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for example, the loyalty to certain economic principles, apparent in the case of Upper Clyde, is mirrored by the circumstances as callous dogmatism.

The basic options remaining to Parliament are very simple. They are whether to instal a nationalised or planned economy, which is what the Left is supposed to want, or the maintenance and the "optimisation" of the present economic order, which is what the conservative parties want. No party represented at Parliament has yet asked for a suppression of the armed forces or neutrality, so that two other options are out of the list. The question of foreign labour and the eventuality of forced repatriation is the other great topic facing the country. But in whatever way the people will vote, it cannot be realistically expected that Parliament will be dosed in a way to allow the close shave of June 1970, to be repeated within its precincts or anywhere near it. The people will always be more pro-Schwarzenbach than their elected representatives. If they want to throw out the foreigner, they will only achieve this through a referendum.

Indeed, the referendum offers them far more power than elections to the National Council every four years. In Britain the only non-local political powers offered to the population are irregularly-spaced general elections whereas in Switzerland they are administrative necessities. There are

more opportunities for citizens to choose a national course in the referendum than in appointing a legislative slanting towards one of two solutions to a basic economic option.

The multiplicity of parties also tends to diminish the political consequence of the elections to the National Council. That the extreme right National Action is antagonistic to big business whereas some Radical speakers have been heard to defend it forcefully is a mind-confusing contradiction. Between the basic options there is a gamut of technical and delegated legislation imposed by necessity and little influenced by the political composition of the two Chambers. The adoption of new road traffic, environmental or anti-drug laws will depend to a very small extent on whether the majority of the House is socialist or conservative. These are not basic options and the voter is given more to say with special devices of Swiss democracy.

Much ink will be used over the 31st October elections and indeed, as they only happen every four years, they are important. There may well be plenty of hue and cry and political commotion. But when all is said and done, the importance of these elections is more institutional than political, and they mean more to the political parties and the candidates immediately concerned than to the average citizen. (PMB)

ENVIRONMENT

Initiative for free transportation

The *Institut de la Vie* is a political group in Geneva headed by a dentist, Dr. Paul Rouget. It has sponsored a local popular initiative demanding top priority for the development and improvement of urban means of transport and free public transport, 24 hours a day. In order to be accepted, the initiative had to attract the signatures of 10,000 citizens. It obtained 14,500 signatures. This will place the town's legislative in the obligation of working out appropriate new provisions and submitting them to the local electorate.

The *Institut de la Vie* was primarily concerned by the deterioration of the environment and by the impossible nuisance constituted by the firm habit of using a car in town. There are 137,000 motor vehicles for a population of 340,000 in the Canton. Free transport will encourage motorists to abandon their cars as they go into the city.

The "trans-Helvetie" canal before the Upper Chamber

Gouverner, c'est prévoir. The Federal Council has put this motto into effect in its handling of the age-old Rhone-Rhine canal project and other plans of inland waterways. A 514 page report had been prepared on the possibility of navigation on the upper Rhine, the Aar, on an eventual link between the Aar and Lake Geneva, and on a waterway connecting Lake Major to the Adriatic. There is furthermore the problem of harnessing the upper Rhine. This will involve detailed discussions with the Germans. The report was presented to the Council of States, which took note of the fact that no decision on these matters had yet been taken. There is a considerable "east-west" split over the desirability of a navigable Aar. The German-Swiss believe that this will not improve Switzerland's communications and will be a further agent of pollution. Their French-speaking counterparts believe that it will aid the industrialisation of less developed areas. However, all that has been agreed at this stage is that the Federal Council will, within two years, put forward the legislation enabling the State to acquire the land to eventually carry out these projects.

CANTONAL

Appenzell is 900 years old

Appenzell has just celebrated the 900th Anniversary of the foundation of the church around which the capital of Inner Rhodes was founded. This was the occasion for important processions

SWISS EVENTS

MONETARY QUESTIONS

"Gold should be upvalued"

Mr. Alfred Schäfer, Chairman of the Board of the Union Bank of Switzerland invited the United States to a devaluation of the dollar with respect to gold at a press conference in Washington. He estimated that gold, actually valued at 35 dollars an ounce, should be uprated to 40 dollars an ounce. Mr. Schäfer warned his audience that if the monetary uncertainty persisted, Europe would face a serious recession. He had come to Washington to discuss the Bretton Wood agreement. In his view, it was not possible to install a new international monetary system in the short term. It was therefore necessary for gold and the dollar to continue to play a role as international currency. The United States were in the best position to improve the situation. Mr. Schäfer said that they should check inflation and reduce their external deficit by cutting their spending in Indo-China.

The effects of the 10 per cent surtax

Of a total of 22.1 billions francs of exports last year, 2 billion were directed towards the United States. Imports from the U.S. amounted to 2.4 billion, which means that trade between the two countries was in Switzerland's disfavour to the tune of 400 million francs. Still a small fraction of a 6 billion franc annual trade deficit.

Swiss exports to the U.S. can be broken up in machinery and technical equipment (570 million francs), watches (515 million), pharmaceutical and chemical goods (209 million) and textiles (183 million). A wide range of goods from cheese, calendars and toys account for the remaining 500 million francs. Because the American surtax of 10 per cent affects only a tenth of Swiss exports, its effects are not dramatic. However, some firms rely heavily on their American businesses and will suffer particularly severely. One such firm is Bobst and Sons, Lausanne, makers of packaging equipment. They will be forced to give notices to a hundred employees.

and official speeches. It was in 1071 that the Monastery of Saint Gall was erected, on the site of the future town of Appenzell, a church dedicated to St. Maurice and, at the same time, the Castle of Glanx. The first was to ensure Appenzell's spiritual domination, the second, its temporal domination. The town prospered and gave its name to the surrounding country in 1379. Appenzell joined the Confederation in 1573. The separation of the Canton into two independent halves was drafted in 1803, during the Republic, and refers to Appenzell's separation into "two reciprocally independent parts". The present constitution was voted in a landsgemeinde in 1872.

(ATS)

MODERN LIVING

Slot machines to be deprived of hazard

The Federal Court has banned certain categories of slot machines. The ban is to take effect on 1st June, 1972, in order to give their owners time to adapt them. This turning point in jurisprudence on penny machines has come about because it has been established that nothing was easier than to alter them from "skill machines", which is what the law says they should be, to pure chance machines. A detailed enquiry proved that, however skilled a player was, he was getting a return from his coins which showed that hazard was the dominant factor in his winnings.

BRIEF NEWS

Federal Councillor Ludwig Von Moos will resign at the end of the year. He was Head of the Federal Department of Justice and Police and had been elected to the Federal Council in 1959. The Christian Democrats are already seeking a possible successor.

The Federal Council has proposed to Parliament the annual and regular grant of 7.5 million francs to the International Red Cross. These allocations would be included in the ordinary budget. This would not preclude other grants required by special circumstances, such as the disaster in Bengal.

Two writers for the revolutionary magazine "Focus", published in Zurich have been each sentenced to 300 franc fines for having breached Article 204 of the Penal Code on Pornography. A complaint had been lodged by the federal and cantonal administrations against the illustrations that had been published in an article entitled "Pornographic Show in the Federal Palace".

The citizens of goodwill who, two years ago, signed the "Declaration of Berne" and pledged to devote 10 per cent of their income to the aid of developing countries have constituted an "Association for the Declaration of Berne". Its object is to encourage the solidarity of the Swiss people with less prosperous fellow humans across the world.

There's been a lot of unrest at French-speaking Swiss television. All the creative staff went on strike and viewers had only the news to feed on. They were protesting against the methods of the new programmes chief, Bernard Béguin, who was accused of frustrating free expression. He retaliated by saying that "some people go into television as others enter the Bunker".

Seventeen members of the youth "revolutionary" movement "Heimkampagne", closely allied to the movement in favour of the so-called "Autonomous Bunker Republic" were arrested after their organisation occupied an approved school at Ueikon and allowed about 17 inmates to escape.

A man traversed the complete length of Lake Geneva hanging from a kite. He was hauled by a power boat and accomplished the 75 kilometres from end to end in one-and-a-half hours at a height varying between 15 and 30 metres.

(ATS)

IMPERIAL VISIT

Hirohito visits the Leman region

Emperor Hirohito, the man formerly considered by his compatriots as the living god, paid a short visit to Switzerland during his European tour. He confined his movements to the Geneva-Lausanne area and his two official engagements consisted of a visit to the International Red Cross headquarters in Geneva and a courtesy call by the President of the Confederation, Mr. Rudolph Gnaegi and his wife, in his Lausanne hotel.

The decision to visit western Switzerland was apparently inspired by Emperor Hirohito's father, who had marvelled at the panorama of the Leman and the Mont Blanc massif. His special jet fortunately arrived above Cointrin Airport half an hour early (coming from Amsterdam) and in order not to upset the timetable, it took the Emperor on a short transalpine ride giving him a chance to see the Alp's splendour.

There were few onlookers at the airport. The majority of journalists were Japanese as many Swiss newsmen were kept aside by strict security precautions. He was awaited by the Japanese Ambassador, the Protocol Chief at the Political Department and several local dignitaries. From the airport, the fleet of majestic limousines sped to the Red Cross headquarters, where the imperial couple met its President, Mr. Marcel Naville, and Mr. Max Petitpierre, and later signed the golden visitors book.

Their motorcade then took the motorway to Lausanne where, at the Beau Rivage, they were greeted by local personalities, including Mr. G. A. Chevallaz, Mayor of Lausanne, and his wife. They were later treated to a yodeling performance at the Mont Pelerin Hotel given by the Alpenblumen Group from Herisau.

At 6.15 p.m., exactly 6 hours and 50 minutes after having set foot on Swiss soil, the imperial couple were receiving Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Gnaegi, the Swiss presidential couple for 1971. The polite and warm encounter lasted 30 minutes and was concluded with an exchange of presents. Mr. Gnaegi offered a 16th century tapestry from St. Gall to the Empress and a pure specimen of rock crystal to the Emperor. In exchange, Mrs. Gnaegi received a hand bag in Japan-

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ese silk and her husband a dedicated portrait of the Japanese sovereigns framed in silver. In the course of the conversation at the Beau Rivage Hotel, it was reported that the Empress had asked Mrs. Gnaegi for details of that astonishing instrument—the alpine horn.

SWISS-AMERICAN BANKING NEGOTIATIONS

A solution in sight

For the past three years Swiss and American Treasury officials have been trying to work out a procedure that will prevent American gangsters from escaping American fiscal regulations by hiding illegal money in Swiss banks, and that will also be in accordance with Swiss banking legislation. The parties concerned have met on six occasions and the last meeting resulted in an advance project which must now receive the sanctions of the cantons and various professional associations. The Federal Council cannot sign a banking treaty that would not conform to Swiss law.

Progress is expected to be slow on the Swiss side. What the Americans want is the authorisation given to their agents to have a look in the records of Swiss banks for the purpose of criminal enquiries. The Swiss are agreed in principle not to allow their banking establishments to serve as cover for criminal activities. But they are most careful to draw the line and prevent, for example, that information disclosed in a criminal case should be used against persons not involved in it.

The American criminal legislation is different from the Swiss Penal Code and that is where problems arise. Any enquiry carried out by American agents with Swiss banks will have to abide by fundamental national laws and should the Swiss authorities allow them to make these enquiries, then they will certainly keep them under strict control.

SPORTS

Swiss Soccer Revival

One of the finest matches we have ever seen was the first leg of the Switzerland-England confrontation in the European Nations Cup. The St. Jacob Stadium in Basle was packed by 55,000 fanatical supporters waving flags and jangling cow bells. Switzerland played with inspiration and were masters of the field in the first half. Her two goals were technical marvels, the first was a case of conjuring by the newcomer to Swiss football, Jeandu-

peux, and the second, a textbook header by the veteran Kuhn who beat Bobby Moore to the ball and spread-eagled the English keeper in his vain effort to block the ball. A few minutes before, Kuhn had almost scored a first time, but his shot rebounded off the goal post.

Despite brilliant co-ordination and mastery by the Swiss, the English side won 3-2 owing to a goal in the 65th second, impardonably let in by the Swiss keeper Kunz, a fluke goal from an impossible angle by Martin Chivers and an own goal by full back Weibel, who fired the ball neatly into the Swiss net from a centre by Chivers. What hard luck!

The Swiss are now to play their second leg at Wembley on November 10th. Their chances of winning are naturally smaller than at Basle. But if they have as much luck as the British side in the first leg they stand a fair chance. Whatever the result, the honour of Swiss soccer, so severely affronted by that 8-1 defeat against England ten years ago, will be restored.

The Geneva team Servette has unfortunately lost to Liverpool on aggregate in the Cup Winners Cup, but nevertheless managed to beat them at home. Grasshoppers, the Zurich team, has not yet met the English champions Arsenal at the time of writing, but this too promises to be a fascinating encounter. Thousands of Swiss are expected in London for the return match against England at Wembley and charter flight companies are overburdened.

SOCIAL WORK

The family at risk?

Three hundred and fifty social workers held a congress in Lucerne. In the course of a press conference, their spokesman said that none of the Swiss universities offered advance training courses to social workers, adding that their profession was insufficiently protected.

They said that they had discussed the problems of the family and stated that the existence of the traditional family was in jeopardy owing to the growing number of individuals no longer able to adapt to modern life.

The smallness of available flats and the increasing loneliness of people induced them to live in communities. Communalism constituted a new and expanding life-style presenting many problems to its proponents and to the authorities.

The congress of social workers has not sought to defend the individual family but has chosen to "remain open to all other acceptable solutions".

THE ARMY

Implementing the Oswald Report

The first national conference of military associations was held in Berne in the second week of this month with the aim of intensifying co-operation and exchanges of information between the various associations.

As expected, the Oswald Report, which purports to modernise military training and adapt it to the times, was among the topics discussed. The conference expressed the wish that the innovations contained in the Report would take effect as soon as possible.

Major Wetzel, a General Staff Officer from Basle, presented a new training scheme for officers. His proposals include an extension of basic training for non-commissioned officers without however prolonging their total period of military training.

The President of the Swiss Society of Officers, General Staff Colonel Heinrich Wanner, also from Basle, reported on the efforts undertaken by his association in view of strengthening the will of the Swiss to defend themselves and has urged the regional associations to collaborate more closely in future.

FEDERAL

Long awaited constitutional article

The Federal Department of Public Economy has submitted the first draft of a new and long-awaited "conjunctural article" (referred to in our article on page 8) to be included in the Constitution to the survey of cantons, economic organisations and political parties. They will have up to March 1972 to make known their position.

The object of the proposed article, which is in fact intended to be the fifth clause of the 31st Article of the Constitution, will be to enhance the powers of the federal government in controlling the economy.

It breaks with liberal principles and authorises the Government to intervene in various sectors of the economy, if need be, in its fight against inflation and unemployment. The Confederation is furthermore entitled to raise or lower federal taxes according to the requirements of the situation and can in the same way adapt subsidies to cantons. The statistical supervision of the country's conjuncture will be made more rigorous and the applications of the new Article's provisions will be worked out by the Federal Council and the National Bank.

PHILATELY

New Swiss stamps

Started in 1969, the series of Swiss postage stamps featuring the portraits of famous men is continued with the issue of a second set of "Portraits". The choice this year has fallen on five great doctors, three of them Swiss and, for the first time, two foreign Nobel Prize Winners for Medicine. The 10-ct stamp is dedicated to the memory of Alexandre Yersin, who discovered the microbe of the plague, while the 20-ct stamp is devoted to the psychiatrist August Forel, well known for his discoveries on the anatomy of the brain and the nervous system. The 30-ct value represents the ophthalmologist Jules Gonin, recognised today as the originator of retinal surgery. The German bacteriologist Robert Koch, Nobel prize winner in 1905, is portrayed on the 40-ct stamps, the 80-ct value featuring the Canadian psychologist Frederick Grant Banting, Nobel prize winner in 1923. Parallel with this series, the Swiss Post Office is issuing two special new stamps, a 30-ct "Swiss Alps" showing the Diablerets range and a 40-ct value commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Radio-Switzerland Co. Ltd., a branch of the Swiss Postal and Telegraph Service, which is responsible for air safety at airports, listens in to the meteorological information broadcast by satellite

and carries on the intercontinental telex, phototelegraphic and radio-maritime services.

TECHNICAL

New marine chronometer

Produced by a Swiss watch factory in Lausanne (Vaud), the "Chronostat IV" marine chronometer has been specially designed to answer the needs of the French Navy's hydrographic department. It is a self-contained fully electronic instrument, commanded by a compensated quartz oscillator. It has been designed particularly with a view to guaranteeing high reliability and great versatility of use. Consequently, the chronometer is equipped with two electronically switched sets of three batteries (standard size). Its time-setting device allows the manual or electrical synchronisation of the electronic dividers in relation to an outside standard. On board ship, the "Chronostat IV" ensures, under the best possible conditions, the regular services of a marine chronometer; it can be used to signal the watches and supplies the computers of automated ships with the necessary time reference. Whether on board ship or in the laboratory, the "Chronostat IV" is a precise and reliable time-keeper. Its many connection points offer new scope for recordings or synchronisations.

Densitometer for rotary printing presses

Gretag, a Swiss firm affiliated to the Ciba-Geigy group, has just presented a world novelty to a gathering of specialists. It is the first plant for measuring the density of colours working on a rotary printing process in operation and commanded by an electronic computer. The new Gretag D6 plant makes it possible to exert full control over the whole batch and, as soon as differences occur, to intervene immediately at the right place and in a minimum of time in order to make the necessary correction.

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