

Sundry news

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SUNDRY NEWS.

The Painter Augusto Giacometti, who recently died in Zurich, has left an amount of 100,000.-frs. to the school of his native town Stampa (Bergell), and 200,000.-frs. to the "Bergeller" hospital. The picture gallery at Chur has received a number of his paintings. (A.T.S.)

The population of the town of Zurich at the end of June numbered 370,351 persons. (A.T.S.)

Dr. A. Wander, Chairman, and for many years Managing-Director of the Dr. A. Wander, A.G., in Berne, and Chairman of various A. Wander concerns abroad, well-known as the producer of Ovaltine, has celebrated his 80th birthday anniversary. (A.T.S.)

The well-known writer, Hermann Hesse (70) has received the decree of doctor honoris causa by the philosophical faculty of the University of Berne. (A.T.S.)

After a lapse of eight years, the "Tell Spiele" in Interlaken have started again. The opening performance, which took place on the 13th of July, was attended by Federal-Councillor, v. Steiger. (A.T.S.)

Professor Carl Henschen, Director of the surgical clinic of the University of Basle, who recently vacated his post, on reaching the age limit, has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary. Professor Henschen, who enjoys an international reputation, was from 1917-1926 surgeon-in-chief of the cantonal hospital at St. Gall, and since 1926 professor at the University of Basle. (A.T.S.)

The Commercial School at Le Locle (Neuchâtel) has celebrated its 50th jubilee. (A.T.S.)

The Hungarian Government has started an action in a Swiss Court against the former Hungarian Minister in Berne, who recently vacated his post, owing to political differences.

Dr. Franz Gordon, the former Diplomatic Representative of the Republic of Hungary, has refused to hand over the keys of the safe, which were deposited in a Swiss Bank, to his successor. The case will shortly come before the Supreme Court of the canton of Berne. (A.T.S.)

The next International Stamp Exhibition will take place in Basle from the 21st-29th August, 1948. (This year's Exhibition was held in New York). The President of the Organisation Committee is Professor Brogle, Director of the Basle Fair. (A.T.S.)

From New York comes the news of the death of the well-known portrait painter, Adolf Müller, at the age of 85. A Müller was a native of Hospental and emigrated to America at an early age, where he soon gained a

reputation as a portrait painter. Since Leo XIII, he had painted all the Popes; the German Emperor, Wilhelm II also sat for him, and many famous American politicians and financiers were portrayed by him. (A.T.S.)

The Swiss Red Cross has invited 150 children from Brest (France), who through the recent explosion have become homeless, to an eight weeks stay in Switzerland. The children will be sent to families principally in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. (A.T.S.)

Even before the war, the traffic over the Gotthard line had necessitated block sections in the 10-mile length of the double-track Gotthard Tunnel. Since fully-automatic signalling was considered too expensive at the time, the solution adopted in 1938 was to have a mid-tunnel block post controlled remotely from the signal box at Göschenen, at the northern end of the tunnel. The tunnel signals were connected with Göschenen by a 50-line cable.

Further expansion of traffic during and after the war has made it increasingly difficult to maintain the tracks and over-head wires during intervals between trains, so that frequent night possessions and single-line working have been required. In order to avoid single-line working over the whole section, crossovers were installed in mid-tunnel.

The mid-tunnel signalling, though still controlled remotely from Göschenen, now provides home and starting signals for both directions. The starters are over half a mile from the crossovers, so that between crossover and signal there is standing room for a complete train enabling a train to vacate a single-line section without having to wait until the preceding train has cleared the tunnel. The starting signals return automatically to "off" when the tunnel section ahead has been cleared. Home signals are controlled by a king lever, at Göschenen, which permits automatic operation during normal double-line working.

Single-line working in the southern half of the tunnel depends on the consent of the signalman at Airdo, by means of electric interlocking with Göschenen. Provision has been made, also, for emergency operation of the mid-tunnel points and signals from a small signal box on the spot.

According to figures given at a Press Conference by Dr. Max Troendle, one of the Swiss delegates at the Paris Conference; Switzerland has up to date given an amount of one milliard francs for humanitarian purposes to foreign countries. (A.T.S.)

The Federal Council has asked the Federal Chambers for a credit amounting to 1,100,000.-frs., for the erection of a new telephone exchange in Zurich-Albisrieden. (A.T.S.)

CONGRATULATIONS

We extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Max Brulisauer on the birth of their daughter. Therese will now have a little sister to keep her company.

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