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# The Swiss Observer

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

Monsieur Robert Kohli, Swiss Minister at The Hague, has been appointed Minister in Budapest, in succession to Dr. Eduard Zellweger, who recently resigned from his post.

Minister Kohli, was born in Rüscheegg (Ct. Berne) in 1896. He studied law at the University of Berne. In 1918, he entered into the service of the Confederation, and six years later (1924) was in charge of the section for foreign interests of the Political Department (Foreign Office). In 1938, he was promoted to Secretary of Legation, and placed in charge of the Federal Emigration Office, which post he occupied until 1941, in which year he was promoted to Counsellor of Legation. In 1945, he was appointed Minister to Holland.

\* \* \*

The Federal Council has appointed Monsieur Max Grässli, Counsellor of Legation, to the post of Swiss Minister in Budapest.

The new Minister was born in St. Gall in 1902, and studied law at the Universities of Geneva, Paris and Berne, after which he practised as an advocate in Berne, Aarau and Geneva. In 1930, he entered the Diplomatic Service, and was attached to the Swiss Legation in Paris. Three years later (1934) he was transferred to Berne, and promoted to Secretary of Legation. In 1936, he was sent to Berlin, which post he left in 1942 on his appointment as Consul General in Bratislava. Three years later (1945) he was promoted to Counsellor of Legation and transferred to Washington, which post he occupied until 1948, when he was sent on a diplomatic mission to Japan. After a few months, Minister Grässli returned to Berne. From May 25th to September 22nd of this year, he was Chargé d'Affaires in Moscow.

\* \* \*

Monsieur Felix Schnyder, Counsellor of Legation, has been entrusted by the Federal Council, with the direction of the Swiss mission in Berlin, in succession

to Monsieur Francois de Diessbach, who lost his life in a motoring accident.

Monsieur Schnyder, who hails from the canton of Lucerne, was born in 1910, and for some time was acting as legal adviser to various industrial concerns. In 1940, he entered the Diplomatic Service with the rank of Attaché, advancing to 2nd and 3rd Secretary of Legation. In 1917, he was attached to the Swiss Legation in Moscow as Counsellor of Legation and Chargé d'Affaires *ad interim*. At the beginning of this year he returned to the Swiss Foreign Office.

\* \* \*

The two Federal Chambers (National and States Council) assembled on Monday, October 24th for a special session to discuss the financial reform of the Confederation.

\* \* \*

On the occasion of the 75th birthday anniversary of General Guisan, the Federal Council has sent a telegram of congratulation to the former commander-in-chief of the Swiss army, during the last war.

The Federal Council entertained the General to a dinner at the "Wattenwyl Haus" in Berne.

\* \* \*

The Government of the United States of America has informed the Swiss Legation in Washington that they will remit to the Swiss Government an amount of 62 million francs for compensation of the damage caused by American airmen in Schaffhausen, Basle and Zurich. (On going to Press we are informed, that the above mentioned amount has been received by the Swiss National Bank.)

\* \* \*

The newly appointed Minister of the Republic of Cuba, Monsieur Mariano Brull y Caballero, has presented his credentials to Monsieur Nobs, President of the Swiss Confederation.

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**Cantonal** Joseph Frey, since 1920 a member of the Government of the canton of Lucerne, is shortly relinquishing his post. Frey belongs to the Liberal Party and is 73 years old. [A.T.S.]

Dr. Anton Harder, at present house-surgeon at the District Hospital in Rheinfelden, has been appointed surgeon-in-chief to the "Heil & Pflegeanstalt" in Rheinau (Ct. Zurich). [A.T.S.]

The well-known writer, Margarethe von Bendenmann, known under the *Nom de plume* of Margarethe Susmann, has celebrated her 75th birthday anniversary in Zurich. Amongst her better-known works are: "Das Buch Hiob" and "Frauen der Romantik." [A.T.S.]

After having visited a number of public-houses, four young men drove at excessive speed through Grünigen (Ct. Zurich) and at a cross-road the driver collided with a building. One of the passengers, Oswald Bühler, a mechanic from Hombrechtikon, was killed outright. The driver and two other passengers received serious injuries. The car was totally destroyed. [A.T.S.]

During the period of July 1st to September 30th, 1948, (same period 1948:167) traffic accidents are reported from the Solothurn authorities. Fifteen people (6) have been killed, 132 (114) were slightly and 37 (12) seriously injured. [A.T.S.]

The Chamber of Commerce of the canton of Solothurn has celebrated its 75th Jubilee. [A.T.S.]

Professor Robert Bing (Basle) has been nominated an honorary member of the "Sociedad Espanola de Neurologia," for his scholastic work in the sphere of neurology. [A.T.S.]

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

William Martin, a former member of the Grand Council of the canton of Geneva, and at one time Presi-

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dent of the community Meinier and Veyrier, in Geneva, at the age of 74.

Colonel Adolph Duc, a member of the Federal Instruction Corps, in Lausanne, aged 62. Colonel Duc was at one time in command of the Geneva Battalion and the mountain-brigade 1.

Fritz Weber, for 18 years President of the community of Worben (Ct. Berne) in Lyss, at the age of 76. The deceased was a member of the Board of the "Spar & Leihkasse" Lyss and the "Zuckerfabrik" Aarberg.

Dr. Paul Hilber "Konservator" at the Arts Museum of Lucerne, in Lucerne, at the age of 59. The deceased, was from 1920-1931 Librarian at the "Burgerbibliothek" in Lucerne. In 1931, he took up his appointment with the Arts Museum.

Dr. Hilber occupied the post of President of the Swiss Society of Arts from 1929-1930.

Dr. Heinrich Ritter, from 1914-1918 a member of the "Kantonsrat" Zug and from 1927-1941 "Kantonsarzt" in Cham, aged 72. In the army he reached the rank of Lieutenant-colonel (Swiss Medical Corps).


Kasimir Meyer, senior partner in the Printing Works, Kasimir Meyers Söhne, A.G. in Wohlen, in Wohlen, aged 61.

Dr. Barth, for many years connected with the hospital in Moutier (Ct. Berne), in Berne, at the age of 60. [A.T.S.]

\* \* \*

The following couple have celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary (60 years): Mr. and Mrs. Isidore Grandjean of Bulle. [A.T.S.]

**ALBERT FERBER (SWISS)**



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