

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: - (1961)

Heft: 1390

Rubrik: Business in Switzerland

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BUSINESS IN SWITZERLAND

Switzerland and the pharmaceutical products market

To-day, Switzerland imports approximately 5½ million Swiss francs' worth of pharmaceutical products a year, mainly antibiotics. However, Switzerland is a big producer of chemical products and pharmaceutical specialities. With regard to the latter, it is even the second biggest exporter in the world.

Foreign award for a Swiss industrialist

The King of the Belgians, Baudouin I, recently conferred on Mr. Walter Boveri, the Managing Director of Brown Boveri Co. Ltd., in Baden, the title of "Grand officier de l'Ordre de Léopold II". This distinction was awarded in recognition of the part this great Swiss industrialist has played in the growth of Belgian industry.

Two more specialised exhibitions in Switzerland

The Swiss Association of Master Bakers and Pastry-Cooks has decided to organise once again, in 1962, after a comparatively long interval, an international exhibition of bakery, pastry and confectionery. This exhibition will take place in Zurich.

The Swiss Society of Building Machinery Manufacturers and Dealers will be holding the 4th International Fair of Building Machinery in the halls of the Swiss Industries Fair in Basle in 1963.

Electronic watchmaking: a new creation

A big Swiss watch production organisation and a well-known Swiss watch factory, specialising in ships' chronometers, have produced an electronic ship's chronometer; resistant to shocks and vibrations, the new model is fitted in a comparatively small case. In spite of its small size, this electronic chronometer has all the precision of a quartz clock.

The growth of Geneva-Cointrin airport

A new 2½-mile-long runway for modern jet liners has just been inaugurated at Geneva-Cointrin airport. In this connection it is interesting to remember that Geneva-Cointrin airport was opened in the autumn of 1920, at which time it boasted only one grass landing strip. In 1937, a 1,300-foot runway was added; in 1946, a 6,500-foot runway allowed the biggest planes of the day to land. A new airport building was opened in 1949, but the density of the traffic at this international airport made it necessary to plan another new building, work on which will start this autumn.

Crockery that can be guaranteed

Plastics have helped to solve the problem of crockery for tourists and campers, who are increasing in number every year, as well as for many mass catering establish-

ments, such as canteens, schools, etc. But — as with everything else — there are plastics and plastics! Often the so-called unbreakable crockery splits, loses its shape under the effect of heat, or gives a slight taste to the food. In order to overcome these drawbacks once and for all, a Zurich firm produced ten years ago an entirely new type of crockery, absolutely unbreakable, odourless, resistant to hot water and acids, and colour-fast, even after many years of continual use. At the same time, the firm invented a process for giving a permanent decoration to its crockery. The success of these novelties was so great that to-day this Swiss manufacturer's methods are used in 31 countries in all five continents. Finally, it should be added that Ornamine crockery is always sold with a one-year guarantee.

Bowaters order Sulzer heating and ventilating for Stevenage Factory

A contract has been awarded to the Heating and Ventilating Division of Sulzer Bros. (London) Ltd., for the mechanical services at the new Stevenage factory of Bowater Packaging Limited. These services include air conditioning for the laboratory, heating and ventilating for the office and amenities buildings, and, for the factory, a Sulzer Radiant Strip system served by high pressure hot water.

The factory will manufacture corrugated fibre-board packaging products. The architects for this 340,000-square-foot project are Farmer and Dark F./F.R.I.B.A.

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