

The city of Lausanne

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In 1931 the International Institute for Research, whose construction cost 1,000,000 Swiss francs, began work. It had been financed not only by the Jungfrau Railway and the Federal and Cantonal Authorities, but also by private persons and scientific institutions in Germany, France, England, Austria and the U.S.A. This scientific Institute, erected as it has been at such a great altitude, provides meteorologists, physicists, zoologists, botanists, physiologists and doctors with a very valuable research ground.

The Research Station is built against the rockwall on the southern peak, between the Jungfrau (4166 m.) and the Mönch (4105 m.) The work of construction at this height (3500 m.) was not unnaturally beset with difficulties, which can however hardly be appreciated by any but experts. It was only possible to wrest the installations from the mountain by dint of the most strenuous labour and the fiercest struggle with nature. Snowstorms lasted for days, continually hurling down masses of snow on to the site and blocking the means of communication. The cold was exceptional; avalanches made the transport of material impossible. Nature's mighty powers combined to prevent the work of construction being carried out according to plan, and again created the necessity for exceptional efforts and ceaseless endurance. But in spite of these difficulties time and again those who took part in the work successfully sought some means of working in perfect co:operation.

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THE CITY OF LAUSANNE.

Overstepping its three original hills of the City, Bourg and Saint-Laurent, the borough of Lausanne amalgamated some 80 years ago with Pontaise, Montbenon, Champ de l'Air, Chamblandes, Malley, etc. Thoroughfares and streets were enlarged, magnificent buildings modernized its appearance without however spoiling the beauty of its setting of mountains and forests. If Switzerland, after a well-known saying, is the "hub of Europe", Lausanne, even, by its geographical situation is destined to become a starting and radiating point, and one of the most important railway centres of Western Europe, being the intersecting point of the International lines running from north to south and from east to west.

This exceptional situation caused a great development in commerce and business from the middle of the 19th century; the number of large shops, hotels, banking houses and educational establishments increased greatly in number. The development in tourism, the taste for travelling made fashionable by Rousseau, caused Lausanne to become the principal centre of attraction of Western Switzerland, so the 20th century finds the town provided with new buildings in accordance with these requirements. At the western end of the Grand-Pont (Central Bridge) that joins up the old quarters of Bourg and Saint-Laurent, rises the TOWER BEL-AIR, the first sky-scraper of Lausanne, 16 stories in height, and which forms a striking contrast to the old steeple of the Church of Saint-François.

The Place of Saint-François is the principal business and trading centre of the town. It is its most frequented thoroughfare; surrounded by imposing and modern bank buildings which adjoin the CENTRAL POST OFFICE, a splendid construction in the style of the Renaissance. The Rue de Bourg is an old street where formerly the aristocracy and leading citizens resided. The laying out of new streets and recent changes in the buildings have done away with all that remained of the mansions of the 17th and 18th centuries. To-day the Rue de Bourg is one of the most commercial and most picturesque streets of the town.

The PONT BESSIERES, named after the philanthropist who had it built, crosses the valley of the Flon and joins up the top of the Bourg to the Cite. A few minutes from there, in the beautiful Park of Mon Repos stands the TRIBUNAL FEDERAL inaugurated in 1927 and which replaces the former court

standing on Montbenon, in which latter the Cantonal Assizes are now held. Lausanne is the Justiciary Capital of Switzerland and may well be proud to possess a Federal Tribunal worthy of the high authority it houses. The Palais itself is distinguished by the sobriety of its lines as well as by its striking proportions. Its monumental façade is decorated with a neo-greek fronton supported by four marble columns, each 50 feet in height; on the fronton a statue of Justice from the chisel of the Sculptor C.-A. Angst, and the inscription "Lex. Justitia. Pax". The lintels of the three main doors of entrance bear bas-reliefs done by the same artist: on the left The Accusation, in the centre The Judges, and on the right The Defence. The inside of the Hall contains magnificent columns in green marble, an imitation of the old style, giving a most beautiful effect. A marble staircase leads to the first floor and the audience-chambers.

Thanks to its splendid laying out the whole town has a smiling and gay appearance. Perfect order reigns in it as well as quietness, freshness and light. Terraced like an oriental town on the lowest undulations of the Jorat it descends in gentle slopes to the lake, its harmonious disposal giving it an irresistible charm. The artistic value of its monuments, the beauty of its outlines and the grace of its architecture make of Lausanne one of the most interesting and most alluring towns of Switzerland.

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On Monday, 19th April, 1937, the City of Basle was visited by a company in uniform of 44 motorcycle riders and 24 bus drivers. This represented the recruits of the motor-driver training school at Thun which broke up the following Saturday. They were under the command of Colonel Ruf. They had left Thun early in the morning on a little tour via Berne, Neuchatel, Jura, Birstal, Basle, about 300 kilometers. They arrived at the barracks at Basle at 6.30 p.m. for supper, leaving again at 8 p.m., travelling by night to Schaffhausen, St. Gall, Ricken, Etzel, Lucerne, Brunig, Thun, a tour of 850 kilometers.

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SWISS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES :

In 1935 statistics showed that 285,205 Swiss resided in foreign countries while 350,396 Foreigners found their daily bread in Switzerland. At present 48,000 Swiss are living in Germany, while 134,561 Germans are enjoying Switzerland's hospitality. In Italy there are 16,300 of our countrymen against 127,093 Italians in Switzerland. Austria has 4,700 Swiss against 21,933 Austrians in our country. Regarding France, the result of statistics is to the contrary. This country is the home of 100,000 Swiss against 37,000 French in Switzerland. The same can be said of England, who harbours 15,400 Swiss against 5,788 English in our country. Similarities of the latter kind also occur with U.S.A. and other American States, as well as Africa, Australia, and the whole of Asia.

The interesting fact remains that the quota of Foreigners is very much larger than the quota of Swiss in foreign parts of the world. The census of 1910 recorded 552,011 Foreigners, but this number has been considerably reduced since, emigrations and naturalization causing a reduction of approximately 200,000.

CONFIDENTIAL place: ===== Secretary :

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS :

The latest reports from Switzerland show remarkable improvements in imports and exports. The figures shown are steadily on the upgrade. Compared with the same period of last year, imports in April 1937, amounting to 172,9 Million francs, show an increase of 81,6 Millions. Exports increased by 36,8 Millions. For the period January to April, 1937, the