

**Zeitschrift:** The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

**Herausgeber:** Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

**Band:** - (1959)

**Heft:** 1344

  

**Rubrik:** Prepaid subscription rates

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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED IN 1919 BY PAUL F. BOHRINGER.

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

Advisory Council: R. DE CINTRA (Chairman); O. F. BOHRINGER, LS. CHAPUIS, J. EUSEBIO, GOTTFRIED KELLER, R. J. KELLER, A. STAUFFER, G. E. SUTER

EDITED BY A. STAUFFER WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SWISS COLONY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Telephone: CLERKENWELL 2321/2.

Published Twice Monthly at 23, LEONARD STREET, E.C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON

Vol. 44. No. 1344.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12th, 1959.

PRICE 11d.

## PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

(Fortnightly issue.)

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

Switzerland's male electorate voted on 24th May, with 380,345 votes against 230,616, to add a new Article to the Swiss Constitution concerning Civil Defence.

Here are the particulars of the poll:

	Yes	No
ZURICH ... ..	95,718	61,671
BERNE ... ..	68,079	34,555
LUCERNE ... ..	16,545	7,493
URI ... ..	2,696	1,708
SCHWYZ ... ..	3,925	3,268
OBWALDEN ... ..	2,059	713
NIDWALDEN ... ..	1,896	928
GLARUS ... ..	3,718	2,035
ZUG ... ..	2,592	1,616
FRIBOURG ... ..	6,544	2,704
SOLOTHURN ... ..	11,376	9,501
BASEL-STADT ... ..	9,859	5,371
BASEL-LAND ... ..	9,884	6,654
SCHAFFHAUSEN ... ..	7,463	5,673
APPENZEL A. RHODEN ... ..	5,286	3,241
APPENZEL I. RHODEN ... ..	900	438
ST. GALLEN ... ..	27,389	23,251
GRAUBUENDEN ... ..	12,418	4,019
AARGAU ... ..	39,437	27,624
THURGAU ... ..	15,894	10,220
TICINO ... ..	5,202	1,893
VAUD ... ..	14,753	8,488
VALAIS ... ..	5,511	2,467
NEUCHATEL ... ..	5,139	2,926
GENEVA ... ..	6,062	2,159
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	380,345	230,616

41.2 per cent of the electors went to the poll.

\* \* \*

Monsieur P. Chaudet, President of the Swiss Confederation, has sent a telegram of condolence to President Eisenhower on the occasion of the death of State Secretary John Foster Dulles. M. Max Petit-pierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, has sent a message of

sympathy to the widow of the deceased, and to State Secretary Herter.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council has accepted the resignation of Mr. Friedrich Kaestli, Swiss Consul-General at Montreal, on his reaching retiring age.

M. J. Piffaretti, at present Consul-General in Bombay, has been appointed as his successor. He was born in 1899, at Porrentruy, and is a citizen of Arzo (Ct. Ticino). M. Piffaretti entered the Consular Service in 1923, and has occupied successively posts at Milan, Torino, Livorno, Singapore, Shanghai and Genoa. From 1946 to 1949 he was attached to the Swiss Legation at Peking with the rank of Counsellor of Legation. He was appointed Consul-General in Bombay in 1956.

\* \* \*

The British, American, French and Russian Foreign Ministers, at present in Geneva, were the guests of the Swiss Government on 11th May at Geneva.

Monsieur M. Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, took the Chair. Apart from the four Foreign Ministers there were present the Ambassadors of the four countries, M. Hammarskjöld, Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Director and Vice-Director of UNO (Geneva), M. Robert Kohli, Secretary-General of the Federal Political Department, M. Richard Aman, Chef du Protocol, M. Dupont, President of the Government of the canton of Geneva, M. Dussoix, Mayor of Geneva, and National Councillor Olivier Reverdin.

## Nouvelle Société Helvétique

(LONDON GROUP)

### OPEN MEETING

Tuesday, 23rd June 1959, at 7.00 p.m.  
at the Swiss Hostel for Girls,  
9, Belsize Grove, N.W.3.

Under the title of: A HUNDRED YEARS TOMORROW, Monsieur Ansermoz, of the Swiss Embassy, will recall (in English) how Henry Dunant's vision on the battlefield of Solferino led to the birth of the Red Cross.

#### Buffet Service

with coffee or tea, 3/6d. inclusive, from 6.15 p.m. onwards.

Those intending to be present should inform the Warden of the Hostel on Tuesday, June 23rd, between 11 a.m. and noon. (Tel.: PRIMrose 6856).

Please note that there will **not** be a meeting of the N.S.H. on **June 16th**, as advertised in the "Swiss Observer".