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The Canton is working out a plan to grant women the vote. The Aargau is not to realise the projects for a university in the near future. On the other hand, an Academy of Medicine and a *Bildungswissenschaftliches Institut* are being planned.

In December, the electorate agreed to a contribution by the Canton to the Swiss Epileptic Clinic in Zurich, but at the end of April, three new draft laws were rejected: road construction, civil defence and social housing. Voting participation was nearly 70%.

The Aargau Electricity Works celebrated their Golden Jubilee and the Church Synod its Centenary, whilst the "Aargauer Tagblatt" can look back on 120 years.

## COMMUNES

The town of **Aarau** has the most modern first-aid centre in Switzerland (Pestalozzistrasse). There are 300 beds underground, tanks for half a million litres of drinking water, power works and emergency hospital installations.

In the autumn, the large water purification plant of the Aarau region was inaugurated. At the end of March, there was a serious fire at the Cantonal Hospital, destroying the whole central heating, hot water plants and steam installations (kitchen).

At **Augst**, four beautiful bronze statuettes were excavated; they are on show at the workshop of the Roman Museum. The remains of a Roman bridge have been found at **Baden**. The town's new Honorary Citizen is Emil Reinle, in recognition of his merits in various economic matters concerning **Baden**.

Early in January, a fire destroyed part of the hotel "Rotes Haus" at **Brugg**; the damage is estimated at half a million francs. The new airfield at **Fricktal-Schupfart** was opened in November, created at the initiative of the Fricktal section of the Swiss Aero-Club. The Reformed Church at **Gebenstorf** is to be renovated. The Commune of **Haegglingen** has raised strong objections regarding the planned military training centre at Rueti.

Before Christmas, a large wholesale store was opened at **Hendschiken** near Lenzburg. It works on a cash-and-carry basis, and its range covers some 10,000 articles. The Commune Assembly of **Moehlin** granted a 5.4m.-franc credit for a new school and sports centre. Another school building project has been accepted at half that amount by the electorate of **Reitnau**. The renovation of the Protestant church building at **Unterkulm** has been started, and **Wettingen's** churchgoers have agreed to a credit of 2.6m. francs for a Commune centre which is to include a house for the verger. Nearly 2.7m. francs has been granted by the Inhabitants' Assembly of **Wildeggen/Moeriken** for a new school centre, and also a holiday home on the Bettmeralp.

**Zurzach's** Council Hall has been rebuilt; the outside is similar to the former Baroque building, but the inside is modern. When the old Hall was demolished, coins and other relics were found dating back to the first century. The old Baroque church at **Zuzgen** is being restored.

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

## RECENT DEATHS IN SWITZERLAND

The following deaths have been reported from Switzerland:

Hugo Schraner (83), Zurich, well-known publisher of several papers and periodicals such as "Limmattaler

Tagblatt" and "Altstetter Quartieranzeiger"; also editor and author.

Mrs. Berta Huggenberger-Schmid (85), Elgg (Zurich), widow of the late author Alfred Huggenberger who died in 1960 at the age of 92; during her husband's absence from home, she ran the farm herself; gifted writer in her own right who helped her husband considerably in his work.

Dr. h.c. Gustav Bohny (72), Basle, Honorary President of the Trade Federation of Basle, its President from 1939 to 1955; active in the trade union movement; master carpenter; for his merits in keeping labour peace, Basle University awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1936.

Otto Gfeller (72), Buempliz (Berne) ETH engineer and Chairman of the family concern Chr. Gfeller A.G.; former member of the Bernese Cantonal Parliament; founder of "Pro Telephon" in 1927.

Josef Supersaxo (52), Saas-Fee, owner of the oldest hotel of Saas-Fee.

Mrs. Claude Blancpain (Bertrande d'Astier de la Vigerie), Fribourg, wife of well-known industrialist and daughter of French General, prominent member of the French resistance; in Switzerland since 1942 when it became too dangerous for her in France; killed in a road accident.

Léon Desalmand (68), Bienne, former Municipal and Commune Councillor (Conservative).

Colonel von der Weid (73), Villars-sur-Marly and Berne, Commandant of the Federal *Militaerpfardeanstalt* from 1941 to 1956.

Domingo Sans y Bofill (57), Bienne, well-known watch manufacturer; left Spain in the civil war and became Swiss citizen.

Jean Eng (87), Berne, the last member of the "Oltener Aktionskomitee von 1918"; engine driver.

Charles de Loes (71), Geneva, banker, President of the Swiss Bankers' Federation from 1950 until 1965 when he was elected Hon. President.

Jakob Nüesch (76), Balgach (St. Gall), from 1936-1945 *Gemeindeammann*, well-known for his support of the embroidery industry; for some years National Councillor.

Alphonse Louis Marie Méterie (80), Lausanne, French writer; in Switzerland since 1951.

Dr. Etienne Gombo (76), Lausanne, former Hungarian Minister, first representative of Hungary in U.S.S.R.; active in the League of Nations; one of the Nazi opponents who took refuge in the Swiss Embassy in Budapest; broke with the Communists in 1946 and settled in Geneva where he looked after the Hungarian refugees.

## STOP PRESS NEWS

[A.T.S.]

Glarus is the first *Landsgemeindekanton* which has granted women partial voting rights.