

It happened in the cantons of Fribourg, Neuchâtel and Schaffhausen

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ANGLO-SWISS NEWS

Special arrangements exist between Great Britain and Switzerland as regards the exchange of student trainees. In 1966, 808 Swiss *stagiaires* worked in the U.K. as against 837 in the previous year. A total of 4,211 ordinary working permits were issued to Swiss nationals in 1966.

For over 50 years, the Ski Club of Great Britain has been holding Ski Tests in all major centres throughout the Alps, so again this season, when the Silver and Gold awards are contested for.

On 24th February, Lieut.-Col. Thomas Roe (British), was sentenced to five years imprisonment, loss of civic rights, a fine and ten years of prohibited entry into Switzerland. The Court in Lausanne found him guilty of fraud, forgery and frivolous bankruptcy.

The Union Bank of Switzerland is to open an office in London; it is already represented in New York, Tokio, Beirut, Johannesburg and Buenos Aires.

The Federal Council has rejected the application by Bertrand Russel to hold an "International War Crimes Tribunal" in Geneva on the grounds that it would have political tendencies, did not serve any real peacemaking and was not a competent, internationally acknowledged judicial body.

Henry Purcell's ballet opera "The Fairy Queen" had a first performance in Switzerland early in March, when the Berne Municipal Theatre put it on show.

The "Times" of 7th March had a feature article by Sir Solly Zuckerman on "Ciba century a record of scientific exchange". This was in recognition of the Ciba Foundation's hundredth symposium which started on that day in London. Ciba Ltd. of Basle launched the enterprise in 1947 in order to promote international co-operation in medical and chemical research.

(Mainly A.T.S.)

DID YOU KNOW ...

... that the Basle Cosmograph Sebastian Muenster (1488-1552) is on the 100-DM bank note.

... that the first fully automatic milk substitute manufacturing plant in Europe is at Sursee.

... that the quarry owners of the Ticino have donated 1,000 tons of granite free of charge for the rebuilding of the Lido walls in Venice.

... that a new experiment which Migros started at Wollishofen has proved successful: customers do their own cash registering, which saves hours of waiting.

... that the average Swiss is supposed to consume over 9 kg. of cheese and 5 kg. of meat *per annum*.

... that Mozart spent a fortnight in Zurich in October 1766, he was then 9 years old.

... that three Swiss posters won first prizes at the international competition by the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto.

... that the record "Paroles de Romande" of *Radio de la Suisse Romande* won the "Grand Prix International du Disque".

... that the Swiss fruit growers have given away 50,000 apples in a number of towns, in the campaign against dental decay.

... that the first bank in Europe to open a completely electronic computer installation with teleprocessing is the Cantonal Bank of Lucerne.

... that a DC-8 aircraft of Swissair flew the distance New York-Zurich for the first time under six hours on 19th February.

... that Paul Wild at Zimmerwald near Berne discovered a new comet in the "Camelopardalis" constellation.

(A.T.S. and "Basler Nachrichten".)

IT HAPPENED IN THE CANTONS OF FRIBOURG, NEUCHÂTEL AND SCHAFFHAUSEN

FRIBOURG

The budget of the Canton of Fribourg for 1967 estimates a deficit of nearly 5m. francs, revenue expected to amount to not quite 144m. The accounts of the Cantonal Bank showed a surplus of 2.75m. francs.

The Cantonal Hospital is to have a subterranean operating theatre and civil defence rooms. A credit has been granted to hand over the Kloster Altenryf to a Foundation which will be responsible for the renovation estimated at 3.36m. francs.

New Members of Parliament and Government of the Canton were elected on 4th and 18th December (for four years). Of the 130 members meeting for their first session on 30th December, 48 were new. The Conservative Christian Socialists have 56 seats (73 hitherto), Independent Christian Socialists 8 (0), Radical Democrats 34 (32), Social Democrats 21 (13), Farmers 8 (12) and Reformed People's Party of the Sarine District 3 (3). The new President is François Mauron.

In the first elections for the Government, only Councillor of State G. Ducotterd was confirmed in office. The other six had to be chosen a fortnight later. The three new members are Dr. Arnold Waeber (Tax Inspector), Dr. Pierre Dreyer (head of a building company at Villars s/Gl.) and Dr. Max Aebischer (lawyer. The distribution as to

Parties remains as before. The President of the Cantonal Government is Councillor of State Claude Genoud.

The Collection organised by Swiss Catholics in aid of Fribourg University, amounted to Fr.1,193,634.—, over 27,000 francs more than last year.

The Fribourg Writers' Association celebrated its tenth anniversary and Adolph Rémy retired as Editor-in-Chief of the "Freiburger Nachrichten" after 46 years of service. His successor is lic. iur, Bruno Fasel.

The famous Gruyère cheese is made only on fourteen alpine pastures in the Canton.

The budget of the town of **Fribourg** is balanced at something over 20m. francs. A new home for mentally handicapped children was opened in the autumn, and the sixth parish church was inaugurated in the Jura district of the town in December. After the Cathedral had been "decorated" with a crane for 38 years, a helicopter removed it at the end of October, now that renovation work is completed.

The Telegraph Office is in a new pavilion of its own. The Circle for Literature and Commerce, the spiritual home of the Liberal Radical Party since 1874, celebrated its 150th anniversary.

The Commune Assembly of **Duedingen** granted a million francs for a theatre and concert hall by 182:148 votes. Every year since the beginning of the century,

GEORG FISCHER AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

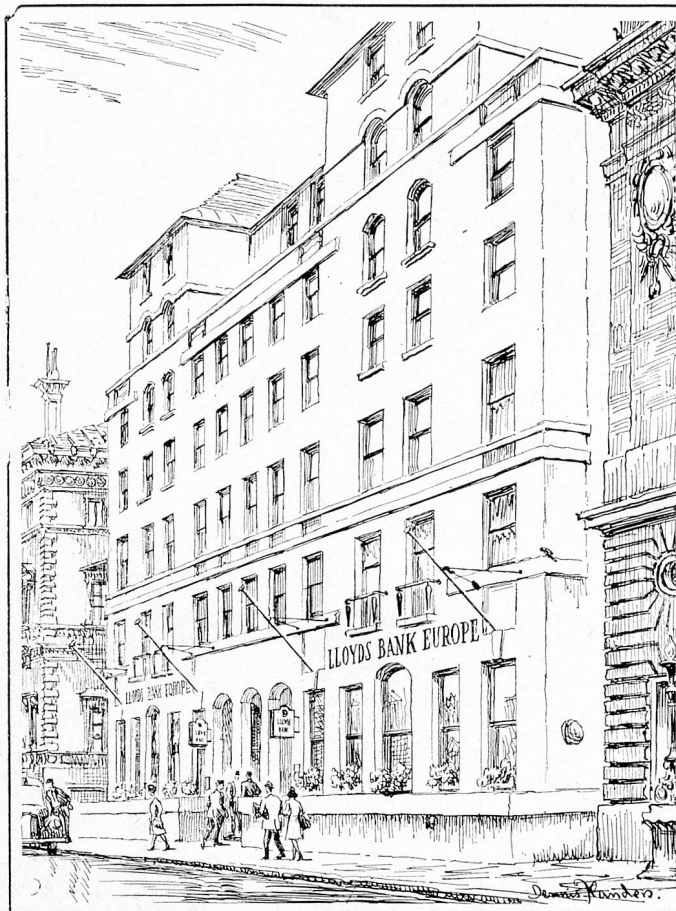
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amateur actors of the village have been giving creditable performances of classical plays, this year of Schiller's "Die Räuber".

The Dominican Convent at **Estavayer-le-Lac** celebrated its 650th anniversary last October. An agricultural domestic science college was opened in February at **Grange-neuve**; it is the new home of the Cantonal College founded in 1926.

Early in February, there was a serious fire and explosion at **Kerzers**, in which two men were killed and two seriously injured; it happened during asphaltting.

Near **Montagny**, a small girl was attacked by a huge eagle. Fortunately, some neighbours could kill the bird whose wingspan was over 2 metres.

The electorate of **Wuennwil** agreed to the construction of a new school centre at a cost of 3.8m. francs.

NEUCHÂTEL

On 1st March, Neuchâtel celebrated the 119th anniversary of the foundation of the Republic.

The annual accounts ended with a deficit of Fr. 5,808,647.—, revenue standing at just over 101,145 million francs. The estimated deficit for the present year is nearly 1½m., with revenue expected to be some 3m. francs higher than in 1966. The increase in salaries for the Canton's civil servants will be an additional 5.8m. francs.

The Government asked Parliament for permission to join the "Energie Nucléaire s.a." in Lausanne with a quarter of a million francs.

A new Pathological Institute has been opened in the hospital of "Des Cadolles". In December, the first 75 students graduated at the Technical Evening College opened three years ago. The *Drogistenschule* is to be enlarged as all classes are already full right up to 1971.

The new Cantonal Chemist is Henry Sollberger in succession to Francis Achermann. The Ethnological Museum of Neuchâtel received a valuable gift of ceramics and a collection of popular music from the Rumanian Institute for cultural relations with foreign countries.

At the end of the year, the population of the town of **Neuchâtel** numbered 36,695, 207 more than in the previous year. Of these, 5,762 are foreigners.

The new Committee Chairman of the Winegrowers' Festival held early in October every year, is the Chancellor, Jean-Pierre Porchat, in succession to the late Henri Schaeffer. The motto for 1967 is "Chanson dans l'Air".

Of the 42,643 inhabitants of **La Chaux-de-Fonds** (201 more than in December of 1965), 8,051 are foreigners. 200 Swiss doctors visited the new hospital at the end of October. The theatre of the town has been completely renovated. The Director of the Louis Theatre, Jean Huguenin, has just celebrated his 40th anniversary as actor, producer and author.

Dr. phil. John Nussbaum has been teaching Latin, Greek and French at the *Gymnase* of the town for over 50 years, a rare jubilee. The General Council of La Chaux-de-Fonds has a married couple in its ranks, Mr. and Mrs. J. Huguenin (PdA). The daily paper "L'Effort" has become a weekly publication. At the same time, Miss Marguerite Boesch has retired after 55 years in journalism.

The 124 year-old church of the Protestant Parish of **Le Locle**, which is derelict, has been sold to the Salvation Army. They will construct a seven-storey building with offices, halls and 20 flats for old people. In October, representatives of the watch part manufacturing firm of Bergeon & Cie, gathered from all parts of the world to commemorate the foundation of the firm 175 years ago. The "Feuille d'Avis des Montagnes" has joined "L'Im-

partial"; the former was one of the oldest Swiss dailies dating back to 1806.

SCHAFFHAUSEN

In 1966, 65,700 visitors spent 125,700 nights in the Canton of Schaffhausen, 1,100 and 5,700 more than in the previous year. Two-thirds of the visitors came from abroad.

The budget for 1967 estimated a deficit of 3.5m. francs, which has now been cut down to 2.7m., this after a 2-million deficit in 1965.

Hospital construction in the Canton goes on; apart from enlarging the Cantonal Hospital, a home for chronic diseases is being built, and now 6.7m. francs are needed for extending the psychiatric clinic Breitenau.

The new head of the Cantonal Government is *Baudirektor* Ernst Lieb (BGB), and the Cantonal Parliament is presided over by Dr. Ernst Steiner (BGB). The *Grosse Rat* has declared in favour of political rights for women; a plebiscite will have to be held. The Protestant Church Synod decided that women ministers could take office in the Canton.

The dialect writer Albert Baechtold (75), received an honorary award of Fr.5,000.—. Early in March, hydrophobia was found in some parts of the Canton.

In December, the electorate of the town of **Schaffhausen** (76% participation) granted Fr.381,000.— for the construction of a double kindergarden and well nigh twice that amount for improvements to the town's slaughter house. At the last meeting of the year, the Town Council elected the Social Democrat Eduard Keucher as President. The Council also debated the budget for 1967 which estimates revenue of 36.2 and expenditure of 38.4 million francs. At the first meeting in 1967 (24th February), the Municipal Council granted a contribution of Fr.400,000.— towards a home for old people planned by a private Foundation whose funds of 4.6m. francs were left by the late Pfr. F. Kuenzle (1962). The new home will have 46 single rooms and 30 flats. The Council also decided to increase water rates by 50%. The Fullach bridge has been given over to traffic; it is a new cross connection above the *Güterbahnhofgelände*. The bridge which cost 17m. francs, is to join up with the national road Barga-Schaffhausen-Winterthur.

The Schaffhausen-Schleitheim route where trams were replaced by buses in 1964 has been very successful. The town, too, is to have five more trolley buses. The Music School celebrated its centenary, as did the Municipal Theatre. Over 31,000 people visited the comprehensive exhibition of Hans Erni's works at the Allerheiligen Museum.

The small Commune of **Beggigen** unanimously agreed to erect a communal TV aerial, and the electorate of **Hallau** granted 2.5m. francs for the most Northern power and water works in Switzerland.

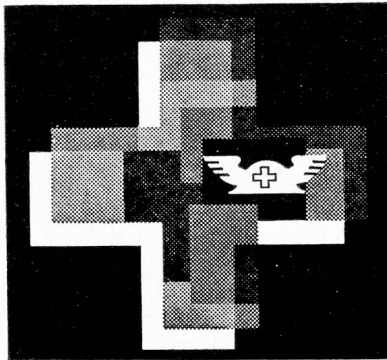
Hemishofen now has a new Commune President after three separate elections proved fruitless. The village has 83 voters; 69 went to the poll and finally elected Emil Leibacher. **Neuhausen** accepted a project to enlarge the school centre built in 1958 — 4.7m. francs are needed. The Commune Assembly of **Ramsen** agreed to a take-over of their *Spar- und Leihkasse* by the Cantonal Bank; the local bank had been badly harmed by the former manager who embezzled vast sums over a number of years; the case against him is still pending.

The first steamers landed at **Stein am Rhein** at the so-called "Salzstadel". That was replaced by a building in the last century, which is no longer adequate. The

Commune Council has granted the necessary credit to erect a new multi-purpose building to be used as offices for navigation company, customs, etc.

(Compiled from information received by courtesy of Agence Télégraphique Suisse.)

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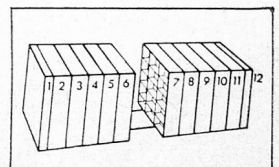
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