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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Federal-Councillor, Dr. Streuli, Swiss Finance Minister, said in Parliament that next year's budget would include cuts in purchase tax, and national defence tax.

* * *

The Federal Council announced that twenty Italian communists had been expelled from Switzerland for illegal activities. All were prominently connected with the Italian Language Federation of the Swiss communist party.

* * *

The Swiss National Bank announces that the 400 million francs Federal Loan at 3% has not been fully subscribed, a number of Swiss Banks which have taken up this loan are left with an amount of about 10,000,000.—frs.

* * *

The newly appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the Soviet Union, Monsieur Pavel, I. Erelow, has presented his credentials to Monsieur Max Petitpierre, President of the Swiss Confederation.

* * *

The Federal Council has sent a message to Parliament recommending the prolongation of the membership of Switzerland in the European Payments Union until June 30th, 1956.

* * *

The 26th Infantry Regiment (Zurich), and the Geneva Security Police, the latter being reinforced from other cantons are in charge of the security measures during the Four Power "Summit" meeting, which is taking place this month at Geneva.

* * *

Customs receipts in the month of May, 1955, totalled 66.4 million francs, or 4 million francs more than during May, 1954.

During the first five months of the current year the receipts amounted to 233.2 million francs or 31.7 million francs more than in the same period of 1954.

Cantonal

The Engineering firm "Theodor Bell & Cie", Kriens (Ct. Lucerne), has celebrated the 100th anniversary of its foundation. To mark the occasion the Board of this well-known concern has made a donation amounting to 50,000.—frs. to the community of Kriens for the building of public baths. In addition, Mr. Ernst Wächter, the present Managing-Director of this firm, has given the sum of 10,000.—frs. to the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich, as well as various amounts to local institutions. [A.T.S.]

SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, 31st July, 1955

3 to 5.30 p.m. (Doors open at 2.30 p.m.)

at the

CONCERT PAVILION BATTERSEA PLEASURE GARDENS

Entrances near Battersea and Chelsea Bridge

Patriotic Address by the
SWISS MINISTER, Monsieur ARMIN DAENIKER

Programme includes:

FIRST APPEARANCE OF MRS. M. JAUSLIN,
WELL-KNOWN SWISS JODLERIN

CORALE UNIONE TICINESE
SWISS ACCORDION CLUB

ALL SWISS AND THEIR FAMILIES GORDIALLY INVITED

Admission by ticket only, obtainable in advance, free of charge, on application by post to the Hon. Secretary, 1st August Committee, Miss S. MOROSI, 81, Rosebery Road, Muswell Hill, N.10.
(enclose stamped envelope)

After the celebration a dance will be held from 6.45 - 11 p.m. in the PLEASURE GARDENS RESTAURANT nearby

RELIGIOUS SERVICES: on Sunday 31st July, 1955

Joint Protestant Service in French and German at 11 a.m. at Swiss Church, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2. Evening Service 6.30 p.m. St. Mary Woolnoth, Lombard St. (Bank Stn.)

Catholic Service at 11 a.m. Solemn Mass and Sermon in German and English, at St. Ann's Church, Abbey Orchard Street, S.W.1.