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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The Federal President Philip Etter sent the following telegram to the King of Greece:—

“The news of the Earthquake, which affected some parts of Greece has caused deep distress in our country. On behalf of the Federal Council I extend to Your Majesty our sympathy for the grief and suffering which has overtaken the Greek people.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

The Swiss Red Cross informs us that the Federal Council has handed to them the sum of Fr. 25,000.— to enable the continuation of aid for the victims of the earthquake in Greece. Thanks to this donation the Swiss Red Cross will be able to send bed-sheets and soap in much larger quantities to the Greek Red Cross.

As already announced, monetary donations can be transmitted to the Post office cheque account III 4200 (Swiss Red Cross, Berne “Aid to Greece”) and will be thankfully received. These donations will enable further assistance to the afflicted and will also make reconstruction possible. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The Federal Council nominated Eduard de Haller an extraordinary Envoy and Minister plenipotentiary of the Confederation in Moscow. de Haller is the successor of Minister Gorgé.

Minister de Haller was born in Cologny (Geneva) in 1897 and is a citizen of Berne. He concluded his academic studies in Zurich and Geneva as licenciate of jurisprudence. From 1921-23, he was Secretary to the President of the Port and shipping Council of Danzig. Afterwards up to 1926, General Secretary of the mixed Commission of the exchange of inhabitants between Greece and Turkey at Athens, Istanbul and Ankara. After this, Minister de Haller was active in the former League of Nations until 1940, in which year he entered the International Committee of the Red Cross. Later he was nominated a delegate of the Federal Council for international relief works,

which is attached to the political Department. In 1948 he was extraordinary Envoy and Minister plenipotentiary of Switzerland in Norway and in which capacity he was also accredited to Iceland.

* * *

The extraordinary Envoy and Minister plenipotentiary of Austria, Nicolas Schleinitz-Prokesch, was received in audience at the Federal Palais at noon on August 20th by Federal President Philipp Etter and Federal Councillor Josef Escher, Director of Post and Railway Department, in order to present his credentials.

As a professional diplomat, Minister Schleinitz-Prokesch was active in Italy, Czecho-slovakia and in Spain. Lately he directed an important Department at the Austrian Foreign Office.

* * *

The Federal Council elected Mr. Ludwig Schnurrenberger from Zurich as the new director of the postal district of Aarau. The newly elected director, born in 1900 was until now Inspector I class at the directorate general of the P.T.T.

* * *

According to reports by the League of Red Cross Societies in Geneva the national Red Cross Societies of seventeen countries have in the course of a week sent to the victims of the earthquake in the Ionian Islands, donations to the value of over half a million dollars. Thanks to the help of military pilots and of civil air organizations, the greater part of these donations have already reached Greece. The response of the League's appeal on August 13th for blankets, tents, Antibiotica and dressing materials enabled them to satisfy these necessities to a large extent. The various

CITY SWISS CLUB

SOIRÉE FAMILIALE

on Tuesday 29th September, 1953, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

Ladies will be heartily welcome.

Lady Mary N. Kelly has kindly consented to give us an after-dinner talk entitled

“MY RUSSIAN IMPRESSIONS”

Town dress. 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.