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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

At the meeting of the Federal Council on July 30th the decision relating to motor vehicles on open roadways was discussed. The so called Automobil-transport Organisation has as its aim a co-ordination between rail and roadways, particulars of which were published in the daily press. The ruling will come into force on August 15th.

The Federal Arts and Crafts Commission assembled this week under the chairmanship of Director Dr. Willy, of the Federal Labour Office in Zurich, and agreed to a resolution for submission to the Federal Council. In this resolution there were several concrete proposals concerning the creation of labour.

M. Max Kaufmann of Winikon, Canton Lucerne, has been elected Vice-Director of the Federal Labour Office by the Federal Council.

Commercial negotiations regarding the exchange of goods and methods of payment took place in Budapest between representatives of the Swiss and Hungarian Governments last week. Discussions will be resumed in Berne at the beginning of September.

The Government of the Canton of Berne have fixed the date of the vote on the introduction of the Federal Criminal Law for Sunday, August 3rd.

Canton Zurich has reduced the car tax. The reduction will be assessed according to horse power, on which the petrol ration is also dependent.

The sum of 300,000 Swiss francs has been set apart for relief work by the Geneva Borough Council.

Continuous bad weather during the last few days caused floods in many places. At Ermatingen considerable damage was done.

On the evening of July 26th a heavy storm over Rolle, on the lake of Geneva, covered the streets with stones and earth, and partly flooded them. Much damage was done to the fields and vineyards.

The International Red Cross Committee has announced that as a result of the recent suspension of postal communications and of the difficulties experienced in telephonic and telegraphic communication, caused by war conditions, many prisoners of war have been unable to get in touch with their relatives in France. Every possible effort is being made to re-establish contact.

A train carrying a supply of foodstuffs for the population of Paris and the surrounding district, left Geneva on July 24th. This is the third train-load of supplies which has been sent from Switzerland at the instigation of the American Red Cross.

Dr. Junot, a delegate of the Swiss Red Cross, was received by Marshal Pétain in Vichy, on July 24th. A discussion took place on the problem of prisoners of war, as a result of which Dr. Marti went to Berlin to visit British prisoners of war.

At the end of July Professor Lätt gave an address on the radio to Swiss citizens abroad. With regard to the Fête Nationale, he exhorted them to think of their country on August 1st, saying that Switzerland would be thinking of all its countrymen abroad.

On the conditions prevailing in Switzerland, Professor Lätt said that very bad weather in July had retarded the harvest considerably. The rye, which should already have been gathered in, was not yet ripe. It was too early yet to speak of a failure of this year's harvest, but dry, fine weather would have to come soon to be in time to save the harvest.

Professor Lätt mentioned that the petrol ration for private cars would have to be stringently reduced in view of present conditions. Motoring for pleasure

## CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

### L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Mardi le 6 Août à 7.0 h. précises au  
Restaurant PAGANI 42, Great Portland Street,  
W.1.

#### ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.	Décision concernant le
Admissions.	"Club House Fund."
Démissions.	Divers.

Le souper est facultatif et 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