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Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): - **(1955)**

Heft 1244

PDF erstellt am: **12.07.2024**

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The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED IN 1919 BY PAUL F. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain

Advisory Council: R. DE CINTRA (Chairman); O. F. BOEHRINGER, LS. CHAPUIS, J. EUSEBIO, GOTTFRIED KELLER, R. J. KELLER, R. PFENNINGER, A. STAUFFER, G. E. SUTER.

EDITED BY A. STAUFFER WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SWISS COLONY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Telephone: CLERKENWELL 2321/2.

Published Twice Monthly at 23, LEONARD STREET, E.C.2.

Telegrams: FREPRINCO, LONDON.

Vol. 40. No. 1244.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11th, 1955.

PRICE 11d.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTION RATES. (Fortnightly issue.)

UNITED KINGDOM AND COLONIES	6 issues, post free	6/-
	12 issues, post free	11/6
	24 issues, post free	21/-
SWITZERLAND	12 issues, post free	Frs. 7.—
	24 issues, post free	Frs. 13.50

(Swiss subscriptions may be paid into Postscheck-Konto
Basle V 5718).



NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The Federal Council has appointed Minister Max Grässli to the post of Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to the Kingdom of Sweden, in succession to Monsieur Armin Daeniker, who has been transferred to London.

Minister Grässli was born at St. Gall, and is a citizen of Grabs (Ct. St. Gall). He studied *juris prudencia* at the Universities of Geneva, Paris and Berne, afterwards practising as a lawyer 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) Monsieur Grässli returned to Berne and was 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. In 1945, he was promoted to the rank of Counsellor of Legation and transferred to Washington, which post he occupied until 1948, when he went on a diplomatic mission to Japan. After a few months, Minister Grässli returned to Berne. From May 25th to September 22nd, 1948, he was Chargé d'Affaires in Moscow, and the following year he was appointed Swiss Minister to Hungary. In April, 1952, he was nominated Minister to India and Thailand, with residence in New Dehli.

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The Federal Council has made several appointments in the Swiss Consular Service, namely:

Mr. Harold Müller to be Honorary Consul at Kobe (Japan). The new Consul was born in 1897 in Zurich, and has been a resident in Japan for the last 27 years. He is Managing-Director of the firm Liebermann, Walchli & Cie, in Kobe.

Mr. Edouard Hofer, Vice-Consul at the Swiss Consulate in Tananarive, has been promoted to the rank of Consul. He was born in 1905 in Ballmoos (Ct. Berne) and entered the Consular Service in 1926. He occupied previously posts at the Swiss Consulates in

Milan, Buenos-Aires, Montevideo, Santiago, and Algier.

Consul-General Hans Gremminger has been put in charge of the Swiss Consulate in Barcelona; born in 1894 in Lommis (Ct. Thurgau) he entered into the service of the Federal Political Department in 1921, and occupied posts in Buenos Aires, Montreal, Lisbon, Leipzig and Munich. In 1942, he was transferred to Montevideo, and appointed Chargé d'Affaires, with the rank of Counsellor of Legation, and three years later (1945) he went to San Francisco as Consul-General.

Consul-General August Ochsenbein has been put in charge of the Swiss Consulate San Francisco. He was born in 1901 in Solothurn, and entered into the service of the Federal Political Department in 1925. He was successively attached to the Consulates in Manchester, Danzig, Breslau, and Berlin, at the latter post he was promoted to the rank of 1st Secretary of Legation. In 1949, Mr. Ochsenbein was transferred to Madrid, and promoted to the grade of Counsellor of Legation.

Vice-Consul Charles Mayor, since 1953 in charge of the Swiss Consulate at Laurenço-Marques, has been promoted to the rank of Consul. He was born in 1908 at Echallens (Ct. Vaud), and entered the Consular Service in 1934. He held posts at the Consulates of Sao Paulo and Johannesburg.

* * *

Monsieur Pedro Nel Rueda Uribe, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the Republic of Columbia, has presented his credentials to Monsieur M. Petitpierre, President of the Swiss Confederation. He was previously a member of the Columbian Government.

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