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The accounts of the Solothurn-Zollikofen-Bern-Bahn ended with a slightly smaller deficit than in 1964: Fr.1,427,416.—. The Canton paid subsidies to the amount of 11½ million francs to the waste water plants. New projects are under construction. The Canton will need 62 million francs for a new hospital in Solothurn, as well as large amounts for the new cantonal school in Olten and a training college in Solothurn.

The annual accounts of the town of **Solothurn** showed a surplus of revenue of nearly 1¼m. francs. The *Bürgerspital*, on the other hand, made a big loss in 1965: Fr.2,162,158.—.

It has proved a good thing that several new hotels have been built in recent years, as tourist statistics show an increase in arrivals as well as in the number of nights spent in Solothurn hotels.

Some Roman remains have been found, a wall near the main post office, and a kiln South of the station. The new *Regens* of the Priests' Seminary in Solothurn is Dr. Otto Wuest, up to now General Secretary of the *Schweizerischer Katholischer Volkverein*.

A new factory of steel and glass has been opened at **Bellach** (Agathon A.G.). The industrial Commune of **Biberist** is being re-planned, taking into account an estimated increase in today's population of 7,600 to 16,000.

1,400 visitors and 650 performers from all parts of the world attended a *Hochschulwoche* on eurythmics (now known about 50 years) at the Goetheanum at **Dornach**. The Commune Assembly of **Egerkingen** decided unanimously to build a school with a beginners' swimming pool at a cost of 3.7m. francs. The "Bulletin Romand de Granges et Soleure" at **Grenchen** celebrated its silver jubilee. Werner Sonderegger has been appointed new manager of the airfield. **Guensberg**, too, is to have a new school at a cost of 2m. francs.

Roman pottery and walls have been discovered during excavations at **Laupersdorf**. **Olten** is spending large sums on building, 32m. for projects already under construction, 25.9m. for planned objects and 9.8m. for further proposed schemes, not including nearly 5m. francs required for building work connected with traffic and road improvements. More visitors from Holland have come to Olten, but on the whole, tourist trade has gone back quite considerably. The tannery, 70 years old, has stopped production. The Machine factory Giroud-Olma A.G. celebrated its centenary in the hall of the Knights of Castle Wartburg-Saehli.

The new water pumping station at **Trimbach** has become operational. The **Wasseramt** has celebrated its quingentenary. The twenty-four Communes took part in a pageant at Kriegstetten on 4th September. A jubilee book has been published. The only castle in the Wasseramt, the tower of Halten, has been saved from decay and been turned into a museum.

**Zuchwil** is to have a sport-and-leisure centre with baths, ice rink, hockey field and stadium plus grandstand.

#### AARGAU

The cantonal accounts for 1965 ended in a loss of 21.18m. francs (revenue: 227.81m. francs). The accounts for road construction showed a loss of 15.68m. francs, expenditure standing at 104.2m. The extension of the Cantonal School in Aarau will require over 12m. francs. The *Regierungsrat* proposes an increase in the capital of the Aargau Cantonal Bank from 25 to 40m. The Canton will make an annual contribution of 25,000 francs to the running costs of the Philipp-Albert-Stapfer-Haus on Castle Lenzburg.

The Cantonal Parliament has accepted an increase of 40% in the motor vehicle tax. The new *Rebbaukommissär* is Dipl. Ing. Agr. Ernst Naef (Rheineck).

A new type of farming settlement has been started in the Aargau; already 37 new farms have been built at very reasonable prices owing to rationalised construction and mass-produced units.

The summer session of the Commune Assembly in **Aarau** had to be cancelled due to lack of quorum. At the second attempt, enough citizens attended and defeated a proposal to have a communal TV aerial in the Old Town. The credit for a Civil Defence Post in the Goldern district was granted. The traditional youth festival in July was a great success, but a few days later, the *Stadtmühle*, over 100 years old, was completely gutted by fire; the damage is estimated at over a million francs.

At **Aarburg**, there is considerable opposition against a railway project visualising a viaduct in the middle of the town, which is expected to spoil the river banks. **Baden** has a "train monument" in the shape of an old steam engine from 1912; it has been reconditioned with the help of retired engine drivers. The Catholic "Pfarrkirche" (15th century) will be renovated. Baden now gets its gas from the Zurich gas works which provide several Aargau Communes with poison-free gas. At the end of September, a "Mainzer Woche" was organised in Baden.

The old church of **Boswil** and the vicarage have been turned into an art centre where artists can work temporarily or permanently. Federal Councillor Tschudi was present at the inaugural festival in which the Zurich Chamber Orchestra took part. At **Mellingen**, the largest tank in the country is being constructed at a cost of 70m. francs, to take stocks of petrol as a precaution in case of war.

Mrs. Lidia Keller-Gautschi of **Reinach** has made some 12 million *Stumpen* in the sixty years that she has been working in the cigar factory of Hediger Söhne, without ever missing a single day. The new signalling installation has come into operation at **Rheinfelden**. The "Seetaler", local paper published at **Seengen**, celebrated its centenary early in September. Industrialisation of the former fishing village of **Sisseln** is being helped by the Basle chemical industries; a further sum of Fr.100,000.— was given by Hoffmann-La Roche towards the school now being built. The church of **Villmergen** is 100 years old; a commemoration service of its foundation was held on 5th September.

**Windisch** has a new district school, the 36th in the Canton of Aargau. New Roman remains have been found, the walls of two barracks, a road, an oven and coins. **Wohlen** has awarded honorary citizenship to Hans Roth for his 25 years of activities in the Commune Council. The Commune of **Wuerenlingen** has voted 4m. francs for an extension of the school and a new gymnasium. 25m. francs will be required for the development of **Zurzach** Spa.

(Based on news received by courtesy of Agence Télégraphique Suisse and "Basler Nachrichten".)

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