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That is where the rain started, and the picturesque procession of historic figures, bands and other musicians who had to lead the whole party of *Ausland-schweizer*, proceeded to the marquee in driving rain. But the atmosphere was a happy one, the banquet of an exceptionally high standard of its kind, and the singing and folk dancing and other entertainment were much enjoyed. Dancing then went on until nearly two, and the night was a short one, for young drummers led the participants of the congress to church at 9.30 a.m. the next morning. The ecumenical service has become an integral part of the Assembly, and it was once again a moment of valuable meditation and genuine thanksgiving. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Nyffenegger, Editor of the *Echo*, contributed to the high standard of the service.

Then followed the outing on the Lake, and lunch was a very happy affair on the "Ville de Neuchâtel". All too soon, the party was back at Morat, and another successful Assembly had come to a close. Much work goes into organising such an event, and thanks are due to all members of the Secretariat in Berne, Mr. Ney and his deputy Mr. Lucien Paillard, as well as their hard-working team.

It is a pity that the contingent from Great Britain was so lamentably small. It included the Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur Thalmann, the President of the Federation of the Swiss Societies in the U.K., Mr. B. Simon, and a handful of members of the N.S.H. But that in no way interfered with their enjoyment. An Assembly is something well worth experiencing.

MM

Obituaries

It is with deep regret that we announce the death on 24th September of Mrs. Arnold Kunzler, of 31 Dolphin Court, Rustington, Sussex. She died in hospital after a long and bravely-borne illness, aged 72. We extend our sincere sympathy to Mr. Arnold Kunzler, his two sons and their families in their bereavement. His many friends are sad that this should have taken place just before his 80th birthday which he will have on 15th November and which should have been a very special day. Nevertheless, we want him to know that we not only sympathise with him in his loss, but that we shall also be with him in our thoughts when he looks back on his long and active life.

Arnold Kunzler completed his education at the *Verkehrsschule* in St. Gall and then went as a farm-hand to the Jura to learn French. Next he joined a forwarding agency in Basle. After the first world war and a spell of military service he came to London, solely with the intention of learning English and then moving on to the USA. But London fascinated him, and he stayed on. In 1924, he married Miss Nolte from Basle.

Two years later, Mr. Kunzler founded Machinery and Technical Transport Ltd., later to be known as M.A.T. Transport Ltd. The company flourished and has just celebrated its golden jubilee. He still takes an active interest in his firm.

Arnold Kunzler has always supported various activities in the Swiss community and is a member of several societies. His many friends send him best wishes for the day which he will spend with his family — he has nine grand-

NEWS FROM THE COLONY

children — and may he long remain alert and well and never lose his great sense of humour in spite of the sadness which will cast a shadow on the joy of having become an octogenarian.

MM



Mr. Arnold Kunzler celebrates his 80th birthday on 15th November, so soon after his sad bereavement. May we offer him all our good wishes.

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ALICE HALL

We regret to learn of the sudden passing away of Mrs. Alice Hall (69), wife of Dr. James Hall of Duddingston (Edinburgh), on 12th September, 1976. Mrs. Hall was very much involved with her Swiss compatriots, when living in Shotts with the West of Scotland Swiss Community and more recently in Edinburgh. She was involved in many social, cultural and welfare activities. We express our deepest sympathy to her family and friends and will miss Alice Hall for her love, warmth, sincerity and happy nature.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

November seems to be a rather empty month with regard to birthdays and anniversaries known to us. On 6th of the month, Dr. and Mrs. H. W. Egli will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary, and 23rd November is the birthday of Selma Egli.

CONSUL HOFSTETTER 80 YEARS OLD

Consul Ernst Hofstetter, retired, recently celebrated his 80th birthday in fine spirits at his lovely home in Drymen near Loch Lomond. He was Consular Agent and honorary Consul from 1934 to 1959 and in this quarter-century has been able to help many of his countrymen in Scotland and retain good relationship with cultural and political departments in this country.

He was director of a dyehouse in Balloch for many years (being posted to Balloch in 1932 by a Swiss firm) from which job he retired in 1961.

We wish him many years of health and happiness and thank him for the support he so willingly gave all those in need.

Congratulations and best wishes, also to any other readers who will be celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the month to come.

BEHIND THE SCENES AT BASLE'S ZOO

That was the title of an extremely interesting talk given by Prof. Dr. E. M. Lang, Director of the Basle Zoological Gardens. Prof. Lang is a veterinary surgeon by profession and an experienced zoologist. He has been in charge of the Basle Zoo since 1953 and has written several books, amongst them one on a baby gorilla he and his family reared like a child.

His love of animals and his great understanding came fully to the fore in his talk on 8th July, 1976, when he addressed the *Nouvelle Société Helvétique* in London. The meeting was held at the Swiss Embassy at the height of the heat wave. But any discomfort one might have felt was more than compensated by the superb coloured slides ably and interestingly commented upon by Prof. Lang.

The pictures and his talk clearly showed that breeding successes at the Basle Zoo are justly famous all over the world. The photos not only showed beautiful birds like flamingos of which there are many different kinds, but also how huge baby elephants (African and Indian) and a newly-born pigmy hippo are weighed at birth. There were fascinat-

ing pictures of orang-utans and gorillas, so very much like human beings. One was shown slides of animals with strangely sounding names like the douc langur and the Komodo dragon. The African ostrich and its habits were as interesting as the more familiar zebra and the Somali wild ass. One saw the antics of the colobus monkey and the graceful bongo antelope. And then there were the Indian two-horned rhinos.

The Basle Zoo was opened on 3rd July, 1874, and it has been famous ever since, but especially so since its successful breeding efforts. In 1956, the first unicorn rhino was born in a zoo, and two years later the first flamingo hatching took place in an European zoo. These events were followed in 1959 by the birth of Goma, the first gorilla bred in Europe (Prof. Lang's book on Goma was published some years ago). An okapi (partially striped Central African ruminant) was born in 1960, and in 1971, the first gorilla of the second zoo-generation was born in Basle.

The talk by Prof. Lang and the fine selection of his slides showed just how well-deserved the reputation is which the Basle Zoo enjoys all over the world.

MM

PASTOR ULI STEFAN LEAVES LONDON'S SWISS CHURCH

A great many compatriots from both Swiss Protestant parishes gathered at the Church in Endell Street on Sunday, 19th September to hear Pastor Uli Stefan preach from its pulpit for the last time. After a ministry of 11 years in London, Pastor Stefan and his wife Ursula are leaving for Zürich where they will take a course at the Jung Institute of Psychology.

The service was held in three languages. The opening liturgy was said in German by Pastor Jungi, Mr. Stefan's successor, who then delivered his sermon in English. The new minister of the French-speaking Parish, the Reverend Frank Orna-Ornstein then celebrated Communion with the help of Mr. Claude Godray, a student at the evangelical

college of Emmaus (Vaud) who had assisted the French-speaking minister during the summer.

Uli Stefan's sermon was centred on the theme of God's call and the necessity of sometimes having to leave one's country to accomplish one's destiny and purpose in God's plan. Mr. Stefan referred to Abraham's calling. He drew some parallels with the mission of Swiss citizens abroad. But he said something very useful which is surely likely to comfort the Swiss abroad who might suffer from home-sickness.

Talking about the meaning of a "home", he said that home should not only be understood in the geographical sense. Home, he said, is where one is



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