

News from Switzerland

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children and 2 great-grandchildren. In 1939 Mr. and Mrs. Werder went home to Switzerland for a well-earned holiday. Unfortunately the war interfered then with their plans and forced them to return to New Zealand sooner than expected. Mr. Joe Werder died in 1952. —W.R.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Hamilton Swiss Club:

The Hamilton Swiss Club is holding the regular monthly evening every third Sunday in the Riverlea Cabaret, Hamilton. Next evening: 19th October. All welcome.

Auckland Swiss Club:

Just a reminder to all our Swiss friends in Auckland. Don't forget that the Auckland Swiss Club holds its monthly Social at the Epiphany Church Hall, Gundry St., Newton, on the first Tuesday in the month. Come along and spend an enjoyable evening among friends. Everybody is made most welcome.

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"ZWIEBELWAHE"

2lbs. onions chopped finely and fried in fat until golden and semi transparent. Cool somewhat then mix with 3 eggs and 1 small teacup of cream and salt.

Line a flat baking dish with puff pastry. Place onion mixture on pastry, but it must not be higher than 1½ inches.

Cover all with slices of lean bacon. Bake in fairly hot oven. Serve hot. —H.B.

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MEAT CONSUMPTION IN SWITZERLAND

According to a report issued by the Swiss Butchers' Union, meat consumption in Switzerland during 1957, home slaughtering included, amounted to approximately 101 lb. per inhabitant, representing an increase of some 4½lbs., or 4.4% over the preceeding year. The consumption of poultry doubled, that of veal remained unchanged and that of beef decreased slightly. If home produced meat, fish and the private breeding of poultry and rabbits are included, the consumption per inhabitant in 1957 was just over 1 British cwt., (112lb.).

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DAIRY AND AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION AT ST-GALL

From the 9th to the 19th of October this year, a dairy and agricultural exhibition, under the name of OLMA, will be held at St-Gall in Eastern Switzerland. This year's exhibition will include a special display of large and small livestock from the canton of Appenzell. It should be mentioned that Eastern Switzerland, which is well known in foreign countries for its textile products, also possesses a flourishing agriculture specialising mainly in dairy farming and fruit growing.

EXCEPTIONAL TRANSPORT OPERATION CARRIED OUT BY THE SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS

Among the number of unusual jobs carried out by the Swiss Federal Railways during the first 6 months of this year must be mentioned the carriage of a turbine measuring over 13 feet in diameter and weighing 190 tons, from Munchenstein near Basel in Switzerland, to Kalundborg in Denmark, for installation in a heating plant there. This enormous turbine was transported on a special 36wheeled flatcar of the Swiss Federal Railways.

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SUCCESS OF THE SWISS PAVILION AT BRUSSELS

It is estimated from data gathered in July that between 10 and 12% of all visitors of the Brussels World's Fair visit the Swiss pavilion. The press of visitors varies from day to day, with an approximate daily average of between 15,000 and 18,000. The tourist department, which is seen by most of these visitors, answers an average of 1800 enquiries per day.

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SWISS INDEX OF PRICES

The Swiss index of wholesale prices, which encompasses the most important unprocessed foodstuffs and the chief raw materials and other basic commodities, at the end of June 58 stood at 215.2 (August 1939—100). The level of 0.6% below the preceeding month. The index of consumers' prices at the end of July was 182.4 (also based on August 39—100), thus showing no change over June, although there was a rise of 2.2% compared to the figure for the same month of last year.

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SWISS LOAN SOCIETIES IN SWITZERLAND DURING 1957

According to the report of the union of Swiss loan societies, the so-called Raiffeisen system, that branch of the Swiss banking system has developed favourably in 1957. At the end of last year the number of Raiffeisen agencies was 1040, with a total of 117,000 members. The total balance of all the affiliated societies came to over 1½ billion Swiss francs (U.S.A. \$ 350,000 million), 83 millions (U.S.A. \$ 19.4 million) more than in 1956.

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SWITZERLAND AT BRUSSELS' FAIR

The famous "Atomium," at the World's Fair in Brussels, was able to welcome its millionth visitor, last month. The lift, which had been conceived and realised by a Swiss firm, and which carries curious visitors to the top of this building, at 330 feet above the ground, has also recorded the same number of visitors. In consequence, it has carried a total load of about 160,000 tons and covered a distance of 11,185 miles.

At the Swiss Pavilion, the Swiss manufacturers of watches and the Swiss textile and clothing industry are going to present for the first time in common, on the 22nd of September, an assorted collection of watches and fashions, both elegant and sporting, for men, women and children. This show will take place in the presence of a numerous public, including diplomatic personalities and the representatives of the big Press agencies, as well as of the radio and television companies.

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ABUNDANT FRUIT CROP IN SWITZERLAND

The fruit crop has started in Switzerland. In volume, it is the most abundant that has been known since the beginning of the century. According to estimates, the quantity of fruit which will be put on the market—this, not including the fruit used by producers for their own requirements—will amount to 18,000 wagons table fruit, i.e., to nearly 442 million pounds, and to 25,000 wagons of fruit for the manufacture of cider, i.e., about 551 million pounds. These figures exceed the normal measure by 100 per cent and more. As the production in other fruit-growing countries is also good, Switzerland will, in all probability, be unable to export much fruit this year.

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A NEW SHIP FOR THE SWISS MERCANTILE MARINE

A Yugoslav ship-building yard has just delivered a new ship for the Swiss mercantile Marine, which is the 58th vessel to be inscribed in the Swiss Shipping Register. This is the M/S Coriviglia, with a loading capacity of 13,000 tons deadweight and which will sail in the service of the Suisse-Atlantique Company, Ltd., of Lausanne. This vessel will have a speed of 15 knots, thanks to its engines of 7,200 HP, which have been supplied by Messrs Sulzer Brothers, of Winterthur. The auxiliary engines, the pumps and generators have also been furnished by Swiss industry.

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CSARDAS AT SAFFA

Zurich, Switzerland: A special night show in commemoration of the late Hungarian composer Emmerich Kalman, the "King of Csardas," will be held in the presence of Mrs. Vera Kalman, at the Festival Hall of the SAFFA exhibition, on August 12, the organizers of the Second National Exhibition "Women of Switzerland—Their Life—Their Work" announced here recently. Famous Hungarian artists have already been signed for this special event. Mrs. Kalman said that she will "present the national exhibition of Swiss women" with this show, for her husband had always "fostered a deep and sincere affection for Switzerland and for Zurich in particular."

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The first "specimens" of ultra-modern Swiss Federal Railways' first and second class carriages are now being tried out in the regular high-speed express trains on the Zurich-Geneva line.

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