

# Swiss condolences on the death of Jawaharlal Nehru

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having a thermal power station in the Rhine valley. With equal determination, the citizens of Buchs are for a technical college which has been the subject of much activity for several years.

The restoration of the Cathedral of St. Gall has been progressing satisfactorily, and the churches of Haegenschwil and Schmerikon have been or are to be renovated. The Protestant parish of Tablat (St. Gall-East) is to have a church. The historic townlet of Werdenberg is being restored and preserved in its beauty. Ebnat-Kappel will be the home of the second Swiss Mormon temple. The same village has now a "Heimatmuseum", the so-called "Edelmann-Haus", home of the late artist and teacher Albert Edelmann, and it contains works of art and precious antiques.

The St. Gall parliament, like others, debated the measures taken against inflation and to curb the economic boom. On 11th May, the "Grosse Rat" met for its first session of the new legislative period 1964/68. Kantonsrat Willy Herrmann (Wattwil) was elected President and Dr. J. Bossart, Gossau, Vice-President. The new parliament consists of 204 members as against 193 in the previous period. The accounts for 1963 showed a surplus of receipts over expenditure of 2.5 million francs with a total income of nearly 180 million francs. The St. Gall Cantonal Bank made a surplus of Fr.5,191,912.— last year.

At the end of 1963, a serious poaching affair was disclosed in the district of Werdenberg, in which seventeen men, most of them from Liechtenstein, were involved. In January there was a big fire in a partly finished factory at Goldach and in February at Bad Ragaz. The mountain inn Schafboden near Wildhaus (Toggenburg) was destroyed by an avalanche, and several hundred fish were poisoned in the river Goldach. News of a theft of a valuable coin collection preceded that of another fire at Rebstein in which two houses were gutted. In May, several buildings of a farm at Eggersriet was destroyed by fire, and fifty pigs and 300 hens died in the flames.

News of a happier character reached us from Lichtensteig, Baldach and Buchs where three couples could celebrate the rare iron wedding (65 years).

At Sevelen, Mrs. Anna Schaepper died in February. She was 86 and left one hundred descendants. Of her ten children eight are still alive, she had twenty-eight grandchildren, sixty great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren — a record hardly possible to beat!

(A.T.S. and "Nordostschweiz".)

## AGENT FOR ENGLAND

Important Swiss manufacturers are looking for an agent in England. They produce elastic stockings and back warmers of first class quality.



Anyone interested may get further details from LA GAINE VISO, Saint-Blaise, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.



## SWISS CONDOLENCES ON THE DEATH OF JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

The President of the Swiss Confederation sent a telegram of condolence to the President of the Indian Republic, in which he expressed deep sympathy with the Indian people. He also stressed that the government and people of Switzerland realised the tremendous loss Mr. Nehru's death was for India. They were aware of his friendly feelings for Switzerland and would treasure his memory.

Mr. Nehru paid an official state visit to Switzerland in 1949, and in June 1953 he presided over a conference of heads of Indian diplomatic missions in Europe on the Buergenstock. But also privately, the Indian Premier was in Switzerland at different times and showed great interest in Swiss industrial and trade undertakings whose branches in India Mr. Nehru promoted wherever possible.

On receiving the news of his death, the head of the Swiss Foreign Office, Federal Councillor Wahlen, accompanied by its Secretary General and the Chief of Protocol, paid an official visit of condolence to the Indian Ambassador in Berne.

On 5th June, a number of personalities of Swiss political, cultural and diplomatic life attended a ceremony in memory of Mr. Nehru. It was held in Berne at the invitation of the Swiss-Indian Society. Amongst those present was the former Federal Councillor and Foreign Minister Dr. M. Petitpierre.

[A.T.S.]

## EXPO 1964

### THE FIRST CONCLUSIONS

The Swiss National Exhibition is in full swing. By 31st May 1,594,094 visitors had been admitted, a total which was only very slightly (6%) under the estimated number. The organisers knew from experiences made at the National Exhibition in Zurich in 1939 and at the World Fair in Brussels that it takes a few weeks to get really going. Numbers are steadily rising, and whereas the daily average was 46,456 visitors in the first week in May, it rose to 52,584 during the last week of the month, with the heavy holiday months still to come. Food and drink consumption has so far surpassed expectation. The use made of the various transport media within the exhibition has come up to estimates, and it is only the income from parking which has been insufficient so far. Many motorists are obviously not yet aware that the roads leading to the exhibition grounds are in excellent condition.

Thus the first results justify the optimism of the organisers, and it looks as if the financial success of the EXPO will not lag behind the moral one.

[A.T.S.]