

# News at random

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# NEWS AT RANDOM

## Federal

Mr. Henry Valloton, former president of the National Council and former Swiss Minister to Rio de Janeiro, Stockholm and Brussels successively, has celebrated his 70th anniversary.

\* \* \*

The first third of 1961 showed an increase in Swiss hotel and pension guests of 16 per cent over the same period of 1960. French tourists played a major part in the increase — their overnight stays jumped 42 per cent above last year.

\* \* \*

Mr. Chikao Honda, a Japanese journalist who recently visited our country, has said he was greatly impressed by Swiss neutrality. Said Mr. Honda: "Japan should become the Switzerland of Asia".

\* \* \*

The Swiss who became the world's leading psychologist and psychiatrist, Carl Gustav Jung, was buried near Zurich. He died recently at his home in Kusnacht at the age of 85. Prof. Jung, founder of the Jung Institute in Zurich and author of many important books on philosophy and psychology, was born on 26th July 1875 in canton Thurgau. For several years in the early part of this century he worked closely with Sigmund Freud, but the two later became leaders of divergent groups in the realm of psychology and psycho-analysis.

\* \* \*

Six members of the Royal Society of London, who were invited by the Pro Helvetia Foundation, have arrived in Zurich. The aim of their visit is to strengthen Anglo-Swiss co-operation in the field of science.

\* \* \*

A Swiss has made a record-breaking crossing of the Potomac, travelling about a foot above the water. Carl Weiland, the Swiss engineer, was aboard the "Ilen", the air-powered boat he designed which travelled at 90 kilometres an hour over Lake Zurich a year ago.

\* \* \*

The organization of the Swiss Aid to Tibet, which was founded in 1960 and which has collected the sum of 135,000 francs, has just issued an illustrated booklet entitled "The Sufferings of a People".

\* \* \*

Minister-Councillor of the Swiss Embassy in Washington, Mr. Ernesto Thalmann, has been appointed Swiss observer to UNO.

## Cantonal

In our last issue we reported the murder in Lucerne of Lina Wiget, a tobacconist assistant. The police have now identified and arrested the suspected murderer, Robert Stirnimann.

\* \* \*

Zurich fire brigade was called out ten times in one day last week — to catch bees. The appearance of a second queen bee caused a split in a bee colony of 30,000 to 40,000 "workers". The splinter group which followed the intruder was doused by the firemen, who later sold their catch to local beekeepers.

\* \* \*

The number of cars in circulation in the canton of Neuchâtel has increased in the last five years by six thousand to the total of 17,170.

\* \* \*

A Swiss lorry driver has just completed the equivalent of his 50th trip round the world, without leaving Switzerland. His driving log (during 37 years with a firm in Wil, St. Gall) shows the equivalent of fifty times the earth's circumference — 43,322 kilometres. And all without accident!

\* \* \*

"Magnified", a new film about postage stamps, produced by the Swiss Condor Society, is meeting with great success everywhere in Switzerland.

\* \* \*

Geneva's Nimrods must pass a "course for new hunters" before they may pursue the canton's game during the September-February hunting season. A new decree by the Council of State brings the Geneva regulations in line with those in effect in Berne, Neuchâtel, Valais and Vaud.

\* \* \*

Wine-growers in Valais are furious after vast areas of their vineyards on the Valais plains have been destroyed by helicopters. This followed a federal decision passed on 6th June 1958. The government explained the necessity to take these measures to protect the wine production industry which was being threatened by new vineyards planted without legal permission.

\* \* \*

Interlaken's great outdoor "William Tell" will begin with nine performances in the month of July.

\* \* \*

Derived from the American beauty farms, a beauty centre has opened in Lugano. It is the first of its kind on the Continent and has strong medical backing.

\* \* \*

A group of scientists led by Bernese professor Th. Huegi will soon take up research in the Naters region of Valais, where they believe lies a uranium belt.

\* \* \*

Rudolf Weisker, the actor, died in Lucerne recently at the age of 81. Born in Germany, Weisker acquired Swiss nationality in 1938 and has since been one of the famed personalities of Lucerne's Municipal Theatre.

(Most of the above items were received from the A.T.S. News Service.)

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