

News from the colony

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY.

**H. OSWALD.**

Chairman of Assembly of Presidents of Swiss Societies
in Great Britain.

At the Meeting of the Assembly of Presidents of Swiss Societies in Great Britain, which took place on Monday, April 9th, 1956, at the Swiss Legation, Mr. H. Oswald, President of the Swiss Economic Council, was elected Chairman. Mr. A. Gandon, President of the Société de Secours Mutuels, has been elected Vice-Chairman, and Mr. P. Jacomelli, President of the Unione Ticinese, Hon. Secretary.

The newly appointed Chairman was born on the 23rd of September, 1902, in Aadorf (Ct. Thurgau) where his father (and earlier his grandfather) acted as a notary and judge.

He received his primary and secondary schooling in his native town and thereafter completed a three years course at the Technical College, Winterthur, and in addition received two years practical shop training at the works of Brown, Boveri & Co. Ltd., at Baden.

In 1923, Mr. Oswald matriculated and entered the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich, where he obtained in July, 1927, the degree as an engineer. (Thesis: Hydro-electric Power Stations with special reference to the economic utilisation of hydraulic energy.)

During the four years of study at the University,

he did his military service, and obtained the rank of Lieutenant in an engineering unit. In this period he joined the "Akademische Maschinen Ingenieur Verein", Zurich, of which he became President for one year.

After a previous visit to London (1927), Mr. Oswald entered in 1928 the British Brown-Boveri Limited, London, as a contract engineer, which concern he left in 1932, to take up the position of factory representative and resident engineer in India for the Swiss Brown, Boveri Company. During his *séjour* in India he was able to assist the establishment of the firm Brown, Boveri, as steam and electrical power plant engineers and contractors to industrial and public utility undertakings, and *inter alia* was responsible for the layout and contract of the entire power station of the Pallivasal hydro-electric project in Travancore State.

Upon being appointed General Manager of British Brown-Boveri Limited, Mr. Oswald returned to London in Spring, 1937, and subsequently was offered a seat on the Board. On the retirement of his predecessor, Mr. A. C. Eborall, he became Managing-Director of British Brown-Boveri Limited. In 1947 (which company is the British subsidiary of the Swiss Brown, Boveri company).

In 1938, Mr. Oswald was elected an Associate Member of the I.E.E. and was admitted a full Member in the year 1943. He joined the City Swiss Club in 1940 of which he was at one time a committee member. In April 1952, he was elected President of the Swiss Economic Council.

In congratulating him on his election to the Chairmanship of the Assembly of Presidents of Swiss Societies in Great Britain, we wish him a successful year of office in his responsible position, for the benefit of the Assembly in particular and for the Swiss Colony in general.

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ZURICH GOVERNMENT'S LONDON VISIT.

The members of the Government of the canton of Zurich *in corpore* paid a two days visit to London on the 18th and 19th of this month.

They visited the London Airport, and also paid a visit to the House of Commons and the House of Lords, where they were entertained to tea by a delegation of the "Union Parlementaire".

The journey was made by Swissair.

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