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News from Switzerland

TWO OUTSTANDING EVENTS

We have just heard that Mr and Mrs Eduard and Babette Schnurrenberger-Thuerig celebrated the 70th anniversary of their marriage on 1st March at Erstfeld in Uri. They were married in 1897 at the Neumuensterkirche in Zurich. The couple are both 93 and in the best of health. Mr Schnurrenberger, citizen of Pfaeffikon, was an engine driver for 40 years with the SBB and a member of the Uri Landrat for 32 years, being elected to it in 1912 as the first Social Democrat. He is still very interested in politics.

* * * *

Triplets were born at the Cantonal Hospital at Muensterlingen to a young mother from Mettlen (Weinfeld). The three girls are doing well. This happened only a few months after quadruplets had been born in the same hospital to a mother from Weinfeld. One of the four babies, however, has since died. (A.T.S.)

SWISS PROFESSOR HONOURED ABROAD

Recently Queen Elizabeth II of England awarded the "Patrons Medal" of the British Geographical Society to Mr Edouard Imhoff, former ordinary professor of cartography and topography at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, for his services rendered to the science of cartography.

ELECTRICITY WORKS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

On October 1st, 1966, there were 17 hydro-electric power stations under construction in Switzerland, to which must be added the thermal power stations at Chavallon (assembly of the second group of machines) and Cressier as well as the nuclear power station at Beznau-Doettingen. Once these works are finished, in 1972, the average annual output, which today amounts to about 28 billion kWh, will total 37.4 billion kWh, i.e. 30.5 billion kWh for the hydraulic power stations and 6.9 billion for the thermal and atomic power stations. (OSEC)

SUCCESS OF SWISS NATIONAL DAY COLLECTIONS

In 1966 the collection for Swiss National Day, August 1st, broke all previous records: in fact, they brought in S.Fr. 741,000 more than in 1965 to total S.Fr. 3,545,630, thus topping the 3 million mark for the first time. This remarkable achievement is largely due to the sale of Pro Patria stamps to philatelists, as well as the 5 cent stamp featuring the portrait of Henry Dunant. The proceeds of this collection went to charities on behalf of mothers. The receipts for the year 1967 will be used for cultural purposes as well as education and further training for adults. (OSEC)

THE GREAT ST. BERNARD STAR OF FILM

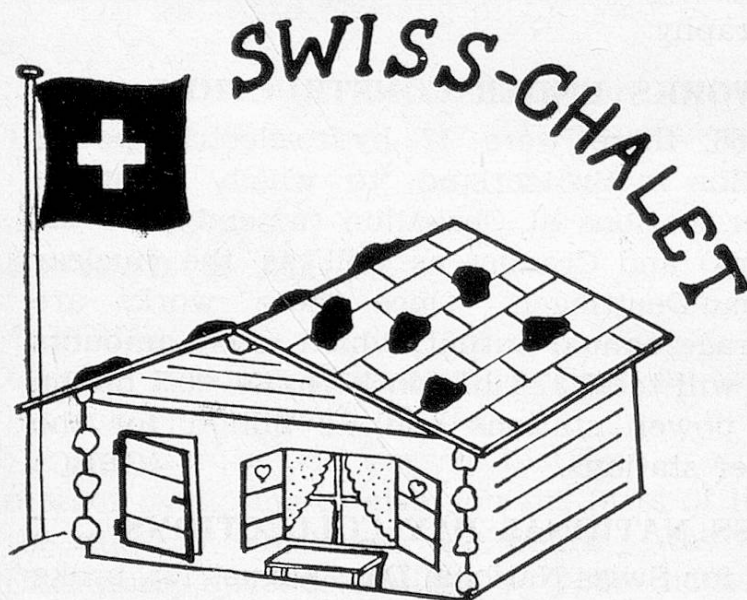
The Great St. Bernard will be the star of a film of the same name, to be shot by an American camera team in this area and around Montreux. Work on the film, which features crooner Bing Crosby among other stars, was scheduled to begin in early May. The shooting is supposed to last about 12 weeks.

300,000 BLOOD DONORS FOR THE SWISS RED CROSS

Last year the Swiss Red Cross received 300,000 donations for blood, about 10 per cent more than the previous year. The blood donor service of the Swiss Red Cross is constantly expanding because modern medicine has increasing need for blood and blood derivatives to treat accident victims and assorted illnesses. The further expansion of its blood donation activities is therefore one of the major concerns of this country's Red Cross.

SWITZERLAND AT THE MONTREAL UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION

Apart from Switzerland's official pavilion at the Montreal Exhibition, this country will also be represented at the great Canadian Fair by another pavilion, built in the entertainment sector and known as the "Swiss Fondue Pot." This is a modern restaurant, under the auspices of the Swiss Cheese Trade Union Inc. and a large chocolate factory in Berne, where mainly two specialities will be served: the famous Swiss cheese fondue and a new Swiss creation, "Toblerone" chocolate fondue. (OSEC)



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