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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

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.

* * *

The Indian Finance Minister, Mr. Morarji R. Desay — on his journey to London and the U.S.A. — was the guest of the Federal Council. He was received at the Palais Fédéral in Berne by Federal Councillors Petitpierre and Streuli. A dinner in his honour was given by the Federal Council at the "Wattenwyl Haus".

* * *

Monsieur Ignacio Portocarrero Lacayo, has presented his credentials to Monsieur Paul Chaudet, President of the Swiss Confederation, and to M. Max Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, as Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the Republic of Nicaragua.

* * *

Customs receipts for the month of August 1959 amounted to 85.2 million francs. Of this amount the Confederation receives 54 million francs, or 2.3 million francs less than in August 1958.

Receipts for the Confederation during the first eight months of the year total 669.9 million francs or 0.7 million francs more than during the same period in 1958.

* * *

The following National Councillors have intimated that they will not contest their seats at the next Parliamentary elections (24th to 25th October): Jean Gressot, "Regierungsstatthalter des Amtes Pruntrut", Ernst Josi (Radical) of St. Imier, Carl Beck of Sursee, and Giulio Gugliemetti (Liberal) of Mendrisio.

* * *

Cantonal The firm "Messerfabrik Karl Elsener" of Ibach (Ct. Schwyz), on the occasion of its 75th jubilee has made a donation of 500,000 — francs to its pension fund.

[A.T.S.]

Dr. Werner Kaempfen has been appointed Director of the "Schweizerischen Verkehrszentrale" Zurich, in succession to Mr. Siegfried Bittel, who has held this post for 26 years.

Dr. Kaempfen was born in 1914, and hails from Brigue. After studying law at the University of Berne where he obtained his doctorate, he practised for some time as a lawyer. He also published a number of novels and biographies. From 1939 to 1949, Dr. Kaempfen was connected with the "Schweizerischen Depeschenagentur" Berne. In 1954, after having been active as a journalist, he was elected Director of the "Verkehrsverein" Zurich. [A.T.S.]

* * *
On 7th September 1959 the commune of Wetzikon (Ct. Zurich) numbered 10,000 inhabitants, and is, therefore, now considered to be a town. [A.T.S.]

* * *
A shop window of the jewellery establishment of Bucherer in the Bahnhofstrasse Zurich was smashed. Goods valued at 35,000. — francs were stolen. [A.T.S.]

* * *
The final accounts of the "Saffa" exhibition, which was held last year in Zurich, show a net profit of 2,065,415 — francs. [A.T.S.]

* * *
Frau Mathilde Koenig of Zurich has celebrated her 100th birthday. [A.T.S.]

* * *
Mr. Hans Wüthrich of Worblaufen (Ct. Berne), with Mr. Hanspeter Müller, a photographer of Wengen as a passenger, left the "Jungfraujoch" in a "Super Cup" machine. Soon after being airborne the machine crashed. The well-known glacier pilot Geiger was summoned from Sion, and managed to extricate the

Xmas Greetings

Following former years' practice we propose to publish again in our December issue a collective greeting.

The high costs of Xmas cards, should induce many of our subscribers to make use of this facility to extend to their friends the compliments of the season.

Those of our readers and friends wishing to be included should forward name and address to our office not later than Friday, November 20th, 1959, together with remittance for 10/-.

two men who were injured. He flew them to Berne where they were taken to hospital. The photographer, Hanspeter Müller (22) later on succumbed to his injuries. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Another successful ascent on the "Nordwand" of the Eiger has been made by two alpinists from the Toggenburg named Peter Diener and Ernst Forrer.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

During the recent Bienne Fair, which lasted twelve days, over 82,000 persons went through the Turnstiles. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Dr. Jur. Gerold Meyer, "Kantonsrat" of Cham has been appointed "Landschreiber" of the canton of Zug in succession to Dr. Ernst Zumbach, who on reaching retirement age is vacating his post. [A.T.S.]

* * *

M. Oscar Lambelet, at one time President of the commune of St. Sulpice, has celebrated his 100th birthday in Fribourg. He was presented by the cantonal authorities with the traditional easy-chair.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

A post-bag containing foreign currencies and securities to the value of 230,000.— francs was stolen from a postal coach at the Basle railway station.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

The Indian Ambassador in Berne, Monsieur M. K. Vellodi, has paid an official visit to the town of St. Gall, on which occasion he visited the Pestalozzi Children's village at Trogen, and various embroidery establishments, as well as the cathedral at St. Gall.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

Mr. Hans Strahm (52) ing. agr. is entering Parliament (National Council) in succession to the late Dr. K. Renold. Strahm is a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Aargau, and is representing the B.G.B. party. [A.T.S.]

* * *

An express train travelling at 125 km. p.h. between St. Gall and Geneva ran off the rails at the railway station of Gland (Ct. Vaud). Fortunately only one passenger (a lady from Geneva) was injured, but the material damage is considered to be serious. An immediate inquiry has shown that the accident was due to a defect in one of the carriages. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The mother of the well-known Swiss architect Le Corbusier, Mme. Jeanneret-Perret of Vevey has celebrated her 99th birthday. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The "40th Comptoir Suisse" was opened at Lausanne on September 17th by M. Paul Chaudet, President of the Swiss Confederation. [A.T.S.]

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Mr. Gino Jelmini (42), President of the commune of Comologno (Ct. Ticino) was accidentally killed when repairing an electric cable. He leaves a widow and four children. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The attractive little town of Bremgarten (Ct. Aargau) has recently celebrated the 750th anniversary of its foundation. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The population of the canton of Neuchâtel on December 31st 1959 numbered 142,900. Of these 60,015 (42%) are Neuchâtelois, 70,908 (49.62%) hail from other cantons, and 11,977 are foreigners. [A.T.S.]

* * *

M. Adrien Lachenal, late States Councillor of Geneva has tendered his resignation as a member of the Board of "Swissair". [A.T.S.]

* * *

Four armed men made an attack on a garage on the road to Meyrin (Geneva) causing injuries to an attendant, and robbing him of the day's takings. The Geneva police were able to arrest the four gangsters aged between 21 to 27 years. [A.T.S.]



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DEATHS.

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

National Councillor Dr. jur. Karl Renold, in Aarau at the age of 71. The deceased studied law at the Universities of Dijon, Zurich, Berne and Leipzig, after which he established himself as an advocate and notary in Baden. From 1917 to 1925, he held the post of "Staatsschreiber" of the canton of Aargau, and from 1925 to 1956 he was Director of the "Aargauischen Versicherungsamtes". Dr. Renold had sat since 1943 in the National Council over which he presided in 1951-52. In the army, he held the rank of Colonel, being commander of a frontier brigade.

Ralph Lazarus, President of the Board of the watch manufacturing concern "Benrus", La Chaux-de-Fonds, in La Chaux-de-Fonds aged 60.

Dr. Alfred Gsell, Swiss Consul in Laurençò-Marques, at the age of 46.

Professor Dr. med. Felix Nager, from 1915 to 1947 Professor for ear, nose and throat diseases at the University of Zurich, in Zurich aged 82. The deceased was an honorary member of the British Royal Society of medicine.

Dr. med. Alexander Renfer of Lausanne, owing to a motoring accident at the age of 33.

Professor Dr. h.c. Hans Bernoulli, in Basle aged 83. The deceased was in 1912 appointed chief architect of the "Basler Baugesellschaft", and a lecturer at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich. Professor Bernoulli was at one time a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Basle-Town

and the National Council. The University of Basle honoured him with the degree of *doctor honoris causa*.

Dr. Adam David, in Basle at the age of 87. The deceased was a well-known natural scientist, author, and big game hunter.

Dr. Charles Tschaeppaet, Director of the "Société électrolytique", and from 1943 to 1959 a lecturer at the University of Lausanne, in Lausanne aged 65.

Dr. Carl Napp, for many years President of the "Hausbesitzverein", and of the Basle section of the Swiss Automobile Club, in Riehen at the age of 68.

François Bourquin, pharmaceutical chemist in Couvet, aged 61. The deceased held the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the medical corps.

Henri Borel, trade union secretary, and a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Neuchâtel, in La Chaux-de-Fonds aged 70.

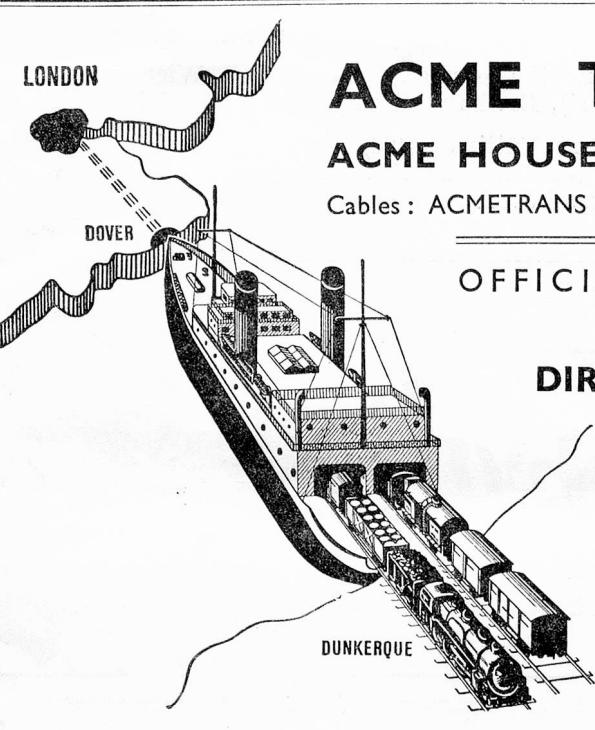
Edmond Zaugg, a former member of the Grand Council of the canton of Geneva, and a member of the municipal council of Geneva, in Geneva at the age of 66.

Oscar Schweizer, Director and President of the Board of the Hotel School, Lausanne, in Lausanne aged 63. [A.T.S.]

* * *

ARMY.

The Federal Council has appointed Colonel Oskar Keller (50) of Reinach (Ct. Aargau) to the post of Head of the "Eidg. Kriegsmaterial Verwaltung" with promotion to the rank of brigadier, in succession to Divisional Colonel Schenk. Brigadier Keller studied



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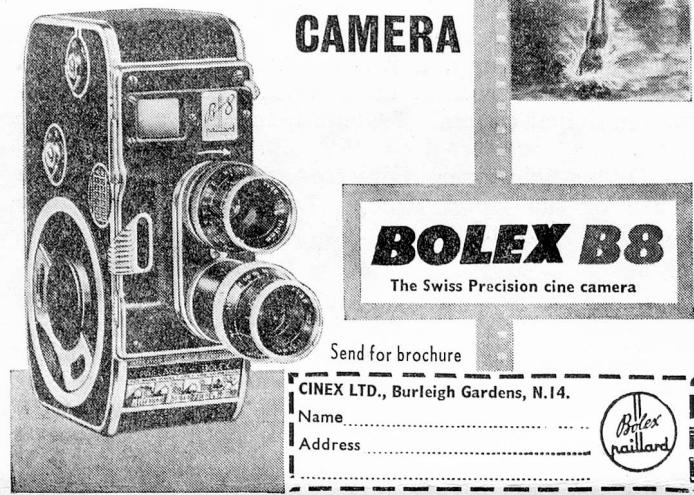
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at the Federal Institute (ETH) Zurich, and entered the Instructors Corps in 1935. Until recently he held the command of the 15th heavy artillery regiment.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

LEGACIES & DONATIONS.

The late Ernst Obrist, merchant of Zurich has left the amount of 10,000.— francs to the "Hilfsverein Kinderheim Maiezzyt" in Regenstorf.

On the occasion of the inauguration of a new school-house in Cham, the Board of the "Papierfabrik" Cham made a donation amounting to 100,000.— francs.

The late Miss Emma Schlumpf of Uster, a nursing sister, has left her entire fortune amounting to 96,500.— francs to various charitable institutions.

Dr. Hans and Mrs. Lucie Willi-Knuchel of Kilchberg (Ct. Zurich) have made a donation to the church community of Kilchberg amounting to 34,000.— francs. [A.T.S.]

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ANNIVERSARIES.

Henry Dufaux (80) of Geneva, founder of the firm "Motosacoche", and one of the pioneers of Swiss aviation.

Professor Dr. h.c. Mirko Ros (80) of Daetwil (Ct. Aargau), formerly professor for "Baustoffkunde & Materialprüfung" at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich, and Director of the "Materialprüfungs- und Versuchsanstalt EMPA".

Hans Roelli (70) of Willisau, a well-known writer, and at one time "Kurdirektor" of Arosa.

Carl Boeckli (70) of Heiden, since 1927 editor of the paper "Der Nebelspalter".

Dr. med. Max Herzog (70) of Zurich-Wollishofen, a noted medical practitioner, and a painter of some repute. [A.T.S.]

* * *

DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES.

Mr. & Mrs. J. Eggengerger-Pfister of Schaffhausen, Mr. & Mrs. K. Staub of Biltten (Ct. Glarus), Mr. & Mrs. A. Frey-Frey of Auenstein nr. Brugg, and Mr. & Mrs. F. Maurer-Widmaier of Schaffhausen.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

MOUNTAINEERING ACCIDENTS.

Emanuel Schlitter (56) caretaker at the "Kunstgewerbeschule" Zurich was killed by a falling stone whilst ascending the Zinalrothorn.

On the descent from the Wichelplangstock (Ct. Uri), Dr. Frank Furger (26) of Zurich was killed.

Kurt Fülliman (26) etcher of Zurich-Altstetten, when climbing the Schmalstoeckli (Ct. Schwyz) fell and was killed.

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Two men of Pristen (Ct. Uri) on an excursion through the Maderaner valley lost their way, and fell into the river flowing through the valley. Both were injured and had to be taken to hospital, where one of them, Xaver Traxel (65) of Silenen, a former employee of the Swiss Federal Railways, died.

* * *

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

The Rev. Jakob Lenz (63) of Wildhaus (Toggenburg) crashed with his motor-cycle at Sargans; he was taken to the hospital at Sargans where he succumbed to his injuries.

Two motor-cyclists were involved in a head-on collision on the road between Brunnen and Schwyz. One of the motor-cyclists, Gottfried Herger (22) of Isenthal (Ct. Uri) was killed.

A motor-lorry carrying eighteen persons, fell over a slope at Les Mayens-de-Sion (Ct. Valais). Twelve of the passengers were seriously injured and had to be taken to the hospital at Sion.

Johann Bussmann (74) commercial traveller of Zofingen crashed into the back of a lorry in Wikon (Ct. Lucerne) and received fatal injuries. [A.T.S.]

* * *

VARIOUS.

In the month of August 1959, Switzerland exported 2,409 watches and watch parts to the value of 65.4 million francs. [A.T.S.]

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