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COMMERCIAL NEWS

Confirmation of a Swiss success abroad.

After a first order for two household garbage incinerators of a great capacity, which was given in 1957, the town of Hamburg has now given an order to the firm of L. de Roll, Ltd., of Zurich, for three additional furnaces for incinerating garbage.

After operations have been started in 1963, the plant, which will contain five furnaces, will be able to destroy more than 1,000 tons of garbage per day.

Switzerland and scientific research.

The subsidy granted by the Swiss Government to the Swiss National Fund for Scientific Research has been raised from four million to six million Swiss francs, and will be increased still further to seven million as from 1961. This will make it possible for the Fund, not only to pursue the activities in which it has been engaged up to the present in the domain of the encouragement of fundamental research and of scientific relief, but also to establish permanent research centres which make it possible to retain qualified scientists in Switzerland and, whenever this can be accomplished, to bring back to Switzerland those Swiss research workers who have jobs abroad.

In 1959 the Swiss National Fund for Scientific Research granted subsidies to the amount of more than 4,121,000 Swiss francs. One hundred and ten scholarships, to the value of 488,551 francs, were awarded for the encouragement of new generations of scientists in Switzerland.

A building record in Berne.

The Swiss Federal Administration has placed itself at the very head of progress by having a building put up in Berne, in accordance with the modern technique of prefabricated component parts. The building is 361 feet in length, 46 feet wide, and 56 feet high, and has been built in two months, from the time of the laying down of the first element to the putting on of the roof. The prefabricated parts were manufactured by a newly established plant at Etoy, on the banks of Lake Leman.

It only needed to be thought of.

A Swiss manufacturer who specialises in garden umbrellas has just produced a novelty which will be welcomed by all those people who love to enjoy the fresh air in the garden without being roasted by the sun. The invention is a large umbrella which can be turned in all directions, gives complete protection, but does not possess the major inconvenience of having a pole which obstructs one's movements and is always getting in one's way. The "Pendalex", as it is called, is suspended from a bracket which can be moved and regulated, as desired. This new parasol, which is very easily managed, can thus provide shade for an ordinary table set for a meal.

A new Swiss medical adjuvant.

A Swiss firm in Schaffhausen, which specialises in the manufacture of chemical and pharmaceutical products, has just put a new product on the market — the "Gastrotest" — which is used for the control of gastric juices and eliminates the necessity of a

SWISS BANK CORPORATION

(A company limited by shares incorporated in Switzerland)



In SWITZERLAND there are offices in Basle, Geneva, Zurich and all the principal centres.

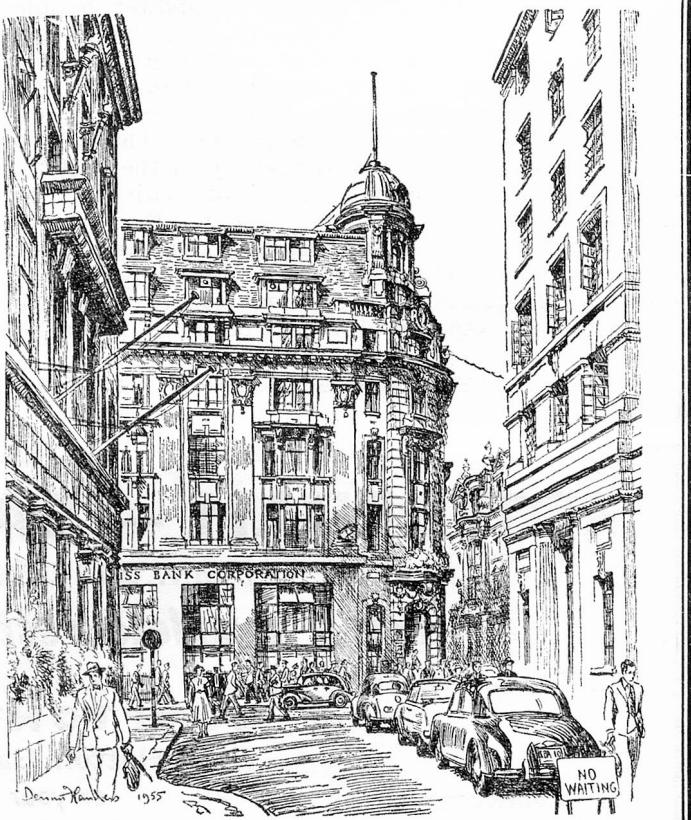
In LONDON the City Office is situated at 99, Gresham Street, E.C.2, and there is a WEST END BRANCH, specially equipped for the convenience of visitors, at 11c, Regent Street, S.W.1, close to Piccadilly Circus.

In NEW YORK there is an Agency at 15, Nassau Street, and a Branch at 10 West 49th Street.

In CANADA the Bank is represented by its affiliated Company the Swiss Corporation for Canadian Investments at 360, St. James Street West, Montreal.

In MOROCCO there is another affiliated Company, the Banque Franco-Suisse pour le Maroc, Casablanca.

CAPITAL AND RESERVES — S.Frs.303,000,000



stomach probe. This product is made in the form of sugar-coated pills, which the patient swallows and which, after a certain lapse of time, make it possible to determine, by means of a coloured reaction of the urine, the presence or absence of hydrochloric acid in the stomach. Whereas formerly a test for gastric juices required special equipment, the application of which was very often repulsive to the patients, the Gastrotest, which is absolutely harmless, makes it possible for every medical practitioner to proceed with the determination of the presence of gastric juices, at all times and in the simplest manner imaginable.

A Swiss gas turbine plant.

Swiss machine manufacturers have contributed in a decisive manner to the technique of gas turbines, just as they have done previously in other domains. The second plant of this kind to be set up in Switzerland, has just been put into operation at Weinfelden. Intended for the production of complementary and peak energy, this new plant is equipped with two groups of Sulzer gas turbines, of a capacity of 10,000 kw each. Running as they do at a relatively low temperature, these turbines have the advantage of being able to operate at full capacity within the space of only ten minutes.

A novelty that will delight gourmets.

One may be a gourmet, and yet not know how to prepare certain favourite dishes. In order to be of assistance to people who enjoy highly spiced dishes, but are unable to prepare them themselves, a Swiss firm has put the "Parigrill" on the market. This is a composition of spices and flavours which have been judiciously selected and mixed into a stabilised vegetable mass. Spread on meat, just before it is served, "Parigrill" gives it the delicious savour which has been responsible for the success of the so-called "Café de Paris" steak. Sold in plastic bags, the contents of which are sufficient for putting on to a dozen beefstakes, or else in containers for big users, this new seasoning can be kept — in a cold place if possible — for six to eight months without the risk of spoiling. It is particularly suitable for adding a relish to all roast meats, to poultry, fish, sauces, etc.

Big order for Swiss Industry from French Railways.

The French National Railway Company has given an order for nine rectifier locomotives to the "S.A. des Ateliers de Sécheron" at Geneva, and to the "Société suisse pour la construction de Locomotives et de Machines" at Winterthur. The locomotives belong to the so-called "bi-frequency" type, having a capacity of 690 h.p., which can be supplied, indifferently, with single-phase currents of various frequencies. They will be equipped with rectifiers based on mercury vapour, possessing an atmosphere of light gases, which have been perfected by the Genevese firm, and which are capable of functioning at very low temperatures, for instance, -40° Fahrenheit. This order has been possible owing to credits granted by two important Swiss banks, within the framework of the new Swiss law on guarantees against export risks.

The Swiss federal staff at the end of 1959.

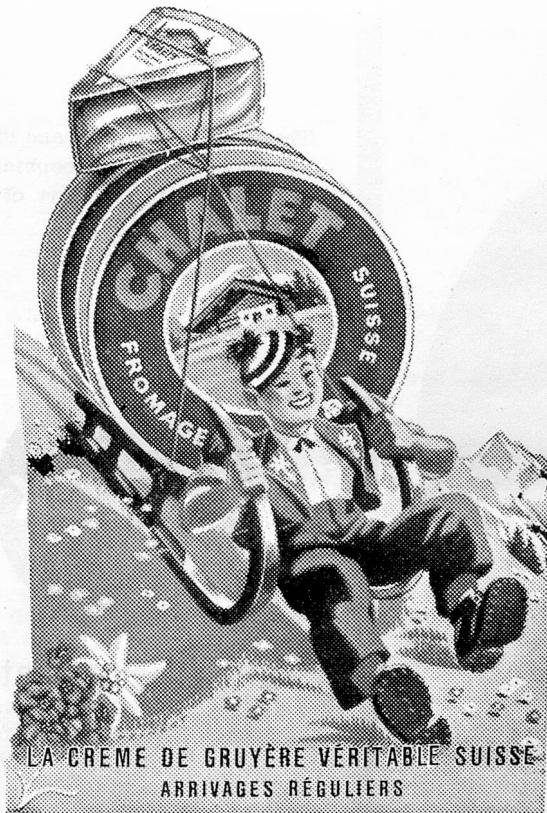
At the end of last year the figure for the personnel of the Confederation amounted to 105,025 persons, of which total 23,639 persons were employed in the various departments. The Administration of the Swiss Posts, Telegraph and Telephones had 36,371 employees, whilst that of the Federal Railways had 39,713.

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