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PERSONAL.

We wish to extend our sincere congratulations to Mr. H. W. Hirs, Vice-Consul in Manchester on his promotion to Vice-Consul, 1st Class.

Mr. Hirs, who is well-known in the London Swiss Colony, has been in the Swiss Consular service for 29 years, during the last 13 years he was connected with the Swiss Consulate in Manchester. He previously held an appointment at the Swiss Consulate in Bombay.

Mr. Hirs has always taken a keen interest in the work of the Swiss Colony in Manchester. For seven years he was Hon. Secretary of the Swiss Club, Manchester, and the Swiss Relief Society has appointed him as a consulting member. Owing to the declining health of his late chief, Dr. Schedler, Swiss Consul, whose passing away was recently mentioned in this paper, Mr. Hirs, during the last few years, found little time to render additional services to the Colony, but in spite of his increasing duties, he still takes a keen interest in the affairs of our Manchester compatriots.

We wish him many more fruitful years in the service of our country.

* * *

We are pleased to hear, that Mr. Roland Andrea, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Andrea of 16, Cedars Road, Beckenham, Kent, who recently entered a competition, open to students of the whole of Great Britain, Ulster and Eire, for a scholarship of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, has been awarded a scholarship tenable at the Royal Academy of Music for two years from September next, which may be extended for a further year.

Mr. Roland Andrea, to whom we extend our heartiest congratulations, made his *début* in the Swiss Colony at one of the social functions of the City Swiss Club, which took place last year at the Dorchester Hotel, where his remarkable performance made a very great impression on his hearers.

LONDON SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The London Swiss Philatelic Society met on Tuesday, April 27th, at their Headquarters, Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1, for their Monthly Meeting. Twenty Members were present. Five new Members were admitted and the Society now has a Membership of forty. The Hon. Packet Superintendent reported that 140 booklets were in circulation at the present moment. As far as can be ascertained, stamps catalogued at about £400 have been exchanged amongst the Members through the medium of the booklets.

Some exceedingly interesting collections were on view, particularly a collection by Mr. E. A. Gotz of 12 Swiss Stamps which were unknown to almost all the Members present. At the next Monthly Meeting on May 25th "swapping" will precede the official part.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

We hope to go to press again on May 28th and wish to thank the following for their very acceptable contributions towards our cost of production: H. Kung, C. Filliez, H. J. Dufour, Alf. Renou, F. Delaloye, G. Bozzini, L. J. Schmidlin, W. Seiler, A. Hinderling, B. Apelbaum, H. R. Napp, G. Jaeger, J. Naef, E. Chatelain, James Sieber, W. Gysler.

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