The electors decided...

Autor(en): **[s.n.]**

Objekttyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): **- (1968)**

Heft 1555

PDF erstellt am: **29.03.2024**

Persistenter Link: https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-695659

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THE ELECTORS DECIDED . . .

. . . at Maikirch, Riggisberg, Burgdorf, Plagne, Aegerten, Montsevelier, St. Ursanne, Souboz, Prêles, Sonceboz-Sombeval and Courgenay to introduce women's suffrage, thus bringing the total of Communes in the Canton of Berne up to over 100 out of 493 Communes.

. . . at Landarenca in the Calanca Valley (Grisons) to grant the vote to women in communal matters, thus being the first Grisons Commune outside Chur to make use of the liberty granted by the cantonal electorate.

. . . at Burgdorf not to accept the project (5.11 million francs) for a *Werkgebäude* of the Building Office.

. . . at Flawil to have a water purification plant (3m.) and a kindergarden with air-raid shelter.

. .. . at Wil (St. Gall) to accept various projects for school buildings.

. . . at Biberist (Solothurn) to accept a 5.3m. project for a waste-water plant and to join the " Genossenschaft Alterssiedlung Biberist ".

. . . at Langenthal (participation of men 45.8%, of women 32.9%) to accept the plans for school buildings in the Elzmatten.

. . . in St. Gall to accept a *Subventionsordnung* for Municipal Theatre and Music Society and a project for a school (3.9m.) at Rotmonten.

. . . at Stein-am-Rhein to elect Dr. A. Baechtold as Municipal President and various other officers of the Commune.

. . . at Neuhausen to have a *Schülerhort* and workshop.

. . . at Frauenfeld to spend 4 million francs on enlarging the cemetery Oberkirch, but to reject a project at equal cost for enlarging the swimming baths.

. . . at Delémont (for the first time with the women) to grant credits for road corrections and the building of a home for the aged.

. . . at Courtemaiche to oppose the extension of the military centre of Bure.

. . . in the *Landschaft* Davos to accept the annual accounts, to have the Dorfbachtobel secure against avalanches and to give a grant to the *Heimatmuseum*.

. . . at Gerlafingen to elect the Liberal Democrat K. Schulthess as new *Ammann*.

. . . at Corseaux-sur-Vevey to renovate a hotel-restaurant at the cost of 2.6 million; participation of 67% particularly high for that part of the country.

. . . in the Canton of Schaffhausen to grant 45 million francs for enlarging the cantonal hospital and to accept the new *Natur-und Heimatschutzgesetz*.

. . . in the Canton of St. Gall to spend 10.5 million francs for additional buildings of the *Gemeindekrankenhaus* Wattwil.

(By courtesy of Agence Télégraphique Suisse.)

SWISS MERCHANT NAVY STATISTICS

On 1st March, 1968, the Swiss Ocean-Going Fleet numbered 33 ships with a total capacity of 296,000 tons (end of 1966: 32 vessels and 282,000 tons). The fleet consists of 25 ordinary cargo-boats, 4 cargo-boats for heavy loads, 2 refrigerator ships and 2 small wine tankers. At the end of 1967, the crews totalled 1,006 men as opposed to 973 at the end of 1966, a little over 60% of whom were Swiss citizens. As for the Swiss Rhine fleet, on January 1st, 1968, it comprised 488 ships with a total capacity of 467,856 tons and a total power of 255,404 h.p.

[O.S.E.C.]

ANGLO-SWISS NEWS ITEMS

Two of the main European manufacturers of hydro-electric plant, the Swiss firm of Escher Wyss in Zurich and English Electric in London have signed a contract covering the planning, manufacture and sale of all types of turbine-pumps and Francis hydraulic turbines, for the equipment of hydro-electric power stations throughout the world. Escher Wyss had already signed a contract of this kind in 1966 with another Swiss firm, Sulzer Bros. of Winterthur, a firm also interested in supplying hydraulic equipment. Since 1960, Sulzer Bros. and English Electric have worked together on the construction of pump-turbines and have since supplied 20 big units for accumulation pumping plant in Switzerland, West Germany, Austria, Scotland and Colombia. These include two 100 MW units for the North of Scotland Hydro Board, at Cruachan, which was, at the time, the plant with the greatest head for turbine-pumps anywhere in the world. The very great technical experience of the three firms — Sulzer as a supplier of specialised pumps, English Electric as a manufacturer of modern hydraulic turbines since 1920 and Escher Wyss, which has great experience in both specialities — makes this group the most important for the supply of pump-turbines. In future, Escher Wyss and English Electric will submit joint offers for the many hydro-electric power stations and accumulation power stations planned all over the world. [O.S.E.C.]

National and Grindlays Bank Ltd., and Wm. Brandt's Sons & Co. Ltd., both in London, opened a joint branch in Geneva, with a share capital of 5 million francs.

The English translation of Peter Bichsel's tale " Eigentlich möchte Frau Blum den Milchmann kennen lernen" has been published by Calder and Boyars, London. It was translated by Michael Hamburger and is called "And really, Mrs. Blum would like to know the Milkman".

The "Schola Cantorum Basiliensis" under Dr. August Wenzinger took part in the English Bach Festival in Oxford early in July. The soloists Ernst Haefliger (tenor) and Jakob Staempfli (bass) appeared with them.

The Art Gallery Wolfsberg in Zurich staged an exhibition of lithographs and etchings by Henry Moore. This was to celebrate his 70th birthday.

The two films " Bild der Landschaft " (on Hodler, commissioned by " Pro Helvetia ") and the St. Moritz film " Lieben Sie Schnee?", both made by Condor, Zurich, were chosen by the judges in the Edinburgh film festival to be included in the " Show of best Documentary Films ".

Sir John Barbirolli had a great success when he conducted the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra at the Lucerne Music Festival.

Early in September, there was a ceremony in Lucerne commemorating Queen Victoria's visit to Lucerne from 7th August to 9th September 1868. The event should have taken place earlier, but her personal coach " Balmoral Sociable " had got stuck in the strike in France and did not turn up until a short while ago. It was then put on show at the special exhibition at the Museum of Transport in Lucerne, side by side with a modern excursion car used by the British Royal Family.

London fashions were shown in Zurich, arranged by the British Export Trade Centre.

The Chief of the Swiss General Staff, Corps Commander P. Gygli, and the Armament Chief Engineer H. P. Schulthess, attended the Farnborough Air Show.

Stop press news: The British Week in Basle has been cancelled. More about the reasons (Biafra) in the next issue.

(A.T.S. and " Pro Helvetia ")