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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The Swiss Minister in Vienna, Monsieur Anton Feldscher, gave the first reception at the new Legation, which was the former Palais Schwarzenberg.

The reception was attended by the Austrian Chancellor, Dr. Figl, members of the government and the Diplomatic Corps. There were also present Mme. Petitpierre, wife of the President of the Swiss Confederation, at present on a visit to Vienna, and Dr. Ernst Feist, formerly Swiss Minister in Budapest.

* * *

Counsellor of Legation, Dr. J. A. Cuttat, deputy chief of the political section of the Swiss Foreign Office, and formerly "chef du protocole" has been nominated 1st Counsellor of Legation in Washington. During the absence of Minister Bruggmann, he will act as Chargé d'Affaires.

* * *

Monsieur Hans Berger, Chargé d'Affaires in Peru, will represent the Federal Council on the occasion of the initiation of the new President of the Republic of Peru, which will take place at Lima.

* * *

M. Gabrielle Naville, at present Swiss Consul in Baden-Baden, has been appointed Consul at Capetown, in succession to M. Max Büchi, who has been transferred to Tananarivo.

M. Neville was born in 1892 in Geneva. In 1942 he entered into the service of the Swiss Legation in Berlin, where he was in charge of a section of the Special Division. Three years later (1945), he received an appointment at the Federal Political Department in Berne. In 1946, he was transferred as Vice-Consul to the Swiss Consulate in Freiburg, i.Br. and in 1947 to the Consulate at Baden-Baden.

* * *

Professor Theodor Heuss, President of the German Federal Republic, who spent a short holiday in Switzerland, paid a private visit to M. M. Petitpierre, President of the Swiss Confederation, at Chaumont. (Neuchâtel).

During the month of June, 1950, the Swiss Federal Railways have carried 15,42 million passengers, which is one million less than in June, 1949. The receipts for passenger traffic are : 23,16 million francs. (1949 : 24,66 million francs).

Goods traffic shows an increase of 166,00 tons over June, 1949, figures and is returned as 1,50 million tons. The receipts amount to 28,19 million francs. (1949 : 25,06 million francs).

* * *

This year 1st of August was celebrated throughout Switzerland with more than usual solemnity. The theme of all the patriotic demonstrations was one of national unity which bordered on a sacred union of all the political forces of the country. As usual, bonfires were lit even in the smallest villages and the inhabitants listened standing and bareheaded at the lecture of the Federal Pact of 1291.

Cantonal

Mm. Veuve Mely Pletscher-Wanner, of Bäch (Ct. Schwyz), who recently died at the Cantonal Hospital in Winterthur, has left an amount of 160,000.— frs. to various charitable institutions. [A.T.S.]

* * *

M. Walter Honauer, architect in Zurich has celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary. The "Börsengebäude", various churches and schools as well as the building of the "Meteorologischen Zentral-Anstalt" all in Zurich, were built after his plans. From 1925-1930, he was Central President of the Association of Swiss architects. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Professor, Dr. W. Gonzenbach, for thirty years a lecturer of Hygiene at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich, has given his "Abschiedsvorlesung" at the above Institute. [A.T.S.]

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