

Letterbox

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PERSONAL.

Monsieur Edward Pernet has been appointed Gérant of the Swiss Consulate in Manchester with the rank of Vice-Consul. M. Pernet, who was born in 1901 in Ormond-Dessus (Vaud) will leave a large number of friends in the London Colony where he has taken an active interest in several of our clubs and institutions; for a number of years he acted as auditor to the Swiss Benevolent Society. He has been with the Swiss Legation in London since 1926 and will no doubt prove to be a great asset to the Manchester Colony.

* * *

The British flying-boat which crashed on Wednesday, July 28th, cut short the promising career of our compatriot, Max Albert Roth, who was returning from Washington with official dispatches. Mr. Roth, who is a lieutenant of infantry, was born in 1912 at Roggwil (Thurgau) and came to England in 1937 to take up a post at the reception office of the Dorchester Hotel: later on he was appointed assistant manager at Brown's Hotel and about a year ago as Swiss Government courier. He had but few friends in our Colony the nature of his appointments preventing him to take contact in the short time but on behalf of them we tender sincere sympathy to Mrs. Roth, who after a few months of marriage was fated to lose her husband in such a tragic manner.

* * *

Another link with the past was broken by the death on July 24th, 1943, of Mrs. Teodolinda Meschini in her 80th year. Her husband, Carlo Meschini, had come to England in the early eighties and she joined him at the age of 25 when he was manager of the Café Royal at Brighton; she shared with him the enterprise and efficiency in catering for a steadily increasing clientèle. In later years Carlo Meschini became the sole proprietor of Pagani's but an early death left his widow in sole charge of this famous establishment. With the help of her son, Arturo, whom she outlived by one year, Teodolinda Meschini won for Pagani's a world-wide reputation; the Restaurant became the recognised rendez-vous of the leaders in the world of art but always retained an essentially "ticiense" caché. All glory is fugitive and the work of genera-

tions was mercilessly destroyed in a single night. The whole of the Colony will once more share the sorrow of the hard-stricken Meschini family.

* * *

FERRARIS. The gift of a 2nd son and 3rd child on July 26th, 1943, at 14, Homer Field, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS.

The "Railway Gazette," August 20th, publishes the following report about the S.F.R. traffic returns: "The record profit of frs. 18.5 million reported by the Federal Railways for 1941 was not approached in 1942, by reason of increased expenditure for materials and staff. Nevertheless, there was a profit of frs. 2.5 million, which will again be used towards covering former insufficient depreciation on construction capital. The following table shows the principal data:—

	1941	1942
	Mill. frs.	Mill. frs.
Receipts—		
Passengers	161.6	176.8
Goods, livestock, and luggage ...	268.3	264.6
Mails	10.2	10.9
Sundry receipts	14.9	16.0
Totals	455.0	468.3
Expenditure—		
Administration	5.9	6.1
Construction and maintenance ...	46.4	56.0
Traffic operation	93.3	99.9
Traction and workshops	90.3	99.4
Sundries	28.4	27.0
Totals... ..	264.3	288.4

A record passenger figure of 159 million was reached, which was 15 million over that for 1941; passenger receipts increased by 9.4 per cent. Goods traffic declined for the first time since 1938."

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

We hope to go to press with our next issue on September 24th, and we wish to thank the following subscribers for their welcome addition to the ordinary subscription rate: P. Walser, F. Streit, R. Dupraz, Miss A. M. Gassmann, J. C. Wetter, E. Belart, C. Kunzle, P. Bonnet, W. Fuchs, F. A. Brawand, P. Hafter.

LETTER-BOX.

To *Mlle. D.* — We are sorry that you should have been troubled. What you state is quite correct but the amount handed to us at the time was credited to our production account and we have now transferred same to "Subscriptions" which will take you to our issue No. 1035.

A. S. and Others. — The new "Defence (Fire Guard) Regulations 1934" is a compulsory order and also affects Swiss Nationals between the age of 18 and 63. We hope to give some official information in our next issue.

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