

New appointments at the Swiss Legation

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to an English source is given as about 3½ million £ sterling — amazingly low. Of these 3,781 were British costing £1,165,000.

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39,000 sewing machines were exported from our country in 1946 against 6,000 received from abroad. Of typewriters about 36,000 were exported against an import of 7,600.

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An International Motor Show was opened at Geneva on the 13th inst. The world's leading manufacturers have taken stand space.

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Swiss transport insurance companies have reduced their premiums for a number of important types of merchandise. Insurance premiums on export consignments of machines and apparatus of all kinds, as well as of parts, tools and instruments have been cut by an average of 30 per cent.

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U.K. trade with Switzerland are dealt with in the following short article taken from the "Financial Times," February 7th:—

"Great Britain occupied sixth place in Switzerland's import trade during 1946, supplying goods worth Frs.196,600,000, compared with Frs.21,500,000 in 1945. The United States took the lead with a total of Frs.547,800,000 (Frs.138,800,000), followed by France, Belgium, Argentine and Italy.

Exports to Great Britain amounted to Frs. 58,100,000 (Frs.31,700,000), leaving the Swiss with a deficit of Frs.138,500,000 which was largely offset by trade with other sterling area countries.

Exports to the Union of South Africa rose to Frs.76,700,000 (Frs.12,700,000), against imports of Frs.12,600,000 (Frs.8,000,000). The respective figure for British India are Frs.44,700,000 (Frs.47,800,000) and Frs.19,900,000 (Frs.5,400,000).

Before the war Great Britain was Switzerland's second best customer. In 1946 she took thirteenth place, the United States leading with Frs.453,300,000 (Frs.385,300,000).

The watch industry tops the Swiss export trade with goods valued at Frs.605,200,000, the second place being taken by machinery, Frs.418,800,000."

* * *

A first consignment of 5,000 tons of Swiss Apples arrived in London at the end of last month; there were six different kinds which were retailed at 8d. per lb.

NEW APPOINTMENTS AT THE SWISS LEGATION.

We have much pleasure to announce the appointments of Lieutenant-Colonel, Jean G. Rieser, as Military and Air Attaché, who has taken over from Lieutenant-Colonel Schlegel, and Monsieur Paul Clottu, "Attaché Social," who will specially deal with labour and similar questions.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jean G. Rieser, born 1901 in Berne, citizen of Berne and Wuppenau, Thurgau, attended schools in Berne and St. Gall and studied languages in Rome, Cambridge, London, Paris and Berlin. He then studied at the Federal Technical School in Zurich, where he passed his examinations as an Architect. After several years in this branch, he was until the beginning of the war for five years General Secretary of the Swiss Aero Club. During the war: Commander of various units and joined the Federal Military Department in 1942. Towards the end of the war: Commander of the Group of Special Squadrons for Air Defence; succeeded on March 1st, 1947, Lieutenant-Colonel Schlegel as Military and Air Attaché of the Swiss Legation in London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Schlegel has returned to Switzerland where he will be attached to the staff of the Swiss Air Force.

* * *

The new "Attaché Social" to the Swiss Legation, M. Paul Clottu, of Neuchâtel, has recently joined his post. Born in 1897, he completed his studies at the universities of Neuchâtel, Berne and Geneva. In 1920 he became a member of the newly created International Labour Office in Geneva. After twenty years collaboration with this Office and a short time at the Central Agency for Prisoners of War of the International Red Cross Committee, M. Clottu entered the Swiss Civil Service as one of the heads of the division in charge of the Allowances scheme for soldiers and their families. In 1945, he became deputy chief of the division of the "Office fédéral de l'industrie, des arts et métiers et du travail" dealing with the protection of workers. M. Clottu has attended in recent years several international conferences as a member of Swiss delegations.

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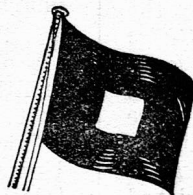
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