 500th anniversary of their joining the Swiss Confederation. The town of Rapperswil was previously under Austrian rule.

[A.T.S.]

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An explosion which occurred at the Avenue Belmont in Montreux caused serious injuries to four people. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The Swiss Bankers Association held their General Meeting at Zermatt under the presidency of Dr. Charles de Loes. Amongst the numerous guests who were present, was Federal Councillor Dr. Streuli, representatives of the Government of the canton of Valais, the National Bank, and heads of the Federal administration. [A.T.S.]

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Two Vandois alpinists, on a climbing excursion in the Marcottes (Valais), lost their lives. The names of the victims are André Mayer (40), and Marguerite Nicod (22), both of Lausanne. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The Police Court of Neuchâtel sentenced a motorist, who, driving under the influence of alcohol, seriously injured a cyclist, to 40 days imprisonment, and a fine of 250.— francs. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The driver of a motor-car, who when driving under the influence of alcohol, collided with a tractor, was sentenced by the Police Court of La Chaux-de-Fonds to

45 days imprisonment, a fine of 20.— francs and court fees. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A commission of the Grand Council of the canton of Geneva, appointed to verify the accounts for 1957, of the canton of Geneva, has reported that the accounts close with a deficit of 2,105,553.— francs. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The Federal Council, the Government of the canton of Geneva, and the municipal authorites of Geneva gave a "Garden Party" at the Parc des Eaux-Vives to the members attending the Atomic Conference, over 1,200 persons were present. [A.T.S.]

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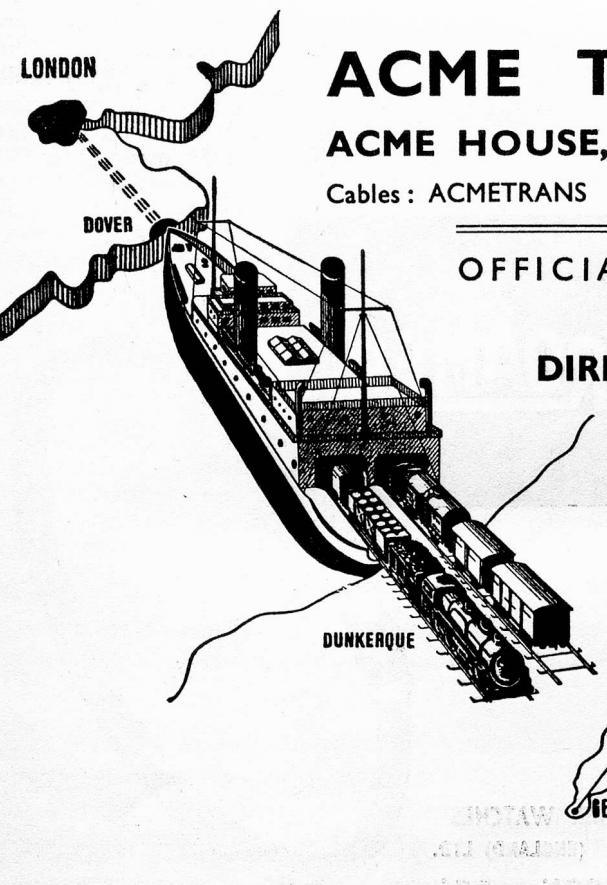
The town of Nyon celebrated their 2,000th anniversary, with various festivities. A historical procession witnessed by 20 to 30,000 spectators wended its way through the gaily beflagged streets of the town.

Amongst the many guests were the French Consul General in Lausanne, M.-J. P. Pradervand — President of the Grand Council of the canton of Vaud, M. Oulevay, President of the Government of the canton of Vaud, and M. Peter, a member of the Government of the canton Basle-Town. [A.T.S.]

DEATHS.

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Dr. phil. Gottfried Kummer, since 1954 editor of the "Zürcher Woche", in Maennedorf at the age of 46. The deceased was formerly editor of the "Bülach-Dielsdorfer Wochenzeitung", "Die Tat" Zurich,



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Canon Victor Schwaller in St. Antoni, aged 83. He was at one time a priest at Alterswil, and afterwards a Professor at the College St. Michel, Fribourg. On relinquishing his post at the College St. Michel he was appointed Director of the "Marienheim", and a Canon of the church of Notre-Dame Fribourg.

Andreas von Weissenfluh-Taennler, a former well-known alpine guide, and for 35 years "Hüttenwart" of the Windegg-und Trifthütte of the S.A.C. section, in Nessenthal-Gadmen at the age of 84.

Fritz Waser in Altnan (Ct. Thurgau) aged 85, Wine Merchant and farmer, and a former member of the "Kantonsrat" Thurgau. The deceased was an honorary member of the Federal Rifle Association, in the army he held the rank of Lt.-Colonel.

Alice Guggenheim, painter and sculptress, in Zurich.

Konrad Schaer, President of the Board of the "Kugellagerfabrik A.G." Arbon, in Arbon at the age of 82 and "Statthalter" of the district Arbon. In the army he held the rank of Lt.-Colonel.

Dr. med. Walther Boehni, an eminent medical practitioner in Stein and Rh., in Winterthur aged 65.

Paul Otto Bessire, from 1915 to 1951, a teacher at the cantonal school Porrentruy, and author of several literary works, in Moutier at the age of 78.

Dr. h.c. Johann Jakob Gabathuler, a former "Landammann", and from 1937 to 1953, a member of the Government of the canton of St. Gall, in Wartau aged 75. The deceased was for several years a member of the National Council.

Professor Wilh. Lutz, from 1922 to 1956 *Ordinarius* for dermatology, Director of the dermatological clinic at the University of Basle, and editor of the International periodical "Dermatologica", in Basle at the age of 70.

Emil Goetz, a well known professional photographer, in Lucerne aged 90.

Deacon Martin Haag, for many years a priest in Schaffhausen, in Schaffhausen at the age of 76.

[A.T.S.]

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DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES.

Mr. and Mrs. Müller-Weilenmann of Münchwilen (Ct. Thurgau), Mr. and Mrs. Eigenmann-Diem of St. Gall. [A.T.S.]

* * *

LEGACIES AND DONATIONS.

The late Fräulein Ines Wehrli of Aarau has left a legacy of 10,000.— francs to the foundation 'Pro Argovia'.

The late Frau Wwe. Anderfuhren-Lüscher of Meiringen has legated 5,000.— francs to the community of Meiringen the amount to be used for housewives in poor circumstances.

The firm Trüb, Taeuber & Cie, A.G. Zurich has left their valuable collection of historical electrical instruments to the "Verein für ein Technisches Museum" in Winterthur. [A.T.S.]

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ANNIVERSARIES.

Gustav Seiler (80) of Basle, for the last 56 years an active journalist, he held various posts as editor of Swiss papers. [A.T.S.]

* * *

TRAFFIC AND MOTORING ACCIDENTS.

Again a great number of accidents are reported from Switzerland.

Two motor-cars were involved in a head-on collision at the Industrie Strasse in Schlieren (Zurich). Four persons were seriously injured and had to be taken to hospital, where one of them, Mrs. Pauline Suter (55) of Zurich died later on.

Mrs. Frieda Schneider-Siegerist (73) of Regestdorf (Zürich) was run over when crossing the road and killed.

Three persons were seriously injured, and one killed, when a motor-car collided with a corner-stone near the Sprengi Bridge in the Schoellenen gorge. The name of the deceased is Josef Felder (21) an electrical engineer of Kriens.

A motor-cyclist collided with a lorry near Zollikofen (Berne) and was killed. His name is Ernst Leiser (53) of Ammergwil nr. Grossaffoltern. [A.T.S.]



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