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# The Swiss Observer

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## The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain

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### NEWS AT RANDOM

#### Federal

The Federal Council has raised the following Swiss Consulates to the status of Consulates-General: Munich, Hamburg, Stuttgart, Antwerp, Barcelona, Marseilles, Bordeaux, Algiers, Genoa, Amsterdam and Rotterdam.

Mr. Paul Hochstrasser (Consul in Hamburg), Mr. Alfred Berthod (Consul in Bordeaux), Mr. Walter Spycher (Consul in Amsterdam), and Mr. Raoul Thiebaud (Consul in Marseilles) have been promoted to the rank of Consul-General.

The Honorary Consuls in Antwerp and Rotterdam, Messrs. Ch. Meyer and A. Tauber respectively, have been advanced to the rank of Honorary Consul-General.

\* \* \*

Monsieur Gholam Farouq, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of Afghanistan, has presented his credentials to Dr. Th. Holenstein, President of the Swiss Confederation, and to Dr. Max. Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, at the Palais Fédéral in Berne.

\* \* \*

The Swiss Foreign Office has announced that all Swiss nationals residing in Iraq are well, and have not suffered any material damage.

\* \* \*

The Federal Chambers were represented at the 47th Inter-Parliamentary Congress, which took place in Rio de Janeiro from 24th July to 1st August, by the Presidents of the National Council and States Council, Robert Bratschi and Dr. Fritz Staehli respectively.

The Swiss Interparliamentary group was represented by National Councillors Boerlin, Bringolf, Duft, Grendelmeier, Rosset, Weber, and Weibel, and by States Councillors Lusser, Maeder and Spühler.

\* \* \*

**Cantonal** The SAFFA 1958 Exhibition (Schweizerische Ausstellung für Frauen-Arbeit) was opened in Zurich on 17th July by Dr. Th. Holenstein, President of the Swiss Confederation. He was accompanied by Federal Councillors

Feldmann, Streuli, Lepori and Chaudet, and by delegations from the two Federal Chambers and the Federal Supreme Courts.

In the procession which wended its way through the gaily beflagged streets to the Fraumünsterkirche — where the solemn opening ceremony took place — one noticed especially the members of the Federal Council, delegations of the Federal Chambers, the "Kantonsrat" Zurich, the Universities and Churches, two representatives of each cantonal Government, and all the members of the Government of the canton of Zurich.

Mme. Denise Berthoud, Central President of Swiss Women Associations, in her opening address paid a high tribute to the late Mme. Rosa Neuenschwander, thanks to whose initiative and efforts it was possible to hold the first SAFFA exhibition, which took place in Berne in 1928, and referred to the aims and purposes of the present exhibition. She welcomed the Federal and Cantonal representatives and the numerous delegations.

The President of the Confederation, in his address, pointed out the importance of this exhibition to Swiss women, heartily congratulating the organisers on the masterly way in which they have presented the work and manifold activities of Swiss women.

A second commemoration took place in the grounds of the exhibition, where Frau A. Hubacher-Constat, principal architect of the SAFFA handed over the keys of the exhibition to Frau Dr. Erika Rikli, president of the organisation committee. At the banquet which followed, Mr. Rudolf Meier, President of the Government of the canton of Zurich, and Dr. Emil Landolt, Mayor of the town of Zurich, were the principal speakers. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

A bust, the work of the sculptor Dr. h.c. H. Hubacher, of the eminent jurist Professor Dr. Max Huber, at one time *ordinarius* at the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich, honorary president of the committee of the International Red Cross, and a judge at the international permanent court at the Hague, has been presented to the University of Zurich. The presentation was attended by Professor Max Huber (84). [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The C. F. Bally A.G. (Holding Gesellschaft) Zurich has declared a dividend of 8 per cent. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

An explosion which occurred in the "Praktikanten" laboratory of the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich caused the death of a student, Rudolf Wyss, aged 23. [A.T.S.]

The accounts for 1957 of the canton of Berne close with a credit balance of 304,196.— francs. [A.T.S.]

Henri Chappatte (18), of Thun, was drowned whilst bathing at the "Strandbad" in Thun. [A.T.S.]

On the occasion of the eleven hundredth anniversary of Cham (Ct. Zug) the commune has bestowed honorary citizenship on Mr. Heinrich Habermacher, President of the commune of Cham, and on Mr. Josef Muff, priest in Cham. [A.T.S.]

The new military barracks "La Poya 2", costing 1½ million francs, were innovated in Fribourg in the presence of civil and military authorities. [A.T.S.]

A 50-year-old commercial traveller, of Fribourg, who whilst driving under the influence of alcohol caused the death of two people was sentenced to eleven months' imprisonment. (The State Prosecutor proposed a sentence of two years' imprisonment.) [A.T.S.]

The population of the town of St. Gall on 1st July 1958 numbered 75,000. [A.T.S.]

Mr. Franz Albert Perret, lic. jur. of Mels, has been elected head of the State Archives and Library St. Gall, in succession to the late Dr. Karl Schoenenberger. [A.T.S.]

A lorry collided with a passenger train at a level-crossing between Hochdorf and Baldegg. The driver of the lorry was slightly injured. The damage caused to the vehicle and the train is estimated to be about 20,000.— francs. [A.T.S.]

M. Marcel Caprez, a member of the Superior Court of the canton of Vaud, has been elected as substitute judge at the Federal Supreme Court, Lausanne. [A.T.S.]

The next International Music Festival of Montreux-Vevey will take place from 5th September to 5th October. Fifteen concerts, with three orchestras and two choirs, will be given. The conductors and soloists engaged number twenty-nine. [A.T.S.]

The population of the town of Lausanne on 30th June 1958 numbered 120,552. [A.T.S.]

Lieutenant-Colonel Fritz Waser, honorary citizen of Altnau (Ct. Thurgau), has presented a fountain to the village of Altnau. [A.T.S.]

Jewellery to the value of 25,000.— francs was stolen from a visitor at a Geneva Hotel. [A.T.S.]

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#### DEATHS.

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Arthur Ferrazzini, Professor of French Literature at the municipal *Gymnasium* Berne, in Mürren (whilst on leave), at the age of 43.

Dr. Peter Stucker, astronomer, in Zurich, aged 72. The deceased has been head of the observatory "Urania" Zurich since 1926, and was one of the founders of the "Zürcher Volkshochschule".

Robert Favre, industrialist, a member of the board of the watch manufacturing concern, Marc Favre & Co. S.A., and the Omega Watch Company, Biel, in Biel, aged 55.

Eugen Goll, known principally as a painter of town scenes, in Basle, at the age of 65.

Hans Huber-Witz, publisher, in Berne, aged 39.

Emil Boegli, publicity manager of the Visp-Zermatt, Gornergat, and Furka-Oberalp railways, in Brig, at the age of 60.

Dr. jur. Hanspeter Schulthess, manager of the "Publicitas S.A." Lausanne, in Lausanne, aged 39.

[A.T.S.]



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**LEGACIES AND DONATIONS.**

The late Fräulein Hedwig Hoehn, of Wädenswil (Ct. Zurich), has left the amount of 45,000.— francs for charitable purposes; of this amount the commune of Wädenswil receives 27,500.— francs.

On the occasion of his 80th birthday, Mr. E. Holzscheiter-Meyer, manufacturer in Meilen, has donated 50,000.— francs to the foundation "Alters & Pflegeheim", and 5,000.— francs each to the "Hausflege" and "Gemeinde-Krankenpflege" Meilen.

The late Frau Marie Mast, of Oberhofen (Ct. Thurgau), has left legacies amounting to 35,000.— francs to various church and public utility bodies.

[A.T.S.]

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**IRON WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES.**

Mr. and Mrs. J. Thurnherr-Rohner, of Au (St. Gall), and Mr. and Mrs. Schwab, of Kerzers, have celebrated their iron wedding anniversaries (65).

[A.T.S.]

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**MOTORING ACCIDENTS.**

Five persons were seriously injured when two motor-cars collided at the Zürcherstrasse in Winterthur. Both cars were totally wrecked and the occupants were taken to the cantonal hospital in Winterthur.

A motor-car with five passengers in it skidded and fell down a slope near St. Croix. 35-year-old Mrs. Alba Burdet, of St. Croix, was killed, and four other occupants had to be taken to hospital.

M. Edwald Bissat (67), of Morges, was run over and killed when crossing the road at Preveranges (Ct. Vaud). [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

**VARIOUS.**

The council of the British Red Cross, with the approval of the Queen, its President, has awarded the Certificate of Honour, Class 1, to Professor Max Huber, Honorary President of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

\* \* \*

Still another Swiss firm, established in Baden, has built a rotor for a steam turbine of 110,000 kwh, intended for the use of the power station of Farcienne, also in Belgium.

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