

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: - (1951)

Heft: 1172

Rubrik: News at random

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The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED IN 1919 BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain

Advisory Council: R. DE CINTRA (Chairman); O. F. BOEHRINGER, I.S. CHAPUIS, J. EUSEBIO, GOTTFRIED KELLER, R. J. KELLER, R. PFENNINGER, A. STAUFFER, G. E. SUTER.

EDITED BY A. STAUFFER WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SWISS COLONY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Telephone: CLERKENWELL 2321/2.

Published Twice Monthly at 23, LEONARD STREET, E.C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

Vol. 36. No. 1172.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 1951.

PRICE 11d.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

(Fortnightly issue.)

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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Dr. Eugène Broye, Swiss Minister to Spain, will vacate his post at the end of the current year on reaching retiring age.

Minister Broye was born in 1886, a citizen of Fribourg and Estavayer. He studied law at the Universities of Paris and Fribourg. On entering the Diplomatic Service, he was sent successively to the Swiss Legations in Paris and Madrid as Secretary of Legation, afterwards he acted as Chargé d'Affaires in Athens and Budapest, and Counsellor of Legation in Rome. In February, 1939, he was appointed Swiss Minister to Spain.

* * *

The Swiss Minister to Belgium and Luxembourg, Monsieur Etienne Lardy, who has reached retiring age, will leave his post at the end of this year.

Minister Lardy was born in 1886 in Neuchâtel and on completion of his studies as a lawyer, entered the Diplomatic Service in 1914. From 1915-1918, he was attached to the Swiss Legation, in Petrograd as Secretary of Legation, and afterwards was transferred to London. After a stay at the Federal Political Department (Swiss Foreign Office) in Berne, he was sent to Washington with the rank of Counsellor of Legation where he remained from 1927-1931. In 1932, M. Lardy was appointed Consul General in Shanghai and afterwards Chargé d'Affaires at Nanking. Six years later (1938) he was transferred to Turkey as Minister to Turkey and Bulgaria, with seat at Ankara. In 1945, he was sent to Brussels as Minister, at the same time he was also accredited to the Government of Luxembourg.

* * *

The Italian Minister in Berne, Monsieur Reale, has paid an official visit to Monsieur E. von Steiger, President of the Swiss Confederation, expressing the thanks of the Italian government for the generous help given by our country to the population of Northern Italy during the inundation.

Dr. Karl Renold has been elected President of the National Council. He was born in 1888, in Dättwil, near Baden. After having studied law at the Universities of Zurich, Berne and Leipzig, he practised as a lawyer in Baden. From 1917-1925, he held the appointment as "Staatschreiber" of the canton of Aargau, and since 1925 he has been in charge of the Insurance Office of his native canton. In 1942, he was elected a member of Parliament (National Council) representing the B.G.B. party. In the army, he holds the rank of Colonel.

Dr. Thomas Holenstein has been elected Vice-President.

* * *

Dr. Bixio Bossi, has been elected President of the States-Council (Ständerat). He was born in 1896 in Lugano. He studied juris-prudence at the Universities of Berne and Zurich and is practising as a lawyer in Lugano. Dr. Bossi is a member of the Grand Council of the canton Ticino since 1922, over which he presided in 1928. From 1931-1942, he was a member of the National Council and afterwards represented his native canton in the States Council.

M. Johann Schmucki, born in 1890 in Uznach (Ct. St. Gall), and since 1936 a member of the Council has been elected Vice-President.

* * *

During the month of October, 1951, the Swiss Federal Railways have carried 18.66 million passengers, or 1.39 million more than in October, 1950. The receipts of which amounted to 25.37 million francs (1950: 23.48 m. frs.).

Goods traffic has increased by 312,000 tons and 2.18 million tons have been carried; the receipts reached the sum of 35.91 million francs or 4.37 m. frs. more than during October, 1950.

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Cantonal

On the occasion of the 600th centenary celebration of the town of Zurich, the town of Berne has presented the Mayor of Zurich with three stained glass windows, which have been installed in the office of the Mayor at the town hall. [A.T.S.]

The Mayor of the town of Los Angeles (U.S.A.), Mr. Fletcher Brown, has paid an official visit to the town of Zurich, a luncheon was offered to the latter by Dr. E. Landolt, Mayor of Zurich on the Uetliberg. [A.T.S.]

The organisation committee of the Swiss Costume Festival (Trachtenfest) which was held in Lucerne, in the month of September, have announced that the accounts close with a credit balance of nearly 40,000.—frs.; this amount will be handed over to the "Schweizerische Trachtenvereinigung". [A.T.S.]

Mr. Otto Steiger (Bourgeois Party) has been elected Mayor of the town of Berne, in succession to Dr. E. Bärtschi, who has retired from his post. [A.T.S.]

A fire which broke out at the premises of the "Konsumgenossenschaft" of St. Ursanne, has caused damage estimated to reach the sum of 400,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

The "Freiburger Hülfs-gesellschaft" and the Choral Society of Bulle, have both celebrated their 100th Jubilee. [A.T.S.]

Dr. Carl Ludwig, a former member of the government of the canton of Basle, has been elected *rector magnificus* of the University of Basle. [A.T.S.]

The heirs of the late Mme. Höhener-Enz, of Gais (Ct. Appenzell A.Rh.), have given an amount of 24,000.—frs. to various institutions. [A.T.S.]

Thieves entered the jeweller's shop of Berger in Uzwil (Ct. St. Gall) during the night, and got away with goods to the value of 5,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

The late Mme. Elise Fatzer-Halter, of Romanshorn, has left an amount of 20,000.—frs. to be shared by various charitable institutions. [A.T.S.]

Minister, Charles de Jenner, since 1949 head of the International Red Cross delegation to Germany, has resigned his post. He will be succeeded by M. Denis Favre, a delegate of the committee, at present in Bad Kreuznach. [A.T.S.]

The Swiss Federal Court at Lausanne has passed sentence of 15 months' imprisonment on Pierre Nicole,

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a Communist journalist of Geneva. Nicole, the son of the Communist leader in Geneva, was said to have accused the Federal Government of abandoning the principle of neutrality and preparing to associate Switzerland with American aggression against Russia. He was found guilty of libel and slander against members of the Government, endangering the country's independence, and favouring foreign intrigues against its security. [A.T.S.]

—oOo—

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:—

Pater Rohner, a former Professor of History and Modern Philosophy at the University of Fribourg, in Fribourg, at the age of 80.

Eusèbe Philipona, Administrator of the "Kant. Heil- und Pflegeanstalt" Marsens (Ct. Fribourg), aged 50. The deceased was from 1947-1949 a member of Parliament (National Council).

Hans Markwalder, a well-known sculptor, in Zurich, at the age of 69.

Canon Philippo Nigris, for 60 years a Priest in Misox, aged 89.

Dr. H. Eduard Nüscherer, a former General-Manager of the "Schweiz. Bankverein" in Basle, at the age of 79.

Josef Jobin-Anklin, a former judge at the Supreme Court of the canton of Berne, in Saignelégier.

Mgr. H. Felder, Professor of Theology at the Capucin cloister in Fribourg for 47 years, in Lucerne, at the age of 85.

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