

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: - (1952)

Heft: 1191

Rubrik: Our next Issue

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was given by the Government of the Valais Canton. The "Swiss Observer" would like to take this opportunity to express their congratulations to the Management of the Comptoir Suisse for its meritorious efforts to strengthen the bonds of friendship with Great Britain.

British Exhibition in Switzerland.

The British Chamber of Commerce in Switzerland, under the chairmanship of Mr. Johnson, have recently approached the town authorities of Zürich with a view to examining the possibility of staging a British exhibition in 1953 in the Congress House in Zürich. Their intention is to organise a show devoted exclusively to British export products. The Chamber of Commerce are at present engaged in exploring the interest that British manufacturers might have in such a display. It appears that the response with which their appeal has met so far proves very encouraging.

Swiss Exports to the United Kingdom: Cheese, Apples and Pears.

The severe cuts in British imports of foodstuffs and agricultural produce has had very unpleasant repercussions on Swiss exports. Experience in the few months shows that the global quotas set up by the British authorities are far from sufficient to accommodate the orders which Swiss producers expected to receive from the United Kingdom. The British global quotas for apples of £300,000 and for pears of £750,000 were exhausted by early deliveries from Italy and France before Switzerland could step into the market. Unfortunately, the Board of Trade has so far not

agreed to Swiss requests that the global quotas should be raised. The prospects look very gloomy indeed, and one must face the possibility that Swiss exports of apples and pears to the United Kingdom will drop very considerably.

Exports of Swiss cheese come under the same heading. The import quota proved wholly inadequate, and increases have so far been unobtainable.

Switzerland's Position in EPU.

Switzerland had an active balance with EPU countries of 23.6m. francs in September, as compared with 53.6m. francs in August. Her cumulative credit position at end of September, 1952, thus amounted to 846,927,777 francs, which corresponds to 77.5% of the Swiss quota in EPU (the total quota being 1.093 milliard francs). The first three instalments of the Swiss quota are thus fully exhausted, and the fourth is taken up to the extent of 191m. francs. The margin still available is therefore 246m. francs, which is equal to 22.5% of the quota.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, October 31st, 1952.

We take this opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and most helpful donations over and above their subscription: Hugo Waibel, V. Tenger, O. E. Simmoth, L. Wuest, A. E. Wehrli, Marcel Leuba, H. Oswald, H. Berli, Swiss Youth Club, F. H. Rohr, C. B. Adam, Adrien Rueff.



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