

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1938)

Heft: 879

Artikel: Bettagmandat = Mandement du Jeûne fédéral

Autor: [s.n.]

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-695062>

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The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

EDITED WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE LONDON COLONY.

Telephone: CLERKENWELL 2321/2.

Published every Friday at 23, LEONARD STREET, LONDON, E. C. 2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

VOL. 15—No. 879

LONDON, 17 SEPTEMBER, 1938

PRICE 3d.

BETTAGSMANDAT.

Liebe Landsleute!

In sehr ernster Stunde feiern wir den Eidgenössischen Bettag, den grossen Tag, an dem unser Volk zu Gebet, Dank und Busse aufrufen wird. Wir sind dessen gewiss, dass dieser Tag in unserer Heimat mit inniger Ueberzeugung denn je begangen werden wird von allen denen, die ihre Heimat lieben und sie gerne frei und stark sehen möchten.

Auch uns Auslandsschweizern obliegt es diesen Bettag mitzufeiern. Eingedenk der Verantwortlichkeiten, die wir in unserer Colonie haben, laden wir euch ein, euch am nächsten Sonntag zu der einen oder anderen unserer Gemeinden zu gesellen, um die Heils- und Friedensbotschaft CHRISTI an uns zu vernehmen, in der die einzige Hoffnung für unsere gequälte und ruheloze Menschheit beschlossen ist.

Lasst euch, bitte, durch keinerlei Rücksichten oder Pläne am Besuch der Gottesdienste abhalten. Erscheint doch alle, um den Eidgenössischen Dank- Buss- und Bettag nach dem Vorbild unserer Vorfahren zu begehen.

Das Consistoire der Schweizerkirche.

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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.

DIE SCHWEIZ SIEHT SICH VOR.

Bern, 12. Sept. Das Eidgenössische Militärdepartement teilt mit:

„Gestützt auf eine Ermächtigung des Bundesrates hat das Eidgenössische Militärdepartement die Ladung der Minen und Strassen an allen Landesgrenzen auf heute 12. September, als vorsorgliche Massnahme verfügt. Die Bevölkerung hat sich deren Anordnungen zu unterziehen. Es ist verboten, sich auf den Sprengobjekten aufzuhalten, wie zu photographieren oder zu zeichnen.“

SWISS FORTIFICATIONS.

Referring to rumours that some military zones have been created on certain Swiss Alpine passes, where tourists are not allowed to go, the Swiss Federal Military Department announces that no such zones have been created either on the Grisons passes or on other Alpine passes near the border. Traffic on all the Alpine roads is free, but the entry into the fortified regions and the photographing of fortifications are forbidden, and the approach to these regions is indicated by special boards.

„AUSLANDSCHWEIZERTAG“ OF THE N.S.H. IN SCHAFFHAUSEN.

The „Auslandschweizertag“ of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique took place on Saturday and Sunday, September 10th and 11th at Schaffhausen.

M. Motta, chief of the Federal Political Dept., who on previous occasions had attended the deliberations, was prevented from being present owing to the precarious political situation; M. Baumann, President of the Swiss Confederation sent a telegram of greetings to the Assembly. Dr. Lätt, President of the „Auslandschweizerkommission“ extended a hearty welcome to the numerous delegates who had attended the Meeting.

M. Lieb, President of the cantonal government, and himself a former „Auslandschweizer“

MANDEMENT DU JEUNE FEDERAL.

Cher Compatriotes,

C'est en une heure bien sérieuse que nous voyons venir de nouveau le dimanche du Jeune, la grande journée nationale de prière, d'humiliation et de reconnaissance. Nous sommes certains qu'au pays, elle sera célébrée avec plus de ferveur que jamais par tous ceux qui aiment leur pays et désirent le voir libre et fort.

Il import que les Suisses à l'étranger, eux aussi, s'associent de tout cœur à cette journée. C'est pour cela que, conscients des responsabilités que nous avons au sein de la Colonie, nous vous convions à vous grouper dans l'une ou l'autre des communautés de l'Eglise Suisse, dimanche prochain, afin d'entendre le message que Christ a pour nous, message de salut et de paix, seul espoir de notre monde tourmenté et inquiet.

Ne vous laissez arrêter par aucune considération personnelle ou familiale. Soyez TOUS PRESENTS, pour célébrer comme il se doit le Jeune institué par nos ancêtres.

LE CONSISTOIRE DE L'EGLISE SUISSE.

extended his greetings, on behalf of the cantonal government to the members of the „Fünfte Schweiz.“

Dr. H. Rothmund of the Federal „Justiz und Polizei Dept.“ introduced a discussion concerning Swiss abroad and Foreigners in Switzerland. We hope to report further on the deliberations of this important Meeting in subsequent numbers of the S.O.

NEW LOSS FOR SWISS MILITARY AVIATION.

An aeroplane of the Swiss Air Force, piloted by lieutenant Paul Frei, crashed near Frauenfeld, lieutenant Frei, who was 26 years old was killed. This is the eighth fatal accident in the Swiss Air Force in the last fortnight.

LATE FEDERAL COUNCILLOR DR. HAEBERLIN 70 YEARS OLD.

Dr. Häberlin, late member of the Federal Council has recently celebrated his 70th birthday; he entered the Federal Council in 1920 in succession to Dr. Calonder.

Dr. Häberlin resigned from his post in 1934.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN SWITZERLAND.

The Unemployment figures just published show a slight improvement, the total of unemployed is given as 49,606 or 2,286 less than twelve months ago.

FIRST GLIDER FLIGHT.

The Swiss pilot, Marcel Godinat, has made the first flight from Zürich to Basle and back again in a glider. Leaving Zürich in the morning, he reached Basle after two hours flight, landed there, and returned to Zürich the same day. The distance between the two towns is about 53 miles.

SWISS £470,000 LOAN TO OSLO.

A Swiss banking consortium, headed by the Crédit Suisse, is to grant the City of Oslo a Three and a-Half per Cent. Sixteen year loan of Swiss Frs. 10,000,000 (about £470,000 at the current rate).

Last May a Swiss banking consortium made a Three per Cent. Thirty-two-year loan at 95 to the Norwegian Government for conversion purposes.

SWISS VITICULTURAL GRANTS.

This year the Swiss Federal Government has allocated two million francs to be spent in affording assistance to wine growers.

In Switzerland there is a guaranteed price for spirits distilled from fruit which the producers are obliged to sell to the Government Alcohol Board.

In 12 months the Board purchased for 4.3 million francs locally distilled spirit on which they made a loss of 2.7 million francs.

Last year Switzerland bought spirits (not including Cognac or rum) from the United Kingdom to the value of nearly half a million francs. In 1936 spirit imports from this country were valued at 292,000 francs.

GORDON-BENNETT BALLOON RACE.

The international balloon race for the Gordon-Bennett Cup began at Liège on Sunday last with nine competitors, three Belgians, two French, three Polish and one Swiss.

It is reported that the Swiss Balloon, Zurich III, piloted by Dr. E. Tilgenkamp has landed near Vienna after a flight lasting 25 hours, covering 500 miles.

The Polish balloon L.O.P.P. has covered the greatest distance so far. It landed at Troyan, in Bulgaria, having travelled for just over 1,000 miles.

Last year's race was won by the Belgian balloon, Belgica, which covered 905 miles. The Belgica landed at Szilazy-Cseh, in Rumania, after a flight of about 825 miles.

The Warzawa II, another Polish balloon, has landed at Caturelle, northeast of Curmu Severice, Rumania, some 920 miles from Liège. The French balloon Maurice Mallet landed near Orsava, also in Rumania, after a flight of about 875 miles.

The Wallonie, a Belgian balloon, landed at Pecs, Hungary, after flying nearly 700 miles.

The French balloon Flanders, which came down at Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, was the first to land. It had covered some 525 miles.

No news has been received of the Belgian balloon S.11 or the Polish balloon Polonia II.

SWISS DELEGATION TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS MEETING.

The names of the Swiss Delegates to the League of Nations Meeting in Geneva are as follows: Federal-Councillor G. Motta, Professor W. Rappard, Minister W. Stucki, National Councillors Pierre Aeby and R. Grimm, States-Councillor H. Mouttet, Camille Gorgé and Mlle. S. Ferrière.

LOCAL.

ZÜRICH.

At the closing ceremony of the eighth International Congress of Historical Sciences held at the Federal Technical High School, Dr. Leland (Washington) was formally installed as the new president. The next meeting will be in Prague in May, 1939. Discussion of the Italian Government's invitation to hold the 1943 Congress in Rome was postponed.

The population of the town of Zurich at the end of August numbered 325,250 inhabitants.

M. Th. Bernet, formerly rector of the Cantonal Commercial School in Zurich, has celebrated his 70th birthday. M. Bernet was for many years connected with the Schweiz. Kaufm. Verein.

BERNE.

Dr. Otto von Greyerz, the well-known Dialect writer, and for many years Professor at the University of Berne has celebrated his 75th birthday.

The Federal Council has appointed Dr. Fauconnet to the post of Director of the „Eidgenössischen Gesundheitsamtes.“

M. Renggli, Director of the „Bundesamt für Industrie, Gewerbe und Arbeit,“ has tendered his resignation to the Federal Council, the latter accepted same, expressing their thanks for services rendered. M. Renggli has taken over the Management of the „Allgemeinen Schweiz. Uhrenindustrie A.G.“

LUCERNE.

A new Salzburg is in process of formation in Lucerne. Concerts under the direction of Ernest Ansermet and Count Gilbert Gravinga (a grandson of Cosima Wagner), and given with the co-operation of such artists as Dusolina Giannini, Alfred Cortot, Emanuel Feuermann, and the Bush Quartet, have served as an overture for the big symphony concerts with famous conductors. The most eagerly awaited event was the concert conducted by Arturo Toscanini in the fine natural park which surrounds the Wagner Museum at Tribschen, the house where Wagner spent the happiest years of his life, and where