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FORTHCOMING EVENTS ★ ★ ★ ★

Hamilton Swiss Club

Our next Evening will be held on October 7th (first Sunday) in the Riverlea. The Dutch orchestra will play for you—bring your partner.

Auckland Swiss Club

As advertised in the August issue, a Maskenball will be held on October 6th at the Professional Club, 12 Kitchener Street, C.1.

Motto: "FASTNACHT IM NIEDERDORF" with Maskenpraemierung and Prizes to win, so please turn up in the fancy costumes the Swiss-Fastnacht is famous for and bring along also the humour and intrigues to make this evening really gay and entertaining, full of fun and laughter.

Our Swiss Band will be playing until midnight and from then on the Latin-American Band will take over again with Carlo singing for you all the requests you wish to hear. An excellent supper, ordered from the Sorrento, will be served before midnight and as usual a few more surprises are still in the Bag.

Entry fees for Members: Maskiert 10/-, Unmaskiert 15/-.

Entry fees for Non-Members: Maskiert 15/-, Unmaskiert 20/-.

—H.M.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND ★ ★ ★

GOTTLIEB DUTTWEILER

As we reported in our last issue, National Councillor Gottlieb Duttweiler died on 8th June at the age of nearly 74 years. He was born in Zurich on 15th August, 1888, a citizen of Zurich and Oberweningen. His father was manager of the "Lebensmittelverein Zurich." Young Gottlieb went to school in Zurich and afterwards served an apprenticeship with an agency for food imports. He spent a year in France and in 1910 entered the services of Pfister & Co. in which firm he became a partner in 1917. His business travels took him to Turkey, Asia Minor, Trieste, Genoa, Barcelona, Malaga and New York. In 1923 he and his wife emigrated to Brazil, where he became co-owner of a coffee plantation. But as his wife could not stand the climate he returned to Switzerland two years later. On 25th August, 1925, together

with Fritz Keller and Rudolf Peter, he founded the Migros A.G. They started with only a few lorries which circulated as "mobile shops." This undertaking succeeded rapidly. In 1935 he founded the "Hotel-Plan" organisation in order to help the tourist industry, but above all to enable people of modest means to enjoy holidays at low and inclusive terms. In 1941 he transformed the Migros A.G. into a co-operative society which today has 593,410 members. Duttweiler was the first man to start self-service shops in Switzerland and later he introduced Migros markets, founded the crude oil refinery Frisia A.G. at Emden, the Migros Bank and other companies.

When the Migros was ten years old, Gottlieb Duttweiler started his own independent political movement, the "Landesring der Unabhangigen." The paper "Die Tat" was published as a weekly information paper for his party, but on 1st October, 1939, it began to appear as a daily paper.

From 1935 to 1940 and again from 1943 to 1949 Duttweiler was a member of the National Council, and from 1949 to 1951 he represented the Canton of Zurich in the Council of States. From 1951 until his death he was again a member of the National Council, this time representing the Canton of Berne. During the 27 years of his parliamentary career he sat on many important commissions, e.g., foreign policy, customs tariffs, etc.

But Duttweiler was not only interested in commerce and politics. He also founded a number of educational and cultural institutions. He started schools and classes for adult education in large towns as well as in smaller places. His "Club House Concerts" were a great success, as were his other ventures of a similar nature.

One of the organisations he created was in the interests of the Swiss abroad who had lost their livelihood during the war. Having lived so much outside Switzerland himself, he always remembered his compatriots abroad and identified himself with their concerns again and again.

To say that Gottlieb Duttweiler was a most enterprising and hard-working man is somewhat an understatement. He was full of tremendous vitality and energy and a real fighter. He fought antiquated commercialism on one hand, and on the other he was antagonistic to big monopolies and trusts. The competition which his business ventures created certainly contributed to maintaining lower prices. It stirred up the Swiss retail trade, unfortunately sometimes at the expense of the small retailer. His political views, too, were often unorthodox and controversial, and I have heard him called the "enfant terrible" of the Swiss political arena. He had many adversaries and fighting certainly was the spice of life to him.

Now "Dutti," as he was affectionately called by his friends and admirers—and disparagingly by his opponents—has gone to rest. It is

said that Zurich has never seen such a funeral as that of Gottlieb Duttweiler on 13th June. The late National Councillor was an outstanding personality, and friends and foes alike agree that he was one of the great Swiss of our times. The fact that there was a remarkable absence of hatred or bitter feelings in the many obituaries that appeared all over the country speaks well both for him and his adversaries, who gave him credit and even, if reluctantly, admiration.

—MARIANN, *Editor Swiss Observer*

The successor of the late National Councillor Duttweiler in Parliament will be the director of the Migros Club School in Berne, Dr. iur. Casimir Huber from Wittenbach (SG), who will represent the "Landesring der Unabhangigen" as National Councillor for the Canton of Berne as did his predecessor.

FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The Federal Council submitted a message to the Federal Assembly concerning the financial position of the United Nations. The UN General Assembly decided last December to issue a loan to the value of 200 million dollars. Its financial state had deteriorated rapidly during the past few years so that the deficit in 1961 amounted to 86 million dollars, including over 50 million dollars in the Kongo account. The Federal Council proposes that Switzerland should take part in raising the loan to 1.9 million dollars (8.2 million Swiss Francs) on condition that her quota would be put exclusively to non-belligerent uses. The message to Parliament explains that although Switzerland is not a member of UNO she belongs to nine of the thirteen Specialised Agencies. Apart from the European Office of UNO, several Specialised Agencies have their seat in Switzerland. About 3,250 international employees work in Geneva and Berne for these organisations, and 57 permanent delegations are accredited to UNO in Geneva. Consequently, important international meetings and conferences are taking place in our country all the time. Our relationship with the United Nations Family is, therefore, many sided and close and expresses our constantly pursued policy of international solidarity. In spite of criticism, which could be levelled at UNO at times, the message by the Federal Council continues, it cannot be denied that they have in many instances rendered invaluable services to the cause of peace which they alone could have done. Switzerland has every interest in the continued existence of the United Nations and should show her willingness to support any efforts towards world peace by participating in this loan. The condition that the Swiss loan should be used only for peaceful actions has been accepted by UNO and

Switzerland will thus be able to decide herself in conjunction with the United Nations for what purposes her contribution of the loan may be used.

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN SWITZERLAND AND JAPAN

The Aluminium Industry Company (AIAG) has just signed a contract with Sun Aluminium Industries Ltd., in Tokyo, for the construction and organisation of an aluminium sheeting factory, the proposed contract having first been submitted for approval to the Japanese Minister for Foreign Trade and Industry. Part of the industrial equipment of the future factory has been ordered from Swiss firms.

AVERAGE WORKING WEEK OF 45.8 HOURS IN 1961

The average number of hours worked per week in Switzerland last year was 45.8, or 0.7 per cent less than in 1960. This figure was higher than that of most other industrial countries in Western Europe, the only exception being the Netherlands, where the average working week was 46.5 hours.

MOST POPULAR MUSEUM IN SWITZERLAND

During the first three years of its existence, the Swiss Museum of Transport and Communications in Lucerne has attracted 724,000 visitors, a record for a museum of any kind in Switzerland.

CLOCK AND CHIMES REMIND GENEVANS OF VICTORY OVER THE INVADER

In 1602, the Duke of Savoy's troops attempted to storm the town of Geneva by scaling the city ramparts at night. Fortunately the presence of mind of the inhabitants made it possible to repulse the invader.

In order to provide fitting commemoration of this thwarted attack, which is moreover celebrated every year, the town of Geneva recently installed a monumental clock, made by the firm of Longines. In addition to the time, this clock indicates the day, date and month, as well as the phases of the moon. Every 60 minutes, it automatically sets off a chime of 16 bells accompanied by a procession of bronze figures representing leading personalities of the period. The whole is worked by electricity. The roll of perforated paper which operates the chimes contains a programme of six different tunes; in addition, this automatic device possesses an electric keyboard making it possible to give even more varied concerts.

RADAR DEVICE FOR METERING SPEED OF ROAD VEHICLES

A Swiss firm has recently put on the market a transistorised speedmeter for checking the speed of road vehicles. This instrument can be installed anywhere; it is simple to use, requiring no special skills on the part of the operator, and can be positioned discreetly and without interrupting the flow of traffic. It consists of a radar screen and a recording device which automatically plots the measured speed on standard paper graduated from 36 to 120 k.p.h. or 25 to 75 m.p.h. An illuminated, easily read dial, which is independent of the recording device, reads from 0 to 120 k.p.h. and shows the speed of the vehicle at any given moment (the recording card only gives the maximum speed).

The "Multanova-Radar," as the apparatus is called, may be connected to any automobile with a 12-volt battery. Apart from plugging the radar screen to the inspection vehicle, there are no connections to be made, and no cables or wires to be laid out on the roadway. Measurements of speed can be made at any time of day or night and in both directions in which traffic is moving. The instrument is accurate to plus or minus three per cent, and accuracy is not affected by variations in the battery voltage; if the latter falls below a certain critical level, a warning bell is rung. Temperature variations between 0 and 40 deg.C (32 and 104 deg.F) have only slight effect on accuracy.

Transistorised throughout except for the klystron electron tube, the "Multanova-Radar" consumes very little current. Together with all its ancillary equipment it weighs only 26 kg and its overall dimensions are small.

TELEX SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE TO 77 COUNTRIES

Two more countries have been connected to Switzerland by telex facilities, namely Ghana (Accra) and Tanganyika (Dar-es-Salaam). With these two newcomers, the total number of countries linked to Switzerland by telex has risen to seventy-seven.

CONSUMPTION OF HOT WATER

Recent statistics show that Switzerland consumes on an average three and a quarter gallons of hot water a day per head of the population, which represents a total daily consumption of 18½ million gallons, for the production of which a heat of approximately 5 billion kilo-calories is required. The average cost of power being 0.40 Fr. for 10,000 kilo-calories, the daily expenditure amounts to 200,000 Fr., making a total of 73 million francs a year.

SIXTEEN MILLION VISITORS EXPECTED FOR SWISS NATIONAL EXHIBITION

The organisers of the forthcoming Swiss National Exhibition to be held at Lausanne in 1964, basing their calculations on the last national exhibition and on similar events such as the Brussels Universal Exhibition, expect a total of sixteen million visitors. These are expected to fall under the following headings: three million from the Lausanne area itself, five million arriving by train, and eight million arriving by road in some three million vehicles. An average of 75,000 visitors per day is expected on weekdays, rising to 150,000 or even 200,000 at weekends and peak holiday periods.

THE SWISS — GREAT EATERS OF ORANGES

Switzerland imported 57,086 metric tons of citrus fruits during the first six months of 1962, as against 50,765 in the corresponding period of 1961. This represents an increase of 12.5 per cent and is the highest level of imports ever attained in this line.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION TAKING SHAPE

The 1964 Swiss National Exhibition will be staged in Lausanne, on the shore of Lake of Geneva. Plans and preparations are proceeding to schedule—indeed, the designing and construction department now has no fewer than 62 building sites either ready planned or being developed. Recently, tests have been going forward on the construction of a pool, 200 square metres in area, the bottom of which is lined with plastic. There will be over a dozen such pools in the Exhibition grounds with a total area of 18,000 square metres, all insulated with a polyethylene film 0.2 mm in thickness.

SWISS PRO JUVENTUTE STAMPS

Every year the Swiss Postal Administration issues special stamps which are sold with a small surcharge, the proceeds being donated to youth institutions under the patronage of the Pro Juventute organisation. In the 1961 edition the Postal Administration issued nearly 35,300,000 stamps of this kind, viz. about 12.8 million five-cent stamps, 10 million ten-cent stamps, 7.3 million twenty-cent stamps, 2.4 million thirty-cent and 2.6 million fifty-cent stamps.

SWISS WATCHMAKING INDUSTRY AWARDED
ADVERTISING PRIZE

A committee of experts set up by the American magazine Reader's Digest has just awarded a first prize to the Swiss Federation of Associations of Watch Manufacturers (FH) for the advertising this group carried out in the United States between 1955 and 1961. It is interesting to note that very few foreign firms have so far succeeded in winning the prizes for advertising awarded by this jury. In the field of watchmaking, there are only two prize-winners: the Swiss FH and an American company.

Laugh a little . . .

The old Indian comes to town for the first time in his life. He is shown one of the largest shops and the lift takes his particular fancy. An old woman enters the lift, the automatic doors close and the lift rises upwards out of sight. After a little while the lift comes down again and a sweet young girl steps out. "If I had known that such things happen in town," says the old Indian, "I would have brought my old squaw along."

* * *

I met a colleague who sat alone at his usual table in the "Wirtschaft." He held a pack of cards in his hands. When I asked him if it was interesting to "Jass" with himself he answered me: "It would be quite good, if only I did not have to run around the table."

* * *

Dialogue: "What actually do you do now?"

"I work for the government."

"Are you a government employee?"

"No. Taxpayer."

—From *Nebelspalter*

ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

For information write to.— A. BILAND,
TE RAPA, R.D. 8,
FRANKTON JUNCTION.