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# The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. F. BOEHRINGER.

**The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.**

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## HOME NEWS

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### FEDERAL.

#### PROFESSOR FRITZ FLEINER †.

Professor Fritz Fleiner, the eminent Swiss lawyer, who enjoyed an international reputation has died in Ascona at the age of 70.

Professor Fleiner was born on January 24th, 1867, in Aarau, in which town he received his early schooling. He studied law at the Universities of Zurich, Leipzig and Berlin. In 1892 he became a lecturer (Privat Dozent) at the University of Zurich, and three years later Professor at the same University. At the early age of thirty he was appointed Professor of law at the University of Basle. In 1906 he accepted a call to the University of Tübingen and in 1908 to the University of Heidelberg. In the autumn of 1915, Professor Fleiner returned to Switzerland where he occupied the Chair of International law as well as of church law at the University of Zurich, a post which he held until 1936. The deceased was rector of this University from 1932-1934.

Professor Fleiner has written a large number of books on subjects of law.

#### DR. HUGO DIETSCHI.

Dr. Hugo Dietschi, States Counsellor, has retired from Parliament where he had represented the canton of Solothurn for the last fifteen years. Dr. Dietschi was Mayor of the town of Olten and for many years a member of the "Kantonsrat." He has for nearly fifty years rendered great services to the canton of Solothurn and to the Confederation, and his departure from public life is universally regretted.

#### M. MOTTA CONGRATULATES MINISTER DUNANT.

M. Motta, President of the Swiss Confederation, has sent a telegram of congratulation to Minister Dunant on the occasion of his 20th anniversary as Swiss Minister in Paris.

#### FEDERAL SINGING COMPETITION.

The Federal Singing Competition in 1942 will take place in the town of St. Gall.

#### SWISS GET ORDER FOR SECRET ARMS.

After extensive trials, the British War Office has placed a large order for a new type of secret time-fuse for anti-aircraft shells with a Swiss firm.

Produced after many experiments, the fuses have been designed by Tavoro, S.A., of Geneva, to satisfy the accuracy demanded by modern anti-aircraft guns.

#### GLIDER PILOT'S CRASH.

M. Michel Martin, aged 25, the pilot of a glider, who started a flight last week from Geneva and disappeared in the Jura range to the west of the Faucille Pass, was found in an exhausted condition near Fort de l'Ecluse.

The glider had been caught in a whirlwind and thrown down in the forest. The pilot had fallen on a fir tree and thence on to rocks, breaking his nose and one leg in two places. After having made a splint with branches, strapped to his leg with pieces of clothing, the young man crawled down towards the valley. He spent three nights in the open and two and a half days without water and with only one piece of bread. He lived chiefly on berries and snails until his feeble calls were heard by some hunters, who rescued him.

M. Martin, who is now in hospital at Geneva, is expected to recover and his leg will probably be saved.

#### REDUCTION OF PETROL FOR FOREIGNERS.

The reduction in the price of petrol for foreign tourists in Switzerland has been extended to March 31st.

### BEAT STOFFEL †.

At the age of 74, died in St. Gall, M. Beat Stoffel, a well-known personality in the Swiss Textile Industry.

The deceased was a citizen of Arbon but was educated in St. Gall, after an extended stay in England, he returned to Switzerland where he entered the business of his father, which was known under the name of Stoffel & Cie. In 1902 he acquired the "Webereien" Schmerikon and Eschenbach and later on Lichtensteig and Schönengrund, these various firms were amalgamated into one and called the "St. Galler Feinwebereien A.G."

In 1920 he acquired the "Spinnerei und Weberei Mels," he was also the leading man in the "Aluminium Werke Rorschach" and he owned the "Kulm" Hotel in Arosa.

Switzerland loses in Beat Stoffel one of the leading men in the commercial sphere.

#### SWISS CHERRY TREES IN BLOSSOM.

The weather has been abnormally warm in Switzerland since last Tuesday, and the Föhn has been blowing, with the result that the snow which fell last Sunday has melted below the 6,000 ft. level. A curious consequence of the warm spell is reported from the Cantons of Uri and Schwyz, where many cherry trees are in blossom.

#### SWISS HOTEL KEEPERS WANTED IN ARGENTINE.

The Swiss Agent for Emigration in Buenos Aires has transmitted a request from the Argentine for 20 or 30 families of Swiss hotel keepers for settlement in Cordoba Province.

The request has been passed on to the Swiss Society of Landlords.

Each Swiss family taking advantage of the offer will receive a parcel of land, and they must know something about agriculture and be able to manage a little hotel. Each family must also have at least 4,000 Swiss francs (about £200), and will enjoy special privileges from the Argentine Government.

The Government of the Argentine, the Swiss Agent states, believe that tourist traffic in Cordoba will increase considerably. The Swiss hotel-keepers are being invited with this object in view.

### LOCAL.

#### BERNE.

The two Swiss Nazi leaders, Theodor Fischer and Silvio Schnell, who were convicted by a lower court of publishing matter calculated to stir up popular demonstrations against the Jews, notably by selling the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," were acquitted by the Superior Court of Berne.

The court recognised that the Protocols were false and scandalous, but refused to admit that they were immoral literature in the eyes of local law.

M. Otto Wirz, the well-known author, has celebrated his 60th birthday anniversary; among his best-known novels are: "Gewalten eines Toren," "Die geduckte Kraft," "Prophet Müller-Zwo," "Späte Erfüllung."

#### SCHWYZ.

Dr. Anton Bueler, late National Councillor, has celebrated his 80th birthday anniversary in Schwyz. Dr. Bueler was born in 1858, he studied law in Munich, Strassburg and Heidelberg. At the age of 24 he started a practice as an advocate in Schwyz. In 1886 he was elected "Bezirksammann;" from 1892-1912 he held the post as State Prosecutor. In 1896 he was elected President of the "Kantonsrat," and at the same time he en-

tered Parliament (National Council), over which he presided in 1916. In 1912 he was elected a member of the cantonal government. In the army he reached the rank of a colonel of Infantry.

#### VAUD.

The population of the town of Lausanne at the end of September was 87,166.

### FOOTBALL.

31st October, 1937.

#### INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

Switzerland ..... 2 Italy ..... 2

Scene: Geneva; Spectators: 22,000; Enthusiasm: Rampant!

Swiss Football on the map again!

The play produced by our national eleven in the first two internationals of the season (there will be 10 in all) at Vienna and Paris gave reason for a more optimistic attitude concerning our prowess on the football field, in spite of the two narrow defeats by 3:4 and 1:2 goals. At the same time neither Austria nor France could be said to be equal in strength to Italy, leaders in the Europa-Cup competition and generally considered the best team on the Continent. All the more meritorious, therefore, the splendid result of last Sunday. Only a draw, yes. But we had the misfortune to lose Bickel, the outside-right after half an hour's play when leading 2:1 (collar bone broken) and were one man short for the remaining hour. (The rules of the Europa-Cup only allow injured goalkeepers to be replaced). And Italy's equaliser did not fall until 5 minutes from the end. Switzerland was playing so well that something totally unexpected by our opponents might, yea, would have happened if our forward line had not been crippled.

The team deserves mentioning: Bizzozzero (Lugano); Minelli (G.C.), Lehmann (Lausanne); Springer, Vernati (both G.C.), Lörtscher (Servette); Bickel, Wagner (both G.C.), Monnard (Basel), Walacek (Servette) and Amado (Lugano). The defence and halves are the same as at Paris. In the forward line, Wagner, Monnard and Amado were new though old internationals. They one and all acquitted themselves well.

As for the game, refereed by Lewington (England), we were at first outpaced by the speedy Italians. By and by our eleven became more and more menacing. Exact passings and good combination gave us a pronounced advantage. And then, as so often happens, we are a goal down, against the run of the game. Piola, one of the world's best centre-forwards, converted a centre by Capra, outside-right. Nothing daunted, the Reds almost equalised from the kick-off. In the 19th minute Walacek races through; Corsi (left-half) uses his hands to divert the ball; Penalty. Walacek takes the spot kick and converts. 1:1. Two corners are gained in rapid succession without tangible result. After 24 minutes play, Amado centres, Wagner shoots for goal, a back tries to head out but the ball glances from his head into the net. Switzerland leads 2:1. — You should have heard them! — We keep up the pressure, wave upon wave of attack storms the Italian goal. And just now Bickel, playing in top form is fouled, falling unluckily and we are reduced to ten men for the rest of the game. Even now and all through the second half the team shows excellent form and fighting spirit. There is no question of adopting a purely defensive attitude. Italy makes despairing efforts to draw level. Our defence, especially Bizzozzero in goal are playing a grand game. Five minutes from time Piola once again has his chance and from 20 yards out he scores with an unstoppable drive.

Well played, the Reds! M.G.

### THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF ZURICH. (By Leu & Co.'s Bank Limited, Zurich.)

Zurich, October 30th, 1937.

The development of the stock exchange during the last two months will be remembered probably for quite a while. Not since years did a setback in stock prices come as abruptly and inflict such big losses as it did this past October.

As usual New York played the leading rôle and transplanted its nervousness to all foreign markets, not excepting Zurich. With great concern did America and the rest of the world notice the accelerated fall of prices after several weeks

## CITY SWISS CLUB

PLEASE RESERVE

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 26th

for the

ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL

at the

Grosvenor House, Park Lane W.1.

Admission by ticket only obtainable from Members  
of the Committee.