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Credit Suisse set up anniversary foundation

TO mark the 125th year of its existence Credit Suisse has decided to set up an anniversary foundation with a capital of Sfr 10 million.

The first donation by the foundation, whose object is to support public welfare organisations, charitable, cultural and scientific endeavours, will be made to the Schweizerische Volkssbibliothek (SVB), a special library catering to the needs of the entire country. This donation is a good example of the type of activity the foundation will engage in.

SVB is a cultural institution whose activities benefit large sections of the population in all language areas and every age group. The sum awarded will enable the SVB to purchase 10,000 much sought-after books in various fields of knowledge.

Chief object of the SVB is to help cover the reading requirements of those areas of Switzerland which do not benefit from extensive library services. For this purpose it supplies basic stocks of books on loan (known as 'starting aids'), mainly to local com-

munities, and helps them to overcome initial difficulties in the building up of their libraries. The collections of existing community and school libraries are supplemented by consignments of books provided on a temporary basis.

The SVB also helps special readership categories such as hospitals, the army (barracks and training courses), industrial enterprises, homes, institutions and also at mobile and temporary population groups (youth camps, work colonies and foreign workers).

Through its 'centre for classroom reading' the SVB offers a further service by providing schools with bulk supplies of books. These are integrated into the programmes of instruction by the teaching staff.

At present 13 cantons are linked to the centre and negotiations for further members are underway.

The Schweizerische Volkssbibliothek provides literature in Switzerland's four official languages and also in English and Spanish. The books in stock – approximately 330,000 volumes – comprise works of fiction and non-fiction in every field of knowledge as well as books for young people and children's books.

The second donation of the Credit Suisse anniversary foundation will be made to Swiss Transport Museum in Lucerne. It is intended as a contribution towards the financing of the new waterways, cableways and tourism exhibition hall.

This donation will benefit a project that will make it possible for our descendants to gain an insight into the impressive technological achievements of our dynamic times.

Candies deal

INTERFOOD, the holding company of the Suchard-Tobler group, recently took over "Andes

Candies" of Delavan, Wisconsin, in the United States.

Situated near the "Lake of Geneva" (US version), the firm, which was founded in 1922, was owned up till now by a family group. It manufactures "Napolitains" and small bars of chocolate. Its turnover totals \$20 million annually.

Sri Lanka wheat mill

A SWISS engineering works has installed a wheat mill with a grinding capacity of 2,500 tons per 24 hours at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. It was officially inaugurated in the presence of the President of Sri Lanka, J.R. Jayewardene.

Trincomalee is in the north eastern part of the country and has one of the best natural ports in the world.

Weather hit crops

THE yield of most crops in Switzerland fell last year compared with 1979, mainly as a result of the poor climatic conditions. According to provisional calcula-

Consumer prices still rising

THE Swiss index of consumer prices rose by 0.7 per cent to 113.8 points in March (September 1977 = 100). This renewed marked increase is mainly due to price rises for food (+1.3 per cent), apparel (+1.4 per cent) and household furnishings and household operation (+2.3 per cent).

The annual rate of inflation stood at 6.3 per cent in March. It has now gone up every month since November 1980, the main determining factor being the strong increase in the price of food, whose share in the selection of goods and services amounts to 20 per cent.

Food prices rose within a year

by an average of 12.5 per cent, with prices for vegetables climbing 63 per cent above the level reached at the end of March 1980.

The wholesale price index moved up by 0.8 per cent to 163.1 points in March (1963 = 100).

For the first time since October 1980, domestic goods (+0.9 per cent) went up more steeply than imported merchandise (+0.4 per cent). In comparison with March 1980, the wholesale price index rose by 5.2 per cent (domestic goods: +5.4 per cent; imported merchandise: +4.7 per cent). – **Union Bank of Switzerland.**

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tions, the gross output dropped by Sfr 125 million to Sfr 1,570 million – a decrease of 7.4 per cent.

The part played by crops in the total output of agriculture was reduced to 21.3 per cent, while the part played by cattle breeding rose to 78.7 per cent. There was a drop in the production of cereals, potatoes and sugar beet as well as in vinegrowing, fruit production and tobacco.

In 1980 these different crops accounted for a little over 80 per cent of the total output of vegetables produce.

New winder

DESK clocks with visible movements have existed for a long time, but until now it has never been possible to make these movements small enough to fit inside a watch because of the winder, as this requires two keys, one to wind it up and the other to set the time.

A watchmaker in Lausanne has invented an ingenious system for winding and setting a watch using a single rod passing through the mainspring. The invention won a prize at the International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva.

The licence for this invention has been sold to two Swiss companies who have created a watch case in transparent faceted white sapphire.

The big screen

A SWISS watch firm at Bienne has signed a big contract with the Barcelona Football Club for two giant matric display systems, worth Sfr 4 million. Placed behind and high above the two goals in Nou Camp stadium, they will indicate the time permanently and will make it possible with their 20,800 "sixteen tone" lamps to display figures, texts, pictures, drawings, stages of the game, slow motion pictures, video or televised sequences of other matches, live or recorded.

This is the first installation of its kind to be put into operation in Europe. Signed at the end of several months of negotiations,



Mr H.R. Wüst

NEW chairman of the Manchester-based Clayton Aniline Company is its former managing director, Mr H.R. Wüst, now corporate managing director of Ciba-Geigy (ADP) Company.

Mr A.A.S. Rae, chairman of the Ciba-Geigy UK Group and former chairman of the Clayton Aniline Company, retains his seat on the board.

Mr A. Kemp, former director of finance for Ciba-Geigy (ADP) Company, joins the board of Ciba-Geigy (UK) Ltd as director of group strategy. He also becomes a member of both the board and the management committee of the Clayton Aniline Company.

Mr R.E.S. Brimelow, company secretary of Ciba-Geigy (ADP) Company, assumes Mr Kemp's former responsibilities in that company.

the contract will ensure the presence of Switzerland's top technology throughout the duration of the next football "Mundial," which is scheduled to start in Nou Camp stadium on June 16, 1982.

Purer water

MORE than 95 per cent of the waste water from the Swiss paper, cardboard and cellulose industry is now purified. Between 1970

and 1979, Sfr 100 million was invested on water purifying plant, 93 million of which was for firms' own installations, 5 million for connecting up to public purifying systems, and 2 million for other investments connected with the protection of the environment.

In 1979 the cost of running and maintaining plant, the charges for connecting to public systems, expenditure on interest and mortgages alone totalled nearly Sfr 25 million.

Bank fares well

THE Swiss Bank Corporation improved its financial results last year – despite increasing instability on the world economic and political scene.

SBC board chairman Hans Strasser told shareholders at their recent annual meeting: "Our bank fared well in the past

year. Assets and earnings both showed encouraging growth.

"At the same time, however, we are having to set aside increased reserves and provisions to allow for the many uncertainty factors prevailing in the economic and political fields.

"Major geopolitical events like the outbreak of war between Iran and Iraq with all its ramifications, and dangerous developments in Afghanistan, Africa and Central America underline the continuing need for prudence in our foreign operations. Our policy, though, must also remain consistent with our standing as an international bank."

Mr Strasser added: "Thanks to the exemplary efforts of the staff at all levels and the flexibility of our decision-making structures we are well-equipped to deal successfully with the challenges which lie ahead."

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