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## RECENT DEATHS IN SWITZERLAND

The following deaths have been reported from Switzerland:

Former Federal Councillor Giuseppe Lepori (66), Bellinzona, member of the Federal Government from December 1954 to 1959, where he was in charge of the Department of Communications. From 1932 to 1936, Dr. Lepori was a member of the Bellinzona Commune Council and then of the Municipal Council for four years. From 1927 to 1940, he was a member of the Ticino Cantonal Parliament. Federal Councillor Lepori was a lawyer by profession and an honorary doctor of Fribourg University. From 1927 to 1935, he edited the "Popolo è Libertà", the official paper of the Conservative/Democratic Party. In 1956, Dr. Lepori presided at the European Conference of Transport Ministers. Due to serious illness, he had to retire from the Government before time. He was interested in problems of constitutional law and journalism, but also in literature and culture in general. He married in 1927 and had four children. Over 2,000 people were at the funeral at Massagno on 9th September. The Government was represented by three members, Federal Councillors Bonvin, Celio and Gnaegi. The former Federal Councillors Celio, Petitpierre, Streuli and Wahlen, the Ticinese Council of State *in corpore* and a number of personalities from public life (Army, Church, politics, etc.) attended.

Miss Caroline Craske (103), Montreux, originally from New York; she settled on the Lake of Geneva in 1945; oldest inhabitant of the town.

Dr. Max Staehelin (88), Basle, lawyer; from 1910 to 1928 Delegate of the Board of the "Schweizerische Treuhandgesellschaft"; from then to 1944 President of the Board of the Swiss Bank Corporation; after that (to 1958), he was President of the Board of CIBA A.G. Basle; in addition, he was on the board of other organisations, also Honorary Lecturer at the Faculty of Law of Basle University.

Joseph Germanier (61), Conthey, lawyer and notary; Commune President of Conthey and member of the Valais Cantonal Parliament.

Alfred Murist (102), Estavayer-le-Lac, father of 24 children.

Fred Kradolfer (65), from Zurich, but living in Lisbon since 1929; well-known painter.

Heinrich Oetiker (81), Zurich, architect, well known as "chief builder" of the Swiss National Exhibition in 1939; former Municipal Councillor of Zurich; for many years *Obmann* of the Zurich group of Swiss Architects and responsible for a number of settlements and public buildings in Zurich.

Theophil Bringolf (70), Neuchâtel, Manager of the Neuchâtel Cantonal Bank from 1947 to 1964.

Ernst Briner (63), Zurich, General Manager of the Art Institute Orell Fuessli in whose services he was for 44 years; Chairman of the Board of Effingerhof Printers at Brugg; *Handelsrichter* since 1958.

Ernst Preisig (82), Herisau, for many years Manager of the Appenzell-Ausserrhoden Bank.

Jakob Fenk (90), Altstetten, *Gemeindeammann* of Sennwald for six years, and member of the *Bezirksgericht* in the 'fifties; for 22 years (from 1925) member of the National Council (Social Democrats).

Miss Bertha Schnyder (81), Uttewil (Fribourg), founder and Director of the *Bänerinnenschule* at Uttewil and pioneer of farm women's training.

Robert Siegenthaler (54), Berne, Central Secretary of the Swiss Metal and Watch Workers' Federation; departmental head for education in the Delémont Commune. Eugen Scheech, Lucerne, from 1921 to 1958 President of the "Union Helvetia" and its Honorary President since 1958; well-known in catering employers' circles. Hermann Aeschbacher (68), Berne, former Manager of "Alpar" and founder member and President of "B.E.A.;" an Editor of ATS.

Karl Lauener (75), Altdorf, as seaman he travelled all over the world and was appointed mechanic by Sulzers aboard the luxury yacht belonging to the Egyptian Royal Family; King Farouk appointed him Captain in 1943; during his retirement at Altdorf, he played in the *Tellspiele*.

Joseph Hayoz (76), Tafers (Fribourg), former Commune President of Chevilles and member of the Fribourg Parliament.

Prof. Gerhard Saubermann (55), Basle, well-known ophthalmologist; at the Basle *Augenklinik* since 1939 and at Basle University since 1955.

Rolf Langnese (64), Zurich, Musical Director and composer at the Zurich *Schauspielhaus*, and member of its Board.

Rémy Ramelet (60), Lausanne, well-known architect; head of the Social Democrats of Lausanne and cantonal M.P. and Commune Councillor.

Ulrich Eggemberger (86), St. Gall, formerly in the embroidery industry and then Secretary of the Blue Cross; Commune Councillor and later National Councillor (Landesring).

[A.T.S.]

## FIGURES FOR THE SWISS PTT SERVICES

In a clearly presented folder, the general management of the Swiss Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Services recently published the most important figures for the year 1967. From the point of view of finance, the most interesting figures are those for running expenses (2,068.0 million) and receipts (2,087.0 million) as well as those indicating the degree of cover of postal expenditure, which amounts to 93% for letter post, 75% for parcel post, 106% for financial services, 114% for the telephone, 104% for the telegraph and telex, 85% for telediffusion (cable-borne radio programmes), 98% for radio broadcasts and 106% for television. Other interesting information includes the fact that the letter post delivered nearly 3 billion letters in 1967, while the number of parcels was 126.3 million; the postal cheque department numbered nearly 357,000 account holders on December 31st, with total assets of nearly 4½ billion francs. During the year, it handled 370 million transactions representing a total value of 376 billion francs. The telephone service, which has 1,637,000 subscribers, put through 1.9 billion calls. What the folder does not mention however is that the Swiss Post Office provides 15,000 public letterboxes, nearly 3,500 stamp and postcard machines (some even with automatic money changers) and 13,700 public call boxes, which represents one for every 441 inhabitants on an average. The density of public call boxes is therefore the highest in the world, both per sq. mile and per inhabitant; there is for example one telephone booth for every 732 inhabitants in Zurich and as many as one for every 260 inhabitants in Geneva.

[O.S.E.C.]