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LUCERNE

Revenue in the Canton of Lucerne amounted to 159.7 million francs in 1964, and expenditure was only slightly less. A tax amnesty has been declared up to the end of 1966. Lucerne civil servants and teachers have been granted increases, and improved family allowances will cost the Canton well over 2 mio. francs more per annum.

The Cantonal Government asked Parliament for a grant to purchase the Castle of Wyher near Ettiswil, which was damaged by fire in 1963. The Cantonal Teachers' Training College at Hitzkirch will need 13 million francs for renovation and extension. The first building of the Cantonal School was opened in May. The former Convent of St. Urban in Lucerne is to be renovated.

The bay at Horw has been declared a protected zone. There has been a great deal of discussion regarding a Lucerne by-pass for the new express road. The Federal Council have rejected the plan.

Lucerne has now over 75,000 inhabitants. Thanks to a legacy by a Dutch woman, 3½ million francs have been put at the disposal of the old people's settlement. Large sums are required to finish the Cantonal School at Tribtschen and for the first aid post Roennimoos. The St. Karli Bridge is to be repaired — as decided by the municipal electorate (14% participation). The same Dutch woman as mentioned above, has left 3½ mio. for the rebuilding of the Municipal Theatre. 4.3 million francs are needed for 14 trolley-buses and the change from bus to trolley-bus lines. The Pilatusplatz is to be newly laid out, and a new quayside promenade near the Seeburg is to be called "Churchill Quay". The first Swiss jet plane N-20 has been taken to the Swiss Museum of Transport. In April, the Winkelried Foundation celebrated its centenary, in May, the 6th International Fruit Juice Conference and in June, the International Colour Congress were held in Lucerne. In the same month, the famous "Seenachtfest" took place. In March, several thousand francs worth of stamps were stolen in Lucerne. A month later, an international criminal (Spanish) was arrested. In July, furs worth Fr.80,000.— were stolen, and at the end of August, Fr.93,000.— were taken away in a wage robbery.

The citizens of Emmen, through their Inhabitants' Council, voted large sums for a new primary school and for the completion of the sportsgrounds Gersag. The small Commune of Fluehli voted 2 million francs for a waste water plant and over 2¼ mio. for road construction. Kriens granted funds for the extension of the school Gabeldingen, and Oberkirch has decided on a new village centre. On 12th July, the battle of Sempach was commemorated, and on 1st August, over 6,000 Lucerne farmers organised a rally on the battlefield. The Council Hall at Sursee dating to 1546 is to be renovated. In June, a large swimming pool was opened at Nebikon; it is to serve seven Communes.

ZUG

The annual accounts of the Canton of Zug showed a small surplus, revenue amounting to nearly 34 million francs. On the other hand, the extraordinary accounts (road construction, etc.) finished with a loss of well over 2½ mio. (expenditure Fr. 11,748,800.—).

The town of Zug expects to spend over 154 million francs on construction work during the next 20 years. The "Bürgerspital" will be enlarged — the final project will cost 16 mio. Nearly as much will be spent on a new school (Loreto), and the citizens have agreed to a grant of 6.7 mio.

for an extension of the sportsgrounds Hertiallmen. Federal Councillor von Moos attended the "Centralfest" of the Swiss Students' Federation at the end of August. This rally was the reason why the Assembly of the Swiss Abroad could not be held in Zug as originally planned.

Baar is another Commune which has voted a considerable sum of money (3.3 mio.) for a school. Steinhäusen's citizens have decided not to levy the "Bürgersteuer" in the future, as the "Bürgerheim" has been let, and the remaining assistance to the poor can be met out of the rent and other income.

Early in August, a bad explosion took place at a car workshop at Unteraegeri; several people were injured. Unteraegeri was also one of several Communes where, a few years ago, arson was committed on a large scale. Last spring, the two dangerous fellows responsible for it were arrested.

GLARUS

At the end of May, the Glarus "Landrat" was re-elected. As before, the Liberals (Allgemeine Bürgerliche Volkspartei) are the strongest Party, having 27 out of the 81 seats, followed by the Democrats with 26. The new President is the Social Democrat Fritz Boeniger. Three million francs will be needed for road construction this year.

The traditional Naefelser Fahrt took place early in April in excellent weather. In May, the industrial firm of Therma A.G. Schwanden opened their new buildings, and a few days later, the "Vereinigte Webereien Sernftal — Weberei Azmoos" celebrated their centenary. The Glarus Chamber of Commerce could also look back on 100 years of activities. On 11th August, the ten-storey hospital was officially opened; it has room for 159 patients.

*(News by courtesy of the Agence
Télégraphique Suisse.)*

THE TRANSPARENT PAINTINGS AT THE INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORT, LUCERNE

The Institute of Transport, Lucerne, presents the relationships between people and mountains in the beginning of Switzerland's touristic fame in the form of a jubilee exhibition. Open to the public until 3rd October, 1965, the special exhibition, arranged by the Swiss National Tourist Office, is presented in a brightly coloured tent and features twenty of the most beautiful transparent paintings of the Bernese minor master Franz Niklaus König (1756-1832). Presented with an accompaniment of old-time-folk music, the exhibition is calculated to take present-day visitors of our age of haste and rapid technological change back to the pristine mountain landscapes of earlier centuries. These large-size transparent water-colours were exhibited in darkened rooms by the painter himself during his travels through Germany and France, and he is thus regarded as one of the pioneers of Switzerland's tourist promotion efforts. Precisely 150 years have passed since he opened his first exhibition of transparent paintings in Bern. An introduction to the exhibition is provided by forty glass display cases containing articles that were in everyday use in Switzerland in centuries past, as well as equipment used by hikers and climbers in the Alps. The exhibition also includes selected examples of tourist posters.

[S.N.T.O.]