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colours. This is the biggest-ever Church Assembly and is reputed to be prepared to perfection. Twelve Swiss had taken part in the preparatory work, Bishops, Abbots, Priests and University Professors. Interest has been shown not only by non-Roman-Catholics, but even by non-Christians.

On the eve of "Vaticanum II" the bells of all Roman Catholic churches in Switzerland pealed for ten minutes. Solemn Masses were held and other church services during which prayers were said for the Council and for the renewal of Christian Life.

The Federation of Swiss Protestant Churches (Schweizerischer Evangelischer Kirchenbund) issued a special prayer for the success of the Council and for the renaissance of the Church, whose unity was at the moment still obscured.  
(Based on A.T.S. news.)

#### FOUR COMPETITIONS

The **International Charles Veillon Prize for Literature** has been offered for competition. There will be three prizes, one each for a novel in German, French and Italian. Information is obtainable from Prix Charles Veillon, Avenue d'Ouchy 29c, Lausanne.

In order to promote the Raeto-Roman language the Schweizer Feuilleton-Dienst, Postfach 109, Zurich 27, has arranged a competition for **Short Stories** in Romansh.

A competition for **Posters** for the Swiss National Exhibition in Lausanne in 1964 is being held. Minimum age required 18. End of competition 31st October 1962.

Finally, a "**Schlager nach Mass 1963**" competition is being arranged by the "Communauté radiophonique des programmes de langue française". In order to combat the flood of cheap "pop" tunes Switzerland has suggested organising a competition for a high class tune with French text. Information can be obtained from Radio Geneva and Lausanne.  
[A.T.S.]

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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#### SUCCESSFUL APPEAL

The Editor would like to thank those readers who have kindly answered her appeal for some back numbers of the "Swiss Observer". She is very grateful for their prompt action.

#### OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will be published on Friday, 9th November. We should appreciate it if readers could let us have any manuscripts or news items for publication by Wednesday, 31st October.

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