

It happened in the canton of Baselstadt

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Rudolf Zuend (63), industrialist, politician and member of the "Safran" Guild, a former "Fritschivater" of Lucerne.

Michel Dionisotti (77), engineer, founder of the cement works of Vernier (Geneva) and St. Maurice (Valais); expert on tunnels and dams.

Hans Schefer (85), Speicher (A/RH), textile industrialist and local politician.

Dr. Christian Bener (65), Chur, expert on textile chemistry and discoverer of the "everglaze" cotton finish.

Heinrich Huerlimann (71), Kuesnacht (ZH), Vice-Chairman of the Board of the Huerlimann Breweries; a well-known personality in various industries; prominent supporter of aviation and the Swiss Automobile Association.

Hans R. Naef (72), Zurich, well-known in the silk industry.

Edwin Stiefel (74), Director of the Basle Electricity Works.

Henry Wuilloud (79), Sion, engineer/agronomist, professor of viniculture at the ETH; Commune Councillor of Sion; active with the Valaisan farmers, and the Chamber of Commerce; writer, poet, painter and humanist.

Dr. J. Diggelmann (71), eminent lawyer in Zurich.

Alois Mueller (81), Altdorf, former Director of the Uri Cantonal Bank.

Paul-Henri Gagnebin (65), Lausanne, prominent leader in the Swiss Building Trade's Union.

John Enneveux (73), former chief of the Geneva Security and Criminal Police.

Hans Scheidegger (90), former Police Komissar of Zurich; active for sixty years in the "Samariterbund", the first aid movement. [A.T.S.]

IT HAPPENED IN THE CANTON OF BASELSTADT

Basle is perhaps the most difficult of all Cantons to write about, firstly, because I receive detailed daily news by courtesy of the "Basler Nachrichten", and secondly, being a citizen by birth and origin of one half of the Canton (Liestal) and having grown up in the other (Basle), I could fill several pages of every issue with news which I find interesting. To make a selection is a difficult matter, and it has to remain an at random choice.

Basle has been host to several conferences and meetings. The Swiss Trade Federation held its congress there earlier in the year, followed by an international body of registered Rhine navigators. Both the European Rabbi Conference and the Swiss Zionists chose Basle as venue for their meetings, and so did the intercantonal drug and medicine control. The halls of the Swiss Industries Fair, for which an additional large hall is being erected, were used for various other shows, such as the fair for industrial electronics and the world congress for automation. The Swiss psychiatrists and the Swiss lawyers met in Basle, and so did the European Women's Federation at whose general meeting Switzerland was accepted as eleventh member. The German-speaking Swiss Protestants held their conference in Basle ("Schweizerischer Evangelischer Kirchentag") which opened with an impressive service at the Cathedral. It was held under the theme "Hope for the Future", and it is reckoned that over six thousand attended the various group discussions and other events. Federal Councillor Wahlen attended the conference. One of the plays performed for the "Kirchentag" visitors was "Der Nachfolger" by Raffalt, which had been given its premiere in September.

Talking of the theatre, much has been heard in this country about Hochhuth's "Stellvertreter", "the Representatives" which was also given at the Aldwych and which is, as the "Times" reviewer puts it "an obsessive look back at the Nazis". There was considerable protest by Roman Catholics and massive demonstrations took place in Basle and other Swiss places. Even the Basle Parliament had to deal with the disturbances, though its agendas have never been short: the contribution to the Expo of 1.27 million francs, landspeculation, continued rent control, a twelve million franc Civil Defence scheme, traffic

problems and a twenty-one million project for subterranean parking (Petersplatz).

The Basle electorate rejected the proposed credit for the renewal of the tramway rolling stock in spring, and two Initiatives have been started, one for the protection of the old town, the other for an ice-rink in Kleinbasel.

The Basle airport at Muelhausen is to be extended, and the "Bürgerspital" will be enlarged. A new Felix Platter Hospital for chronic diseases is being built, and the "Hörnli-friedhof" has been extended.

Much was written, also in this country, about the trial of the so-called "Israel Agents" who were sentenced to two months imprisonment by the Basle Court.

Dr. h.c. Emile Dreyfus gave a million francs to the famous Basle Zoo for the erection of a vivarium. Another million was donated by Prof. Rudolf Geigy for the construction of a house for anthropomorphous apes.

Basle is to have a theological college to be housed in the "Zerkindenhof" at the Nadelberg.

The "Freundinnen junger Mädchen" have inaugurated their new hostel "Pension Steinenschanze", a modern building which can house over sixty women and girls.

As usual, the traditional autumn fair took place in October, which lasts a fortnight and is held on the Barfüsser- and Petersplatz and in the halls of the Industries Fair.

Finally, mention should be made of a jubilee which took place in June. The Canton of Basle consists of the town of Basle and the two Communes Riehen and Bettingen. The latter celebrated the 450th anniversary of its joining Basle. On 17th February 1513 Bettingen was sold to the Mayor and Council of Basle for eight hundred guilders by the High Stewards Ch. and H. Wolhusen. Great festivities marked the jubilee.

On going to press we have heard that the new "Regierungsrat" is Franz Hauser (Socialist) who was elected by the Basle citizens at the same time as the two Councillors of States Dr. Eugen Dietschi (Radical) as hitherto and Prof. Dr. Heinrich Schaub (Socialist), a new member.

(Based on A.T.S. news and "Basler Nachrichten".)