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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

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# 70th FÊTE SUISSE

## CENTRAL HALL WESTMINSTER — THURSDAY NEXT 15th JUNE at 6.45 p.m.


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## 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.

#### SWISS PUBLIC WORKS AND DEFENCE.

By a referendum, the result of which was announced on Monday, the Swiss electorate, by 443,960 votes against 198,598, and by 19 cantons against three (Geneva, Vaud and Neuchâtel), has authorized the Federal Government to devote a sum of about £19,134,000 to the strengthening of national defence and to big public works with the object of combatting unemployment.

The scheme provides for an expenditure of about £8,221,000 for developing and improving national defence, and of £10,913,000 on public works such as the building and widening of several Alpine roads, the improvement of certain railway lines, and assistance to export trade and the tourist industry.

The necessary funds will be supplied by a new tax ranging from 1½ per cent. to 7½ per cent. on big shops, co-operative societies, and other commercial concerns which have several branches, and the yearly sales of which exceed £9,500,000, as well as on one-price shops. Another sum of £3, 605,000 will be supplied by the Swiss National Bank, which will draw it from the profits of £31,634,000 it made on the devaluation of the Swiss franc. The remainder is to be supplied by the crisis tax, the levying of which has been prolonged for another period of three years.

The result from the various cantons is as follows:—

| Cantons. | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| Zürich | 94,801 | 22,259 |
| Bern | 63,309 | 17,448 |
| Luzern | 19,538 | 5,756 |
| Uri | 3,394 | 653 |
| Schwyz | 4,522 | 2,099 |
| Obwalden | 1,335 | 953 |
| Nidwalden | 1,351 | 688 |
| Glarus | 4,955 | 1,132 |
| Zug | 3,074 | 805 |
| Freiburg | 8,303 | 7,898 |
| Solothurn | 18,112 | 4,015 |
| Basel-Stadt | 17,465 | 5,160 |
| Basel-Land | 11,433 | 4,861 |
| Schaffhausen | 9,614 | 2,046 |
| Appenzell J.-Rh. | 1,163 | 801 |
| Appenzell A.-Rh. | 5,600 | 3,529 |
| St. Gallen | 36,986 | 16,199 |
| Graubünden | 14,799 | 3,855 |
| Aargau | 41,003 | 18,979 |
| Thurgau | 20,179 | 6,769 |
| Tessin | 10,905 | 1,367 |
| Waadt | 30,768 | 48,121 |
| Wallis | 5,658 | 5,397 |
| Neuenburg | 7,170 | 7,918 |
| Genf | 8,523 | 9,890 |
| Total | 443,960 | 198,598 |

#### CLIMBER'S DEATH IN THE ALPS.

Two Zürich tourists who were ascending the Saentis (8,215ft.), in Canton Appenzell, were overtaken by a violent storm. They had reached a place in the rocks from which they could not move. They dug a hole in the snow and spent the night there without food.

The next day, much exhausted, they tried to climb down, and fell 600ft. They had been seen by people in the valley, and a search party went to their rescue. One of the tourists, M. S. Baltensperger, from Zürich, was killed, and the other, M. Schmidt, a medical student, who has a fractured skull, was brought down in a serious condition, but is expected to recover.

#### SWISS EMBROIDERY EXPORTS.

Exports of embroidery from Switzerland in 1938 amounted to 26,100,000 S. frs. which was 1,600,000 S. frs. less than for 1937. Despite this the rate of employment of the Schiffli machines, which had declined to 64.5% at the end of 1937, rose to an average of 70% in 1938, and to 79% at the end of 1938. Of the 894 hand operated machines, about 300 were in regular operation during 1938, and between 100 to 120 were operated for irregular periods. In the first quarter of 1939 embroidery exports at 6,900,000 S. frs. showed a slight improvement as compared with the corresponding period of 1938 (6,300,000 S. frs.).

#### FRENCH MINISTER OF COMMERCE TO VISIT THE SWISS NATIONAL EXHIBITION.

M. Fernand Gentin, Minister of Commerce in the French Cabinet is shortly paying a visit to the Swiss National Exhibition in Zurich, he will also be received by the Federal Council in Berne.

#### FEDERAL SHOOTING FESTIVAL LUCERNE.

The Federal Council will pay a visit to the Federal Shooting Festival in Lucerne on June the 22nd, all the members of the Government will travel to Lucerne.

#### TWO AEROPLANE CRASHES IN SWITZERLAND.

M. Noel Riva, the pilot of a Sports machine and his passenger, M. Léon Droz, President of the Aero-Club La Chaux-de-Fonds, were killed when their machine crashed near La Chaux-de-Fonds.

A Sports machine belonging to the Aero-Club of Yverdon crashed near Echallens. The pilot, M. E. Savary, Dentist at Yverdon received slight injuries, his passenger M. Jean Dupasquier, also from Yverdon, was not injured.

### LOCAL.

#### BERNE.

Mme. Anna Barbara Richard-Graber, an inmate of the "Asyl Gottesgnad" in Langnau, has celebrated her 104th birthday.

* * *

The late Mme. Pauline Rüefli-Fluri has left an amount of 80,000 frs. for charitable purposes.


**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. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 2321/2)

Le Comité.


#### SCHWYZ.

Colonel Dormann, a former commander of the 5th Division (Zurich) has celebrated his 70th birthday in Schwyz.

#### TICINO.

The death is reported from Ponte Tresa of M. Americo Pellegrini, cantonal judge and a member of the Grand Council, at the age of 68.

#### VAUD.

Dr. R. Rubattel, Director of the "La Revue" has been appointed Director of the cantonal hospital in Lausanne.

#### GENEVA.

The 125th anniversary of the entry of the Republic and Canton of Geneva into the Swiss Confederation was celebrated on Sunday last.

M. Ph. Etter, President of the Swiss Confederation, was welcomed on the shore by a crowd which included many groups in costumes and uniforms of 1840.

### SERMON DE CHARITE.

En 1762, l'Eglise Suisse commença à s'occuper des pauvres de la Colonie. En 1870, elle remit cette tâche à notre Fonds de Secours Suisse, dont chacun connaît l'admirable travail. Dès lors, elle continue à s'associer à cette oeuvre de secours, tout particulièrement par le Sermon de Charité.

L'Eglise Suisse célébrera le Sermon de Charité dimanche le 18 juin, à 11h. du matin. Ce sera une heure pendant laquelle nous penserons à nos compatriotes dans le besoin.

Venez montrer votre intérêt en vous associant à ce culte; cela a plus de valeur qu'un simple don. Le Consistoire et le pasteur recevront cependant avec reconnaissance les dons de ceux qui ne peuvent venir à Endell Street dimanche.

*Le Consistoire de l'Eglise Suisse.*

### LIEBESTAETIGKEIT.

Die Schweizerkirche begann schon im Jahre 1762 ihre Liebestätigkeit unter den Armen der Schweizerkolonie. Diese Aufgabe wurde im Jahre 1870 von der schweizerischen Hülfsgesellschaft übernommen, deren bewunderungswürdige Arbeit jedermann bekannt ist. Die Kirche hat seither das Werk nach Kräften unterstützt, insbesondere durch einen speziellen Gottesdienst der Liebestätigkeit.

Die Schweizerkirche hat den diesjährigen Gottesdienst der Liebestätigkeit auf Sonntag den 18. Juni um 11 Uhr morgens angesetzt. An demselben wollen wir unserer notbedürftigen Landsleute in ganz besonderer Weise gedenken.

Jedermann ist herzlich eingeladen sein Interesse an dem Werk der Hülfsgesellschaft durch Anteilnahme an diesem Gottesdienst zu bezeugen. Dies ist wertvoller als eine finanzielle Unterstützung. Die Kirchenpflege und der Pfarrer nehmen aber gerne Geschenke derjenigen entgegen, die an dem Gottesdienst nicht teilnehmen können.

*Die Kirchenpflege der Schweizerkirche.*

### NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the fact that we shall issue a twelve page special number on Saturday, the 24th of June, on the occasion of the 20th Jubilee of our paper, next week's number (June 17th) will be dispensed with.