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The villagers of Bourg-St-Pierre received a letter from the Emperor saying: "Let me know your estimate of the damages caused by my troops and I will indemnify you for everything. This is only fair. Signed: Bonaparte". But Bourg-St-Pierre did not receive one centime.

Numerous Swiss and French lawyers have already been consulted as to whether possible claims by the Valais for reimbursement would be outdated or not. They could not fall into agreement: some say that the debt in question being a national one, it cannot be outdated, others contest that it is not a national debt. *(A.T.S.)*

JEAN PIAGET IS AWARDED AN AMERICAN DISTINCTION

The American Psychological Society has decided to award its scientific prize to the Geneva professor Jean Piaget during its latest general assembly. It is the first time a non-American is honoured in this way.

Jean Piaget, universally renowned for his research on child psychology and perception, was born in 1896 and received his doctorate from the faculty of science of the University of Neuchatel. He has lectured in many higher institutions, such as the Universities of Geneva, Lausanne, Neuchatel and the Sorbonne. He has received honorary doctorates from 20 universities. In 1963, he was awarded the Prize of the City of Geneva and in 1967, the medal of the American Research Association. *(A.T.S.)*

FROM LOCARNO TO VENICE BY BOAT

Chaired by the lawyer Camillo Beretta, a Italo-Swiss meeting has investigated the problems which the opening of a waterway between Locarno and Venice would present. Tessin was represented by the president of the Council of States Arturo Lafranchi, the head of the Cantonal Public Works Authority, Argante Righetti, National Councillor Enrico Franzoni and the town president of Locarno, Professor Speziali.

The Italian delegation declared that Italy was determined in starting-off with the project and creating a waterway linking Milan to Turin. It would go ahead with or without Switzerland's participation. The commercial interest of such waterways would be greatly enhanced by the generalisation of the use of containers. *(A.T.S.)*

NUCLEX 69 WORLD NUCLEAR FAIR

Practically every country engaged in exploiting the peaceful potential of nuclear energy will be represented in the "Nuclex-69" exhibition to be held in Basle between the 6th and 11th of October. This second nuclear fair will cover a total surface of 24,000 square metres in the seven halls of the Swiss National Fair and will display the production of 300 exhibitors from 20 countries. Switzerland will be represented by the fifty members of the "Swiss Federation for Atomic Energy". The "Federal Institute for Reactor Research of Würelnlingen" will also be represented. *(A.T.S.)*

NEW YORK'S MAY BE BIGGER, BUT IT'S SURELY NOT BETTER

That famous jet of water which has become the hallmark of Geneva is no longer the highest fountain in the world.

It has been relegated to second place by an enormous fountain, 75 metres higher, which now rises in New York harbour facing the Island Manhattan—the gift of millionaire George T. Delacorte.

Mr. Debonneville, in charge of Geneva's water department, says that the Léman jet could be made to go higher, but this would be too costly.

To reach the height of 200 metres attained by the New York fountain, it would be necessary to double the power of Geneva's motor pumps.

These two pumps at present have 1,360 horsepower and the water spurts up at a speed of 200 km. per hour.

To double the horsepower would cost Sfr. 100 an hour—Sfr. 55 of which would be due to additional electricity costs.

Mr. Debonneville adds that there would also be the problem of splashing the quays.

So it looks as if Geneva will now have to be content with a spectacular but second-highest fountain.

Mr. Delacorte, who spent $350,000 on his fountain, made his fortune on paperback books.

His gift has not pleased all New Yorkers, some of whom feel the money could have been put to better use.

He has already had a statue of "Alice in Wonderland" erected in Central Park in memory of his wife, as well as a clock with moving animals.

SEPARATISTS DON'T LIKE THE 'WISE MEN'

Separatists have reacted unfavourably to an urgent appeal to the people of the Jura, issued by the "Four Wise Men" good offices commission, not to resort to violence. But other main Jura organizations have welcomed the appeal.

The separatists consider that the commission aimed its remarks directly at them, especially as the statement specifically mentioned this weekend's Festival of the Jura People, which is organized annually by the *Rassemblement Jurassien,* the main separatist organization.

The commission said that discussion of the Jura problem must stop feeding discord and hate between the rival factions and must become a common undertaking in which all factions take part, respecting the basic laws of Swiss democracy. It recalled August 1 incidents in the Jura this year and pointed out that there had already been violence in the region.

The statement said that at this year's Festival the *Rassemblement* was to give its official reply to the proposals for solving the Jura problem which have been made by both the commission and the Bern Cantonal Government.

These proposals, it added, were aimed at allowing Jurassians to decide freely on their future. More than this could not be offered.

The separatists were particularly offended by a passage in the commission's statement which said "The example of totalitarian regimes shows how easy it is to excite the passions of a crowd, to work them up into unreasonable attitudes and to push individual persons, consciously or unconsciously, into committing acts of violence."

Rassemblement Jurassien Secretary-General Roland Béguelin called the remarks "clumsy."

He said the Commission had never attended a Festival and did not know its spirit.

Furthermore, said Mr. Béguelin, there had never been any incidents at the Festival, which had been held annually for the last 21 years.

However, the anti-separatist Union of Jurassian Patriots welcomed the Commission's appeal, stating that it was addressed to all Jurassians "but especially to those who work up crowds and lead them to take unreasonable attitudes and even commit acts of violence."

JAZZ IN ZURICH

For weeks amateur jazz bands in Switzerland have been blowing their trumpets in expectation of a jazz orgy from 15-20 in Zurich's Urban Theater.

It will be the 19th International Jazz Festival, and the best amateurs can take away prizes ranging from men's beauty kits and blue jeans to tape-recorders.

Preliminaries have been held around Zurich in Uster, Winterthur and Lucerne. Winning the Uster section were the "Jumping Stones" from Glarus.

As well as successful amateurs, the Zurich festival on Wednesday night will also feature Marsha Hunt of "Hair" fame from London, on Thursday Phil Woods and his European Symphony Machine, on Friday Philly Joe Jones.

Each night of the festival there will be a jam session in the "Weisser Wind" restaurant until 1 o'clock.

(Weekly Tribune, Geneva)

Dr. LINDT NAMED AMBASSADOR TO NEW DEHLI

The federal Council has appointed Dr. August Lindt as Ambassador in India and Nepal, with headquarters in New Dehli. He succeeds to Dr. Marcel Heimo, who has been accredited as delegate of the Federal Council to the Organisation for Economic and Commercial Development in Paris.