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# The Swiss Observer

16664  
FOUNDED IN 1919 BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

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

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

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### NEWS AT RANDOM

#### Federal

The Federal Council has announced that Mr. Victor Nef, former Ambassador to Canada, will retire on 1st April. He will be replaced in Ottawa by Mr. Alfred Zehnder.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council has also announced the nomination of Mr. Max Troendle, who was formerly in Tokyo, as Swiss Ambassador in Moscow. Mr. Troendle's successor in Japan has been chosen in the person of Mr. Jean de Rham.

\* \* \*

Despite a slight reduction in our exports to the United States, last year our watch industry maintained its prosperous position. Our watch exportation still represents 15 per cent of our total exports.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council has approved a project opening a global credit of 1,016 million francs over a number of years to come, for buying war armaments.

\* \* \*

Mr. Albert Morant, born in St. Gall in 1912, has been elected general secretary of the P.T.T.

\* \* \*

The Swiss Government has emphatically denied the rumour that Mr. Max Petitpierre has the intention of handing in his resignation.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council has decided to carry on its help to the Congo. A sum of one million francs will be spent to cover the cost of the Swiss medical mission to that country.

\* \* \*

After having been more than two years in New York as Swiss observer at the UN, Mr. Felix Schnyder has returned to Geneva to take up new duties as the UN high commissioner for the refugees.

\* \* \*

A big spy scandal is currently raging in Berne, where several Czech citizens are rumoured to have been spying in Switzerland, the investigations continue.

Two of President Kennedy's sisters, Mrs. Lawford and Mrs. Smith, recently arrived in Switzerland to spend winter holidays.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council had lately to look into another spying affair. Two Swiss have since been arrested. They apparently tried to obtain military information for a country behind the Iron Curtain.

\* \* \*

An agreement will soon be signed by our Ambassador in Madrid and the Spanish Foreign Minister regarding the question of Spanish labour in Switzerland, which has been discussed recently by Swiss and Spanish delegations.

\* \* \*

During the "British Week" in Basel Mr. Rudolf Speich, chairman of the Swiss Bank Corporation, and Sir James Hutchinson, president of the British Association of Chambers of Commerce in London, gave lectures about their respective countries' attitudes

### CITY SWISS CLUB

#### Dinner

Tuesday, 7th March 1961 at 6.30 for 7 p.m.

at the

Dorchester Hotel (Orchid Suite), Park Lane,

W.1.

After Dinner The Rt. Hon. Lord Nathan, P.C.,

T.D., F.B.A., will give an address on:

THE HOUSE OF LORDS AND ITS

FUNCTION

IN THE BRITISH CONSTITUTION

THE COMMITTEE