Home news

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The Swiss Observer

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TO-DAY Swiss Sports and Garden Party

at HERNE HILL, start 2.45p.m.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES	3 Months (13 issues, post free)	3/6
	6 " (26 " ")	6/6
	12 " (52 " ")	12/-
SWITZERLAND	6 Months (26 issues, post free)	Frs. 7.50
	12 " (52 " ")	" 14.—

(Swiss subscriptions may be paid into Postscheck-Konto Basle V 5718).

SWISS SPORTS

We particularly wish to draw the attention of our readers and their friends to the Swiss Sports Meeting which will take place to-day.

The Committee of the Swiss Sports has spared neither time nor money to make this event a great success, and we hope that many of our compatriots and their friends will make the journey to Herne Hill.

We feel sure that they will not be disappointed, it will be an afternoon well spent. Therefore make up your mind now, and do not fail those who have given their time and money freely, that you and your friends should have an enjoyable afternoon. Don't say "I may come along," say "I will be there," and we are certain you won't regret it.

HOME NEWS

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

FEDERAL.

THE SILK INDUSTRY POSITION.

According to the report just published of the Zurich Silk Industry Co., the past business year was not, on the basis of the greatly reduced number of looms as compared with formerly, an outstanding period of depression. Comparison with former conditions, however, reveals the tremendous decline which has taken place in this important Swiss industry. In 1913 exports of silk tissues totalled 2,177 tons valued at 107,000,000 Sw. frs. In 1927 a record was reached of 2,644 tons valued at 200,000,000 Sw. frs. For 1938 the figures were only 600 tons of a value of 16,400,000 Sw. frs.

The future is regarded with restrained optimism. Many foreign buyers have resumed their connections with Switzerland, where moreover every effort, also from the price aspect, is being made to recover markets. This optimism is justified to some extent by the figures for the first quarter of 1939, namely, 9,700,000 Sw. frs., which is about 1,000,000 Sw. frs. higher than for the corresponding period of 1938.

SWISS NATIONAL EXHIBITION.

On Wednesday, May 24th, one million visitors had entered the turnstiles since the opening of the Exhibition.

ITALIAN NEWSPAPERS PROHIBITED IN SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Council has prohibited the sale in Switzerland of the newspapers "Cronaca Prealpina (published in Varese) and "Provincia di Como" (published in Como) owing to insulting articles against the canton of Ticino and the Confederation.

EVERTON BEATEN IN ZURICH.

Everton were beaten 3—2 by a Swiss combination (Grasshoppers-Servette) in Zurich.

LEGACIES.

The late M. Adolf Schraner-Schwitter, Manufacturer in Oberurnen, has left an amount of 50,000 frs. for charitable institutions. Dr. Fritz Funk, late Manager of the Engineering Works Brown, Boverie & Co., in Baden, has bequeathed over 100,000 frs. to a number of institutions.

SWISS PROFESSORS HONOURED.

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the University of Sofia a number of Foreign Professors were honoured with the degree of Doctor honoris causa, amongst them Professors Claparède, Karrer and Niggli of the University of Zurich.

NEW NATIONAL-COUNCILLORS.

M. Albert Bachofner, District Judge in Winterthur ,enters Parliament in succession to the late National-Councillor Pfister.

The seat which became vacant through the death of Dr. Widmer, has been filled by Dr. Albert Maag, advocate in Zurich.

LOCAL.

ZURICH.

The Congress of the Swiss Communist Party, which met at Zurich, passed resolutions in favour of national defence and the maintenance of democratic principles in Switzerland.

* * *

A Folies Bergère revue in Zurich has been banned by the Police Chief after a storm of public protest.

Twenty-five church organisations objected to the scanty attire worn by the Parisian show-girls, and protested to the Zurich Cantonal Government.

The Police Chief ordered the ban to be put into effect five days after its promulgation. The result was that the theatre was packed for every performance during the five days.

* * *

223,472 people visited the Zoological Gardens in Zurich during 1938, or 15,000 more than the previous year, there are altogether 2,267 animals in the Zoological Gardens.

* * *

A few weeks after his retirement from the government of the canton of Zurich, M. Otto Pfister died at the age of 64.

The deceased was born at Uster, and studied at the "Seminar" Küsnacht, and the University of Zurich. For many years, he was a teacher at the Secondary schools at Eglisau and Winterthur, and for ten years he was a cantonal "Steuerkommissär. In the year 1929, he entered the cantonal government. From 1917 until his entry into the executive he sat in the "Kantonsrat" over which he presided in 1928/29.

CITY SWISS CLUB

REUNION D'ETE

à laquelle les dames sont cordialement invitées

MARDI 27 JUIN à 7 HEURES 30

au BRENT BRIDGE HOTEL, HENDON,

Dîner (7/6) — Dance jusqu'à minuit.

Tenue de Ville.

Pour faciliter les arrangements, les participants sont priés de bien vouloir s'inscrire au plus tôt auprès de Monsieur P. F. Boehringer, 23. Leonard Street, E.C.2. (Teléphone: Clerkenwell 2321/2)

Le Comité.

M. Pfister was sent to Parliament in 1928 (National Council) where he was often asked to sit on special commissions, he was a member of the Socialist Party.

BERNE.

Federal Councillor G. Motta, who has been on sick leave for some time, has taken up his duties again.

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The Summer Parliamentary session has been fixed to start on June 5th and will last for about three weeks.

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M. Paul Amstutz, from Sigriswil and Basle, has been appointed Director of the Federal Income Tax Administration.

LUCERNE.

The death has occurred in Lucerne of M. Josef von Moos, at the age of 81.

The deceased was for many years, a teacher and later on head-master of the "Kunstgewerbeschule" in Lucerne.

GENEVA.

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands has been elected a member of the Geneva section of the Swiss Alpine Club.

"SWISSAIR TOUR D'EUROPE."

Westflug 22nd - 28th of May, Dübendorf, Holland, Belgium, England, France, Spain, Dübendorf.

THE LONDON VISIT.

The special mission which arrived last Wednesday at Croydon, as reported in our last week's issue, had a very full programme, during their two days stay in London.

They were invited to Luncheon on Wednesday by Th. Cook & Son, and in the evening they were the guests of the Imperial Airways, on which occasion a number of speeches were exchanged.

On Thursday the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained the "Stadtpräsident" of Zurich, Dr. E. Klöti and the members of the delegation, as well as the Swiss Minister and Mme. Paravicini, at a Luncheon at the Mansion House, on which occasion Dr. Klöti invited the Lord Mayor, Sir Frank Bowater and the Members of the Corporation to visit the Swiss National Exhibition this summer. The invitation has been accepted by the Common Council. —

Dr. Klöti said that the Lord Mayor on a former occasion had expressed feelings of good will towards the Swiss people and had spoken of the cultural and economic links that had existed between England and Switzerland for centuries. If Switzerland had her appointed place to-day among the nations and if her traditional neutrality, liberties, and freedom could be maintained, that was in no small measure due to her friendship with mighty Powers like England.

Britain had given proof of her insight into the necessities for Switzerland's existence ever since the recognition of Swiss neutrality in 1815. Spiritually, also Switzerland was indebted to the British Isles, for it was the English who, in the Middle Ages, took the Gospel to the Swiss people and had since served as an example in matters of philosophy and tolerance.

The Lord Mayor, in reply, said that British ideals of freedom, like those of the Swiss, had ever been a beacon to the world.

In the evening the Swiss Minister gave a Dinner at the Legation. The Corporation of the City of London was represented by Viscount