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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 Swiss Government is to ask Parliament to grant a credit of sixty-six million francs for the purchase of one hundred Mark V Centurion British-made tanks from South Africa. The demand will be considered by Parliament during its next session, in September.

The tanks are to be sold with a full supply of ammunition and a complete stock of spare parts. The Centurions are new and have been driven only the 300 miles which represents the yearly routine mileage required to keep them in running order. South Africa, it is said, no longer needs the fifty-ton tanks, owing to the complete transformation of British policy towards Imperial defence.

* * *

The Federal Council has bestowed upon Dr. Richard Aman, *Chef du Protocol*, the title of Minister *ad personam*.

* * *

Mr. Ernst Kurt, Swiss Consul in Tangier, has been elected Head of the Swiss General Consulate in La Paz, with promotion to the rank of Consul-General. Kurt was born in 1905 in Roggwil, and entered the service of the Federal Political Department in 1935. In 1958 he was appointed Consul in Tangier.

* * *

Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary-General of the United Nations, has thanked the Swiss Government for the immediate and generous help rendered to the population of the Congo.

* * *

An agreement has been signed between Switzerland and India which will enable Swiss banks to grant India an initial credit of 100 million Swiss francs (over £8m.), to be used for the purchase by India of Swiss machinery and other industrial equipment.

* * *

The Federal Council has appointed Mr. Jacques Knüsi, at present Vice-Consul at Helsinki, to the post

of Swiss Consul in Salisbury (Rhodesia), in succession to Consul Albert Wyler.

Consul Knüsi was born in Adliswil, and entered the service of the Federal Political Department in 1940. He held former appointments in Toulouse, Baghdad, New Orleans and San Francisco.

* * *

The Swiss Federal Railways carried 18.1 million passengers in the month of June 1960, or 500,000 fewer than in June 1959. Receipts: 32.6 million frs.

Goods traffic is returned at 2.52 million tons, which is 200,000 tons more than during the same period in 1959. Receipts: 48.8 million francs. (June 1959: 44.8 million francs.)

Cantonal

The commune of Erstfeld (Ct. Schwyz) has bestowed honorary citizenship on "Landammann" Hans Villiger and his family. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Dr. jur. Robert Hauser, of Wädenswil, has been elected to the post of States Prosecutor for the canton of Zurich, in succession to Mr. Wilfratt. Dr. jur. Arthur Bachmann was elected "Ausserordentlicher" States Prosecutor for the canton of Zurich. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Five persons were found in a house at the Entlisbergstrasse in Wollishofen (Zurich), the occupier being on holiday. On the arrival of a policeman, who requested the intruders to accompany him to the police station, one of the men took up a threatening attitude, whereupon the policeman fired his revolver slightly injuring the would-be aggressor, who was taken to hospital in an ambulance. On the arrival of reinforcements the four other men were arrested; all of them had previous convictions for blackmail, embezzlement and larceny. [A.T.S.]

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THE COMMITTEE.

A four-year-old boy and the driver of a tractor conveying a lioness of the Olympia circus from Uster to Pfäffikon were seriously injured when they were mauled by the beast. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Professor Dr. C. Jung, the eminent psychologist, has been made an honorary member of the commune of Küsnach (Zurich) on the occasion of his 85th birthday. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A motorist causing an accident whilst driving under the influence of alcohol was sentenced by the district court of Zurich to fourteen days' imprisonment. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Karl Haefeli (36), of Zurich, when bathing in the lake of Zurich, was killed when he was struck by a motor-boat. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The well-known tourist village of Wengen in the Lauterbrunnen valley (Bernese Oberland) has celebrated the 100th anniversary of its foundation as a tourist centre. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The accounts of the canton of Berne for 1959 close with a credit balance of 102,726.—francs. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The commune of Rueschegg (Ct. Berne) has recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of its foundation. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The Berne magistrates court sentenced a Thun chauffeur to one month's imprisonment for driving a car while under the influence of alcohol. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Dr. R. Barras (34) has been elected president of Court No. 2 for the Saane district, in succession to Mr. Georges Carrel. [A.T.S.]

* * *

M. Reymond Privet (52), of Sorens, lost his life while gathering Edelweiss on the Vanil-du-Van. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A woman motor-cyclist (24) was sentenced by the Liestal Court to six weeks' imprisonment and a fine of 50.—francs for driving while under the influence of alcohol. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Investigations into the Belgian coach accident in Barga (Ct. Schaffhausen), when thirty-one British tourists were injured, have shown that the coach brakes were faulty. [A.T.S.]

Burglars who entered business offices at the Parkstrasse in Baden, got away with 10,000.—francs.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

Mr. Karl Gysin (62), of Freidorf-Muttenz, was killed when he fell from a train between Olten and Prattelen. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Luciano Motta (28), post clerk of Artore, and Mariangela Masi (27), a nurse, of Lugano, were drowned in the lake of Lugano, near Lanchetta, when their rowing-boat overturned. Both were non-swimmers. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Anna Vanbianchi (18), a waitress, of Cantone (Ct. Ticino), fell to her death when gathering Edelweiss on a mountain-side above Olivone. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Thirty-four Swiss youths and girls who were camping at Locarno have been sent home by the police, who raided their camp after two days of rowdiness. They were accused by the police of having stopped motor-cars and assaulted the occupants. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Jewellery valued at \$10,000 and \$1,000 in cash were stolen from an American visitor at an hotel in Ascona. A twenty-two-year-old youth of French nationality was arrested by the police; both jewellery and cash were recovered. [A.T.S.]



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Gilbert Mayor, of Sion, lost his life whilst mountaineering in the Ecandies-Massiv (Ct. Valais). [A.T.S.]

* * *

Burglars entered the building of the "Gewerbestrasse" in Martigny and blew open a safe. Several thousand francs are missing. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Jacques Nezentin, of Montreux, a youth of seventeen, accidentally shot and killed his fourteen-year-old brother whilst handling a loaded rifle. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Madame Marie Callombin, of Bagnes (Ct. Valais) has celebrated her 100th birthday, on which occasion she has been presented by the government of the canton of Valais with the traditional easy-chair. [A.T.S.]

DEATHS

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Ernst Müller, president of the "Berner-Oberländischen Raffeisen Verbandes", in Därstetten, at the age of 60.

Joseph Ritz, professor at the secondary school Brigue, in Brigue, aged 42. The deceased was editor of the "Wallisser Volksfreund", and a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Valais.

Hans Siegrist, for twenty years editor of the "Volksfreund" Flawil, in Müllheim, at the age of 74.

Dr. Fridolin Putscher, from 1902 to 1936 a teacher of Greek, Latin and German at the "Bündner Kantonsschule" Chur, in Chur, aged 84.

Heinrich Fuhrer, a well-known mountain guide, in Gstaad, at the age of 84.

Fräulein Marie Affolter, in Leuzigen, at the age of 100.

André Aubert, banker, in Geneva, aged 75. The deceased was president of the Swiss American Society.

Henry Alexandre Crowe, president of the board of "Crowe & Co., A.G.", Forwarding Agents, Basle, at the age of 60.

Dr. Walter Boesiger, from 1923 to 1938 a member of the government of the canton of Berne, in Berne, at the age of 82. He presided over the cantonal government from 1926 to 1927, and again from 1935 to 1936.

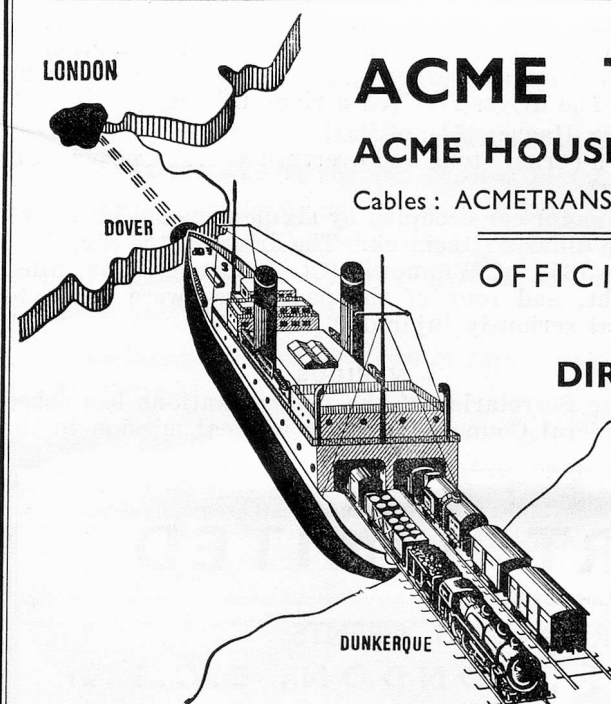
Octave Kramer, former general secretary of the Nestlé concern, in Corseaux, aged 80. The deceased was a co-founder of the Vaudois Press Association, and from 1949 to 1956 Director of the Jewish Museum in Vevey.

Dr. Ignatius Hübscher, preacher at the cloisters of Einsiedeln, in Einsiedeln, at the age of 59. [A.T.S.]

ANNIVERSARIES

Georges Rigassi (75), of Landarenca (Ct. Grisons), from 1910 to 1917 on the editorial staff of the Agence Telegr. Suisse, Basle, from 1918 to 1945 editor and director of the "Gazette de Lausanne", and from 1943 president of the board of the "Agence Telegr. Suisse" Berne. For twenty-eight years he was a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Vaud.

Arnold Kuebler (70), of Wiesendangen nr. Winterthur, author, actor, and at one time editor of the "Zürcher Illustrierte" and the periodical "Du".



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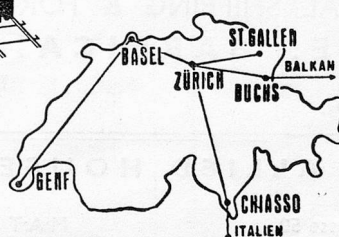
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His best known play is "Schuster Aiolos", and of his novels "Oepi von Wasenwachs" is best known.

[A.T.S.]

LEGACY

The late Fräulein Luise Wipf, who recently died in Marthalen, at the age of 81, has left 10,000.— francs to the "Kindergarten of Marthalen (Zurich).

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

A motor-car travelling at excessive speed on the road between Daenikon and Daellikon (Ct. Zurich) skidded and overturned on the outskirts of Daellikon. The driver and the four passengers were thrown out of the car. One of them, Walter Schumacher (19), of Buchs, was killed, and the other four were seriously injured.

A sports-car carrying four persons, travelling at high speed on the road from Ecublens to Echandens (Ct. Vaud) crashed and overturned. M. Jean-Louis Philibert (37), commercial traveller, of Lausanne, was killed, and Gustav Lehmann (58) (the driver), of Lausanne, and Mlle. C. Philibert (23) were seriously injured and were taken to hospital.

Alexandre Moulet, a postal employee, of Geneva, was killed and two other men were seriously injured when a motor-car crashed into a pillar at the Eysine-Crans road.

When a motor-car crashed into a tree near Schindellegi (Ct. Schwyz) both the driver, Paul Wyss, of Wollerau, and his passenger, Karl Fuchs, of Untermühle nr. Wollerau, were killed.

A motor-cyclist, Hans Thierstein (63), merchant, of St. Gall, collided with a motor-car whilst overtaking at Parpan (Ct. Grisons) and received fatal injuries.

Karl Trüb (46), of Wetzikon, a passenger in a motor-car travelling from Lachen in the direction of Zurich, was killed when the car crashed into a stone wall. The driver received serious injuries.

Max Haener (54), of Basle, was killed when his car struck a corner stone and overturned near Therwil (Ct. Aargau).

A motor-car occupied by six persons collided with an iron pillar at Rheineck. The driver of the car, Emil Cottier (65), of Wünnewil (Ct. Fribourg), was killed outright, and four of the passengers were taken to hospital seriously injured. [A.T.S.]

VARIOUS

The Secretariat of the United Nations has asked the Federal Council to send a medical mission to the

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Congo republic to take over the management of the Kintango hospital in Leopoldville.

The Swiss Red Cross — which was charged with organising the mission — has sent a delegation consisting of Dr. med. Jean Maurice Rubli (Zurich), as chief of the delegation, Bruno Wiesendanger, apothecarian, and Otto Burkhart, quartermaster. [A.T.S.]

* * *

On 31st July 1960 the number of television subscribers in Switzerland attained the figure of 106,277. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Visitors enjoying the late summer on the shores of Lake Lucerne will find that between 13th August and 8th September scarcely a day goes by without at least one item of the International Musical Festival taking place in Lucerne. For nearly four weeks, one artistic event follows hard upon another, and once again every taste is catered for in the richly diversified programme. The first four symphony concerts will be given on 13th, 17th, 20th and 27th August, by the Festival Orchestra under the baton of Ferenc Fricsay, Sir John Barbiroli, Karl Böhm, and Lorin Maazel. The same orchestra is to play in the grand choral and orchestral concert to be given on 24th August, with Rafael Kubelik as conductor. Apart from these festival concerts and other recitals the first performance in German of the English play, "The Aspen Papers", by Michael Redgrave (from a story by Henry James), will be given on 21st August in the Municipal Theatre and repeated on 23rd, 25th, 29th and 31st August. The Museum of Fine Arts started early with an exhibition entitled "Italian Painters of To-day", which opened on 2nd August.

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By SIR ARNOLD LUNN

It was in 1933 that I first met Arnold Glatthard, the founder of the famous Mountaineering School at Rosenlaui. I had skied across the Grosse Scheidegg and I asked the Hotel at Meiringen to find two young men who could carry the skis of our party up to Mägisalp. In due course Arnold Glatthard turned up with another young man, his brother if I remember rightly. It was soon obvious that the Hotel had chosen wisely for not only did these young men do the job for which they were paid, carrying our skis as well as their own up to the alp, but they entered whole hearted into the fun and excitement of a good day's ski-ing in the hills. "Gladly", as he was called, was not only a convenience but also a companion.

That was in 1933; two years later he won the blue ribbon of Alpine ski-ing, the Arlberg-Kandahar, held that year at Mürren. He had arrived. Meanwhile he had taken out his patent as a mountain guide and also as a ski-teacher, but it was only in 1939, the fateful year when the Second World War began, that Glatthard founded his mountaineering school at Rosenlaui.

He could not have chosen a more beautiful place. Indeed Rosenlaui was one of the first mountain resorts to become famous for its beauty. In the eighteenth century there were two classic mountain expeditions, to visit the glaciers of Grindelwald or the glaciers of Chamonix. Those who chose the first of these tours frequently crossed the Great Scheidegg from Grindelwald to Meiringen via Rosenlaui and thence proceeded over the Jochpass to Engelberg. Archdeacon Coxe reversed the direction and in the course of one of his alpine journeys, crossed the Scheidegg from Meiringen and wrote an attractive account of Rosenlaui. A little later Byron and Wordsworth both crossed the Scheidegg from Grindelwald. And it was not only travellers who came this way but artists. The view of the Wetterhorn and Wellhorn from the meadow on the approach to Rosenlaui from Meiringen was one of the classic views beloved by painters in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Lory, a master of the delicate art of the coloured aquatint, and Calame both chose this view.

It was not, of course, only or mainly for its beauty that Arnold Glatthard chose Rosenlaui for his school. Rosenlaui has long been famous as a mountaineering centre. It was from Rosenlaui that three Meiringen guides climbed the Wetterhorn on September 1st 1844, but it is the limestone range of the Engelhörner which to-day attracts the climbers, for these peaks offer the widest range of climbs from excessively severe to comparatively easy. The exploration of this range began comparatively late and it was not until September 21st 1876 that the Gross-Engelhorn was first climbed by Seymour Hoare with the guides Johann von

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