



ANNUAL REPORTS OF GOVERNMENTS

UNDER THE CONVENTION OF 13 JULY 1931 FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS, AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 11 DECEMBER 1946

SWITZERLAND

Annual Report for 1952
Communicated by the Government of Switzerland

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL -- The Secretary-General has the honour to communicate herewith an annual report forwarded to him in pursuance of Article 21 of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946. (For the form of annual reports, see document E/NR. 1949/Form)

A. GENERAL

I. LAWS AND PUBLICATIONS

1. A new narcotics law, together with the regulations issued thereunder, came into effect in Switzerland on 1 June 1952. By an ordinance of the Federal Health Service, heroin in all its forms has been withdrawn by the State from manufacturers, traders, pharmacists and doctors. The Prosecutor's Office of the Confederation, (Ministère public), Professor Fischer of the Pharmacological Institute of Zürich, Professor Graf, pharmacologist at the Veterinary Faculty of the University of Zürich and Dr. Weisflog, Chief of the Pharmaceutical Section of the Federal Health Service at Berne published studies on the narcotics law.

2. The essential characteristic of this new narcotics law is that synthetic drugs, inter alia, are put under control; heroin is considered a prohibited substance and preparations containing extract of Indian hemp may no longer be sold to the public. If the composition of a new substance is suspected to be similar in effect to that of narcotic drugs, the Federal Health Service places limits upon its availability until its properties have been definitely established.

The law refers frequently to the international conventions to which Switzerland is a party and its penal provisions are in accordance with the 1936 Convention. The Prosecutor's Office of the Confed-

eration (Ministère public) is the central bureau charged with the suppression of the illicit traffic.

3. The publications referred to in paragraph 1 are commentaries on the new law, in which the four authors deal with the medical, veterinary and legal aspects of the problem and with its incidence upon manufacturers, traders and pharmacists.

II. ADMINISTRATION

1a. and b. No modifications to report in the administrative arrangements for narcotics.

c. In some cases, the export of new synthetic drugs was not authorized before the country of destination had drawn up a supplementary estimate.

2. No increase in the extent of drug addiction was noted in Switzerland during 1952. Nine offences against the Narcotics Law of 2 October 1924/3 October 1951 were tried by the courts. The fines ranged from 50 to 1200 francs (US \$12 to \$277) and the penalties from 10 days' to 12 months' imprisonment.

3. Nothing to report.

III. CONTROL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Nothing to report.

IV. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

The Swiss Chambers have voted for accession to the international Conventions of 1936 and 1948.

V. ILLICIT TRAFFIC

Date and place of conviction	Charge	Penalties (fines)
25 February 1952 Lucerne	Unlawful possession by a male nurse of drugs presumably taken from clinics and hospitals.	The accused was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment, the sentence being suspended for two years, and to a fine of 50 francs (US \$11.50). Costs of the proceedings to be paid by him. The drugs were confiscated.

Date and place of conviction	Charge	Penalties (fines)
18 March 1952 Basle	Theft and attempted sale of 400 grammes of opium. Three persons were implicated in the case.	One of the accused was sentenced to one month's imprisonment, less the period of detention under remand, the sentence being suspended for two years. The other two were each sentenced to a fine of 200 francs (US \$46). Costs of the proceedings to be paid by them. The opium was confiscated.
16 April 1952 Basle	A patient procured ampoules of Sedol by means of forged prescriptions.	The accused was sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment, with a suspended sentence, plus costs. The ampoules were confiscated.
24 June 1952 Zürich	Attempted unlawful sale of 86 ampoules of morphine apparently originating from Germany. Two persons were implicated in this case.	The accused were sentenced to 30 days' imprisonment, less the period of detention under remand, the sentence for one of them being suspended for three years. Costs of proceedings to be borne by them. 77 ampoules were seized and confiscated.
12 July 1952 Dielsdorf	Unlawful purchase and sale of 12 ampoules of morphine smuggled in from Austria. Five persons were implicated in this case.	Only two of the accused were sentenced to imprisonment, for three months and one year respectively, less the period of detention under remand, the sentences being suspended for three years. In addition, one of them was sentenced to a fine of 200 francs (US \$46). The costs of the proceedings to be borne by the five accused.
7 May/11 September 1952 Zürich	Unlawful sale of 370 grammes of morphine smuggled into the country. Two persons were implicated in this case which had its origin in Austria.	The accused were each sentenced to a fine of 500 francs (US \$115). Costs of the proceedings to be borne by them.
28 October 1952 Basle	Attempted purchase and unlawful sale of cocaine. This case originated in Germany. Three persons were implicated.	The accused were sentenced to fines ranging from 100 to 1,200 francs (US \$23-276).
30 October 1952 Baden	Theft by a nurse of narcotic drugs, among other things, from a hospital.	Confinement of the accused in a psychiatric home. The charges for the home to be paid by her.
1 November 1952 Lausanne	A foreign couple (drug addicts) procured morphine and cocaine by fraud with the complicity of seven other persons.	The two principal offenders were sentenced to a fine of 5,000 francs (US \$1,150) each. The others were sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from one to three months, less the period of detention under remand, the sentences being suspended for two years.

VI. OTHER INFORMATION

Nil.

B. RAW MATERIALS

VII. RAW OPIUM) These three headings do not
VIII. COCA LEAF) relate to Switzerland which is
IX. INDIAN HEMP) not a producing country.

C. MANUFACTURED DRUGS
X. INTERNAL CONTROL OF MANUFACTURED DRUGS

1a. Nothing special to report.

b. The manufacture and use of and trade in heroin and in opium for smoking were prohibited as of 1 June 1952.

c. Nothing to report.

2. Licenses

a and b. No changes.

3. Manufacture a. (i) and (ii)

Name and location	Drugs authorized for manufacture	Manufactured drugs	Purpose.
Sandoz, Basle	Manufacture of drugs covered by the Convention	Morphine Thebaine Codeine Dihydrooxycodone Ethylmorphine Benzylmorphine Algozan* Opium* Dihydrocodeine	Domestic consumption and export
Hoffman-La Roche, Basle	Manufacture of drugs covered by the Convention	Morphine Cocaine Codeine Ethylmorphine Thebaine Pantopon Permonid Levorphan (Dromoran)	Domestic consumption and export
Société Anonyme, Basle	"	Cliradon (Ceto-Bemidone)	
A. Knoll, Liestal	"	Morphine Cocaine Codeine Ethylmorphine Dicodide Dilaudide Paracodin	
A. formerly Siegfried, Godingue	"	Morphine Cocaine Codeine Ethylmorphine Thebaine Methadone Pethidine	
Hommel's Haematogen, Zürich	"	Morphine Cocaine Codeine	
A. Wander, Berne	"	Laudopan*	Consumption
A. Amino, Neuenhofwettingen	"	Pethidine	"
A. Neomed, Bienne	"	Pethidine	"
Chimica-Lautenberg A., Locarno	"	Pethidine	"
Medinova, Zürich	"	Pethidine	"

(iii) The drugs are manufactured for domestic needs and for export.

b. It should be noted that 3-hydroxy-N-methylmorphinon (Levorphan), manufactured by the Swiss firm F. Hoffman-La Roche and Co. at Basle and marketed under the name "Dromoran" is exclusively levo-compound. The racemic product is not sold

in Switzerland. Pharmacological and clinical researches undertaken on the dextro-form of this compound have shown that the "+" form of this compound does not possess analgesic effects similar to that produced by morphine. A report on the subject is being prepared for transmission to the international drug control body.

c. (i) to (v). The information contained in our preceding reports is valid for 1952.

4. Trade and distribution

In 1952, 120 persons and firms and 16 pharmacies were authorized to trade in drugs.

5. Manufacture of and trade in diacetylmorphine

a. and b. The manufacture of heroin was authorized until 1 June 1952, the date of the entry into force of the new narcotics law. Nevertheless, the firms so authorized did not manufacture any more heroin. The manufacture of heroin was absolutely prohibited as of 1 June 1952.

c. During 1952, diacetylmorphine was exported to the Philippines. As of 1 June 1952, the manu-

facture of, trade in and use of heroin has been prohibited.

d. Does not concern Switzerland.

D. OTHER QUESTIONS

XI. CHAPTER IV OF THE HAGUE OPIUM CONVENTION OF 1912

Nil.

XII. PREPARED OPIUM

Nil.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS

Nil.