

Two golden Wedding Anniversaries

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TWO GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

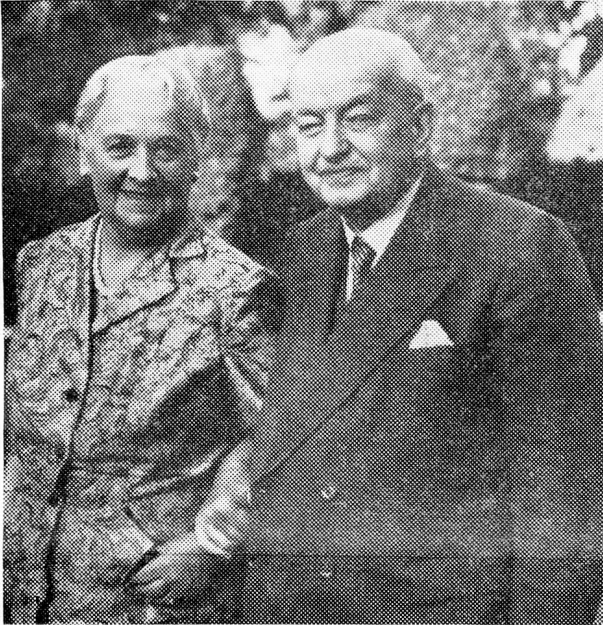


Photo by courtesy of Middlesex Advertiser.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Frey.

We have much pleasure in introducing to our readers, Mr. and Mrs. O. Frey, of "Ridgeway", 135, Station Road, West Drayton, who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary.

It is given to few of us to celebrate a half century of mutual pilgrimage through life; fifty years is a long time, and yet short when the companionship is a happy one.

Such an event signifies a mile stone which rightly calls for jubilation, and therefore the Golden Wedding couple celebrated this conspicuous event with a small and intimate family re-union at their home, to which, as a pleasant surprise, Mr. Frey's three sisters had flown from Switzerland to be in their company.

Mr. and Mrs. Frey were married fifty years ago at a small church outside Baden. The bride's father was a well known local figure, and Mayor of the town of Baden.

The young couple came to this country in 1903, and 16 years later (1919) Mr. Frey opened the Anglo-Swiss Screw Company in West Drayton — previously the headquarters of this concern were situated in a small building in Tavistock Road.

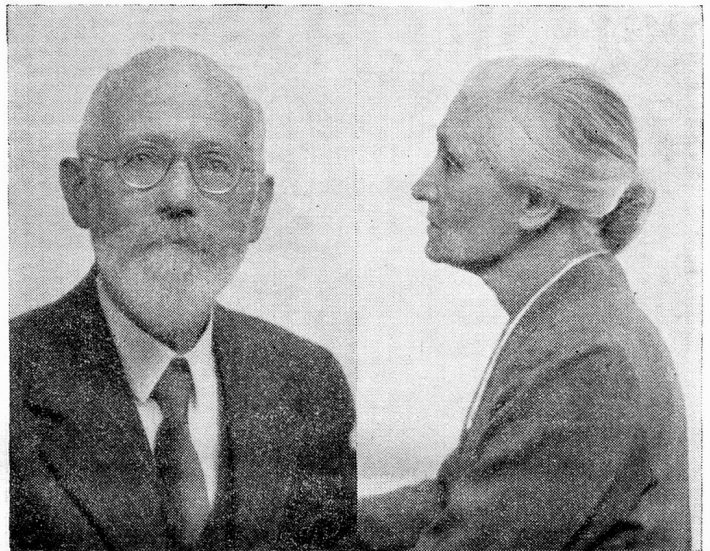
From small beginnings Mr. Frey built up a business, which today enjoys a great reputation in this particular trade. In 1924, a large factory was opened in Trout Lane. It meant hard work and extensive

planning and 'though Mr. Frey has, what is commonly called "arrived", he has no intention of resting on his laurels; in spite of having attained and exceeded the three score and ten allowance. With unabated energy he still goes to his factory every day, and although retirement was at one time contemplated by returning to their native country, they have decided to remain in this land which has given them such a generous hospitality for so long.

Mr. Frey holds the office of President in many local organisations including the Community Association and the Allotment Society, and recently retired from active membership of the Chamber of Trade. He is also President of the Yeewsley and West Drayton Silver Band.

May we extend on our part, to Mr. and Mrs. Frey our most hearty congratulations coupled with the wish, that they both may enjoy their happy partnership for many more years to come.

ST.



Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Ritter.

The 21st October was a very happy occasion for one Swiss family in London. On that day Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Ritter celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary. We feel that all their many friends will want to join us in expressing to them hearty congratulations and in wishing them many more years of happiness together.

Because of his long association with the Swiss Benevolent Society, Mr. Ritter has become for many

something of an institution, and it will interest his many friends to have a few details of his early years.

Mr. Ritter was born in Bienne and was the youngest of a family of seven. When he was still quite young, the family moved to Berne, where they lived in the Junkerngasse, from where Theo attended the Grammar School.

Wishing to improve his knowledge of languages and to see something of the world, he secured his first job as a Swiss Civil Servant in French and Italian localities. In 1900 he decided to spend six months in London to learn English. He stayed on as Manager of Messrs. Barkentin & Krall, a firm of Metal Craftsmen, and it was there that he met Paula whom he married in 1905. Having meanwhile decided to settle in England, in 1911 he joined the Swiss Legation where during the first World War he was Chancellor under Minister G. Carlin. After the War, he entered the commercial world, first as Manager of Messrs. De Trey & Co., and later as Manager with Lep Transport, International Shipping Agents.

During most of these years Mr. Ritter had worked voluntarily for the Swiss Benevolent Society, becoming in due course its Hon. Secretary. In 1932 he became full-time Secretary of the Society, a position from which he has only recently reluctantly retired, although his mature experience and knowledge of men and matters remain as before at the disposal of the Society which has always been nearest to his heart.

This brief outline gives a picture of a full life, much of which was devoted to the good of his compatriots.

Mr. and Mrs. Ritter have a daughter and one married son, and they have recently rejoiced over the birth of their second grandson.

M.R.

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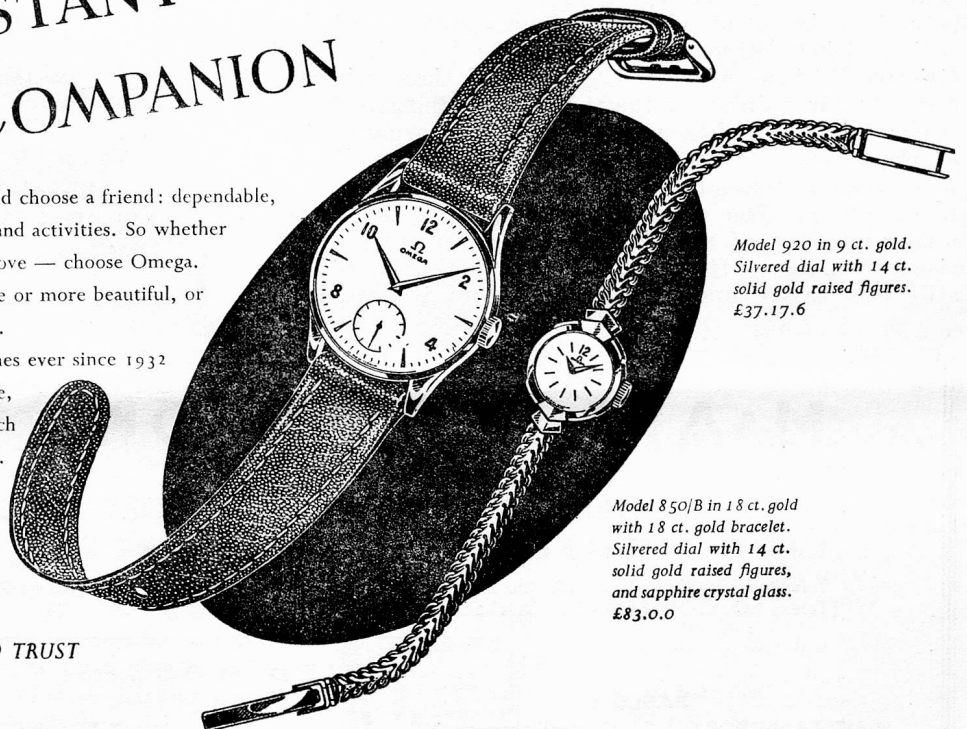
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