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HOME NEWS

(Compiled by courtesy of the following contemporaries: National Zeitung, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, St. Galler Tagblatt, Vaterland and Tribune de Genève).

FEDERAL.

NAZI ATTACK ON SWISS.

A Swiss citizen from Wila in the Töss valley, who had gone on a short visit to Berlin, has received severe injuries through being assaulted by Nazi Storm Troopers in the Holenzollerndamm in Berlin, for having failed to salute the Hitler flag during a Storm Troopers' procession. One of the Storm Troopers who was " keeping an eye on the public," summoned the Swiss to salute the flag. When our countryman remarked that he was a foreigner, he received in reply a violent blow in the face. Three of his colleagues joined in, knocked the man off his feet, and kicked him savagely with their heavy boots. The other people in the crowd looked on. He was finally taken in a serious condition to hospital, where it was found that several of his ribs had been broken.

The Swiss Legation has sent a strong protest to the German Government against this particularly savage attack on a Swiss citizen. Nearly every day the Legation is receiving complaints from its nationals living or travelling in Germany.

NEW NAZI VIOLATION OF SWISS FRONTIER.

Ten armed Brownshirts on Saturday last trespassed over the Swiss frontier at Basle and overwhelmed a Swiss guard in order to arrest a party of six German tourists.

According to the Swiss guard's statement the six Germans had taken an entrance permit into Switzerland at 8 p.m. in order to spend the evening at Basle. At 1 o'clock on Sunday morning they returned, but were stopped while still in Swiss territory by the German frontier guard, who called their attention to smeared inscriptions of " Red Front " and " Hail, Moscow " on the front and the side of the car. The mystified tourists declared that they had been victims of a joke and asked for soap and water to clean off the inscription. In the meantime a second car arrived from the Swiss side out of which stepped a uniformed Nazi. The German guard then called out 10 Brownshirts from the Customs house, and these cut off the retreat of the tourists. The Swiss guard, on warning the Nazis that he would shoot if they did not withdraw, was quickly overpowered, and the six tourists were arrested. The Swiss Minister, Monsieur Dinichert, has been instructed to lodge a strong protest with the Government of the Reich.

OUR STATE FINANCES.

The following interesting figures (compiled by our contemporary " Das Aufgebot ") represent the revenue and expenditure of the Swiss Confederation during the last 80 years:

	Million francs	
	Revenue	*Expenditure*
1852	6.27	7.00
1862	9.56	8.20
1872	14.30	14.84
1882	24.97	23.07
1892	51.93	53.76
1902	70.83	68.30
1912	116.18	114.69
1922	365.40	417.86
1932	493.84	476.57

The revenue of the Confederation has risen 74 times during these 80 years. Compared with 1922 it has increased by one third, although the index figures dropped during this time by about 50%.

Since 1926 a surplus of 244.9 million francs was obtained, and consequently the debt of the Confederation was reduced by 202.8 million francs. The actual debt of the Swiss Confederation, not including the loans of the Swiss Federal Railways, represents the respectable amount of 1322 million francs.

FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICIT.

The Federal Budget for the first eight months of this year registers a deficit of 4 million francs, instead of an active balance of 21 million francs at the same period in 1932, thus up to the end of August the " moins-value " amounts to 25 million francs.

SWISS OFFICER ACCUSED OF ESPIONAGE.

Lieutenant Steiner from Neftenbach, (Ct. Zurich), since 1927 employed in the Swiss military administration at Thun, has been arrested under a charge of divulging military secrets to a foreign power.

It is alleged that he undertook various journeys to Italy, and that he received payments for information supplied.

Lieutenant Steiner has been examined by captain Gloor, examination judge of the 5th division.

AN INTERNATIONAL AERO SHOW AT GENEVA.

The Aero Club of Switzerland is organising an International Aero Show for Touring and Private Flying (Salon de l'Aviation de Sport et de Tourisme), to be held at Geneva from April 27 to May 6, 1934. Presumably in conjunction with it a flying meeting will be held at the Geneva Aerodrome, which is so efficiently managed by Captain Weber.

The show is specially intended to demonstrate the latest developments in the design of aeroplanes for private flying and it should prove an excellent opportunity for British manufacturers to display their productions to the representatives of all European countries, as many extra-European countries as are represented in the League of Nations.

BODY IN GLACIER FOR 17 YEARS.

Some hunters have discovered near the foot of the Weisshorn glacier the body of an unknown tourist, which has been comparatively well preserved owing to the long period it has been in the ice.

In a pocket of the clothing was found a notebook bearing the date 1915, and it is supposed that the body is that of a German student who disappeared at that time when on his way to the Bieshorn. If this proves to be correct the body must have travelled about two miles in the glacier before emerging from it after 17 years.

GERMAN-SWISS BANK FOUNDED.

The Deutsche Schweizerische Verwaltungs-Bank A.G. (German-Swiss Administration Bank) has been formed with a capital of Rm.250,000 (about £12,500 at par), with head offices at Berlin and a branch at Frankfort-on-Main, to take over the Süd-West Deutsche Bank A.G., of Frankfort-on-Main, and to dissociate the concern from the Frankfurter Allgemeine Versicherungs-A.G. (known as the " Favag "), now in liquidation.

The new bank will, at the same time, take over other assets, including an hotel in Nuremberg and a mortgage on a large department store.

The capital will be raised to Rm.1,000,000 (£50,000) as soon as the transactions in prospect make further funds necessary.

LOCAL.

ZURICH.

Last Sunday the elections for the town government and parliament took place at Zurich, during which some unpleasant encounters between Socialists and members of the Frontists took place, and the police had to be called out ot restore order.

Dr. Klöti (Socialist) was re-elected town President with a majority of 10,000 votes. (40,352), his opponent Dr. R. Briner, democrate, received 30,335 votes.

The " Stadtrat " which numbers 9 members, will consist in future of 5 socialists and four anti-socialists, there is therefore no change. (Dr. Klöti, socialist, 43,585; M. Baumann, socialist, 40,117; M. Gschwend, socialist 39,629; B. Kaufmann, socialist, 39,608; M. Briner, socialist, 38,783; Dr. Briner, democrate, 33,465; G. Kruck, liberal 33,608; Dr. J. Hefti, liberal 33,574; O. Sing, democrate 33,111. — Dr. E. Buomberger, christian-socialist and Dr. Tobler, Nationale Front were defeated.

The Socialists were equally successful in the " Gemeinderat " elections, and the strength of the various parties in the newly elected body will be as follows: Socialists: 64; (63); Liberals: 28; (35); Christian Socialists: 12; (11); National Front: 10; (0); Democratic Party: 6; (9); Peasant Party3; (0); Communists: 2; (6); Evangelical People Party: 0; (1).

The Socialists therefore can claim an absolute majority in the new Council. The Communist Party suffered a heavy defeat, in 1922 they occupied 13 seats, in 1925, 9 seats, in 1928, 5 seats, in 1931, 6 seats, and 1933, 2 seats.

During the next four years there will be 66 socialists and communists against 59 of other parties in the " Gemeinderat."

* * *

According to recent statistics the population of the canton of Zurich amounts to 600,000 inhabitants. There are 35,000 Germans, 16,000 Italians, 5,700 Austrians, 1,800 Tscheco-Slovaks, 1,300 Poles, 1,200 French and smaller numbers of other nationalities, resident in the canton of Zurich.

BERNE.

" L'association nationale pour le développement du tourisme " held its General Assembly at Berne. M. Junod, directeur de l'office suisse du tourisme, who recently resigned from his post, has been replaced by M. S. Bittel, editor of the C. F. F. Revue.

AARGAU.

A large fire partly destroyed the building of the firm Schwob & Co., Wine Merchants in Liestal, the damage caused is considered to be heavy.

NEUCHATEL.

From Neuchâtel comes the news, that National-Councillor Clottu has died at the age of 52. M. Clottu was born in 1871 at St. Blaise, he studied law at the Universities of Neuchâtel, Bonn and Berne. From 1895-1915 he practised as an advocate at St. Blaise, where he was " Gemeinde-Präsident " for 18 years. From 1904-1915 he was a member of the Grand-Council, and on the 11th of April 1915, he entered the Cantonal Government. In 1931 he was elected Member of Parliament. (National Council). His successor in the National Council will be M. Marcel Krügel of Travers.

GRISONS.

A terrible motor accident on the Julier Pass took place last week, costing the life of 3 persons. Two other passengers were so badly injured, that they had to be taken to the cantonal Hospital at Samaden.

The car which was driven by a Dr. Howald from Berlin, left the road on one of the bends and fell down a precipice of 50 m. The victims and the injured are all of German nationality.

TICINO.

M. Giulio Rossi, advocate at Lugano was assaulted by one of his clients, for whom he had pleaded unsuccessfully. Fortunately the injuries are only slight, but the assailant has been arrested.

VAUD.

The " Comptoir Suisse " at Lausanne closed its doors on Sunday last, more than 350,000 people had paid for admission.

FOOTBALL.

24th September 1933 in Belgrade

Jugoslavia .....2 Switzerland 2

Thank goodness, that is a little better! As so far I only know the bare result and the S.O. going to Press already, I again have to leave it at that! *M.G.*

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