

News from the Colony

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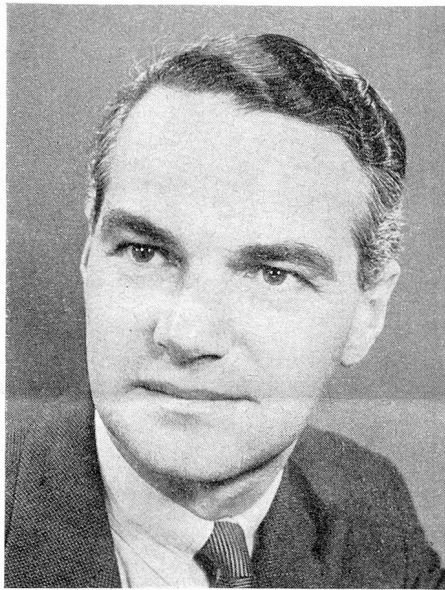
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both in anticipation and after the event. The 28th January 1967 was one of the rare occasions when all four parts seemed to have been liked by most participants equally well. The Reception was enhanced by the pleasure of meeting so many old friends. The Dinner was up to the best Dorchester standard, and that is saying something. The speeches were short and to the point with a couple of excellent jokes thrown in. And the Dancing was lively, with plenty of room to indulge in whirling waltzes, tottering twists, flowing foxtrots and an evergreen tango or two. Added to this a gratuitous raffle (evening bag and wallet thanks to the generosity of Mr. L. W. Krucker), a drop of a fine Swiss vintage, and the picture of a really happy evening amongst good friends is complete.

MM



WELCOME TO THE NEW SWISS AMBASSADOR

As was reported some time ago, the Federal Council appointed Monsieur le Ministre Olivier Long as Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation to the Court of St. James's. This is in succession to Monsieur Béat de Fischer who has retired after a distinguished diplomatic career.

Monsieur Long was born at his place of origin, Petit-Veyrier (Geneva), in 1915. He studied in Paris, Geneva, London and Chicago. He finished his studies with a doctorate in law at the University of Paris and with one of *Sciences Politiques* at Geneva University. After some activities in private industry and later on the International Red Cross Committee, Monsieur Long joined the Federal Political Department in 1946. Three years later, he was transferred to Washington. In 1953, he began his work in the Commercial Section of the EPD in Berne. After two years, the Federal Council appointed him Delegate for Trade Agreements and made him a Minister in 1957. For the last six years, Monsieur Long has also been head of the Swiss delegation with the European Free Trade Association in Geneva.

Monsieur Long is married and has three children. We understand that he met his Belgian wife in London during the war.

We wish the new Ambassador and his family a happy and rewarding stay in the British Isles.

F. G. SOMMER 75

It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce the 75th birthday of Mr. F. G. Sommer, of 3 Red Gables Court, Whitehall, Bletchingley, Surrey. He will be celebrating his birthday on 1st March, and his many friends will want to wish him the best of health and happiness for many more years to come.

A man who has done so much unselfish and pains-taking work as Mr. Sommer deserves full recognition, and we should have liked to devote considerable space to his activities which have left a mark on the Swiss community in this country. But Mr. Sommer's extreme modesty has put a stop to this. When he celebrated his 70th birthday, he refused to have it written up, as he then still was President of the Swiss Benevolent Society, Vice-President of both the Swiss Church and the Swiss Hostel for Girls, offices he held with great distinction for many years (as well as others previously — President of the "Foyer Suisse" and of the Swiss Male Choir, etc.).

Even now that he has retired both from business (he spent a life-time in the services of the world-renowned firm of A. Wander Ltd., London, and is a Fellow of the Institute of Company Accountants and a Fellow of the Faculty of Corporate Secretaries) and Colony activities, he would still rather not have his great services mentioned. But the writer feels strongly that such devotion to public service should be held up as an example to others, especially to our young compatriots at a time when new members are needed to fill the gaps left more and more frequently by old stalwarts leaving our ranks.

Fred Sommer, a true Bernese at heart, a man whose integrity and loyalty has at all times been unquestioned, has a strong sense of duty and been helped in his rich life by a great and strong faith in the Almighty. He has been fortunate in having a loving wife at his side, and we join her, their family and large numbers of friends here and in Switzerland in wishing him many happy returns of the day and God's rich blessings in the future.

MM

GOLDEN WEDDING, A BIRTHDAY AND A GREAT HONOUR

We have great pleasure in announcing that Mr. and Mrs. A. Boog, of 48 The Boulevard, Pevensey Bay, Sussex, will be celebrating their Golden Wedding on 1st March. We wish them a happy day and many more years of being together.

Mr. Oscar Grob will be 67 on 26th of February. We wish him and any other readers of whose birthdays we are not aware, many happy returns of the day.

It is with great pleasure that we heard of the award of a MBE (Civil) to Mrs. M. H. Ellis (*née* Daepf), President of the Swiss Welfare Office. We shall refer to this honour in our next issue and in the meantime congratulate our compatriot most warmly.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We wish to thank the following subscribers for sending donations in addition to their subscriptions and/or for taking out gift subscriptions for friends or old-age pensioners: Mrs. R. Brooks, Mrs. E. Gledhill, Miss M. Hochuli, Miss C. Rougemont, Miss J. Swarbrick, Mrs. H. Tschuy and Messrs. J. B. Brutsch, O. Gasser, J. Keller, G. E. Suter.

We are most grateful for their kind and welcome support.