

Personal

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corner has been turned or soon will be. The original lease has expired and a new lease is now being negotiated, based on the experiences we have made.

In our urgent need for more financial support for our work, we usually stress the advantage of GUARANTEED CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER DEED OF COVENANT. In 1964 we had the satisfaction to see the total of such contributions pass from £706 to £797 and the tax refund benefit to us from £413 to £443. We do so hope that more of our friends will adopt this form of subscription, which means no extra cost to them, yet so much to us. Information and forms of covenant will be gladly supplied on application to our office.

There has been no change in the form and practice of ADMINISTRATION of our society, the Executive Committee meeting normally on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 31 Conway Street to hear a report by the secretary, Mr. Jules Zimmermann, on actions taken, applications received, and other developments during the interval. Mr. Walter Ziereisen, our other collaborator, shares with him the day-to-day business of the office. We wish to thank both of them for their devoted services.

We are always glad to welcome at these twice-monthly meetings members of the General Committee and anyone of our colony who is interested in our work. And we are particularly grateful to Monsieur F. Ansermoz and Consul E. Tosio, who never fail to join us in turn on those occasions and provide a most useful link between us and the Swiss Embassy.

We record here with pleasure and gratitude the acceptance, early in 1964, of the Hon. Presidency of our society by Monsieur Beat de Fischer, our present Ambassador at the Court of St. James, in succession to his predecessor, Monsieur Armin Daeniker, for whose well-known interest in our society and great help in the years 1955-1963 we are most thankful.

At our Annual General Meeting this year, our President, Mr. F. G. Sommer, asked to be relieved of his position for reasons of health, age and travelling distances, after he had been at the helm since 1954 following the retirement of Col. Anton Bon who had returned to Switzerland. Mr. Sommer's request was accepted with the utmost regret, and we wish to express to him here our very sincere thanks for his devoted and inspired leadership. In recognition of his distinguished services, he was elected as Hon. Vice-President of the society.

At the same meeting, Mr. X. Speckert, hitherto one of our Vice-Presidents, was elected President of the society. Mr. M. Schneebeli, a member of our General Committee, was elected to succeed him as Vice-President. New members of the General Committee are Mr. L. S. R. Asch and Pfarrer M. Dietler.

Our appreciation and thanks go to Mr. and Mrs. Ziereisen for their constant devotion to our Clothing Service all through the year and a special word of acknowledgment is due to them for their handling of our Christmas parcels action. In this they have the unflinching co-operation of Mrs. Bachofen and Mrs. Raulin, to whom also we are grateful for the help they are giving us, Mrs. Bachofen lending us a hand on other special occasions too.

In CONCLUSION, may we repeat that the aims of our society are to assist Swiss citizens temporarily or permanently resident within the consular district of London who are in need of help. All cases brought to our notice are considered with every sympathy.

Once again, we wish to express our very sincere gratitude to the Federal, Cantonal and Municipal Authorities at home, the Swiss Embassy, the Swiss Churches, the

Swiss Societies, and all our subscribers, individuals and firms, for their great kindness and generosity in support of our endeavours, not forgetting the "Swiss Observer" for the free publicity they give us. It is fitting also that we extend thanks to the British Authorities for the kind hospitality we enjoy in this country.

On behalf of the Committee:

X. SPECKERT,

President.

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The S.B.S., 31 Conway Street, W.I:

Honorary President: Monsieur Beat de Fischer, Ambassadeur de Suisse. *Honorary Vice-President:* Mr. F. G. Sommer. *President:* Mr. X. Speckert. *Vice-Presidents:* Mr. J. Oertli, Mr. M. A. Rothlisberger, Mr. M. Schneebeli. *Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. M. A. Rothlisberger. *Hon. Assistant Treasurer:* Mr. D. E. Bonnet. *Secretary:* Mr. Jules Zimmermann.

PERSONAL

Mr. Marcel Zublin, Joint Managing Director of Messrs. Sulzer Bros. (London) Ltd., has returned to Switzerland to take up an important post with the firm in Winterthur. He will, however, remain on the Board of the London Company. During his stay in this country, Mr. Zublin has been an active member of the Swiss community, especially of the Swiss Economic Council, the Swiss Hostel for Girls and the City Swiss Club. We extend our best wishes to him and his family.

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In order to continue the technical liaison with the Swiss Company and to co-ordinate the sales of Sulzer specialities, Mr. P. Haefeli has been appointed Sales Manager of the London Company. Mr. Haefeli has extensive experience of Sulzer Products having served the Sulzer organisation in Switzerland and abroad for many years.

We wish him and his family a successful and happy stay in this country.

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On 14th February, the Protestant voters in the Grisons agreed to having women Ministers of the Church. On 27th June, The Rev. Doris Voegelin, well-known to many members of the Swiss community in London from the days when she was Minister at the Swiss Church, was accepted into the Grisons Synod. She has been working in the Communes of Sils-Silvaplana-Champfèr for several years, but without having equal status with her male colleagues. We wish to congratulate Miss Voegelin and extend our best wishes to her.

FOR THE SWISS COMMUNITY IN SCOTLAND

The Federal Day of Prayer will be celebrated at 7 Hughenden Terrace, Glasgow W.2. The Minister of the Swiss Church in London, the Rev. M. Dietler, will give an illustrated talk on the Swiss Church in London at 5 p.m. The Get-Together is at 4 p.m. and at 7 p.m., Mr. Dietler will give the Sermon followed by Holy Communion.