

New Appointment at the Swiss Legation

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NEW APPOINTMENT AT THE SWISS LEGATION.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Monsieur René Faessler, to the post of Commercial Counsellor at the Swiss Legation, London, in succession to Dr. A. Weitnauer.

Monsieur Faessler was born in 1913, and is a citizen of Appenzell, I. Rh. After his schooling, which he received at St. Gall, he studied law at the Universities of Berne, Vienna and Geneva. From 1938-1939, he stayed in Paris as *stagiaire* at an Insurance Company and the Stock Exchange. On his return to Switzerland, he established himself as a barrister at St. Gall. (1939-1943).

In 1943, Monsieur Faessler entered the Diplomatic Service, and was sent as Attaché to the Swiss Legation in Berlin (Safeguard of Foreign Interests), where he stayed until 1945. For the following four years he occupied a post at the Federal Political Department (Swiss Foreign Office) in Berne. In 1949, Monsieur Faessler was transferred to the Swiss Legation in Cairo as Commercial Attaché and first collaborator where he remained until 1953. He was promoted to the rank of Counsellor of Legation in 1954. In welcoming him, we wish him the best of success in his responsible office.

Monsieur Albert Weitnauer, who had succeeded Dr. V. Umbricht in September of 1953, as Counsellor in charge of Economic Affairs, has been transferred to the Swiss Legation at Washington in the same capacity. He received his schooling in Basle in which town he studied at the University.

Dr. Weitnauer entered the service of the Swiss Confederation in 1941 as Secretary to the Central Administration of War Economy. At the end of 1946, he joined the Division of Commerce at the Federal Department of Public Economy. From 1948-49, he was attached to the Swiss Legation at Washington as First Secretary.

On returning to Berne he was appointed, in 1950, Chief of Section at the Division of Commerce (Federal Political Department).

During his stay in London, Dr. Weitnauer, took a great interest in the life of the Swiss Colony; apart from attending many social functions, he gave a number of addresses, dealing with commercial and economic matters, both at the Swiss Mercantile Society and the Swiss Economic Council, which were much appreciated. We regret his departure, and warmly thank him for his collaboration in the work of the Colony, wishing him the best of success in his new sphere of activity.



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