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London, and drew from them not only some interesting conclusions regarding the sporting and gallant character of the British Administration, but also some parallels between the British and the Swiss way of life. It appears to him that the general notions of liberty and freedom, which are held in such high esteem in Switzerland, have in the British Isles certainly the same, if not an even more liberal meaning. He illustrated his statement with various examples from which the conception of freedom in Great Britain emerged very convincingly.

Finally, he extended to all the members of the Swiss Economic Council and their families his best wishes for prosperity and good health.

When the applause, which greeted Monsieur Umbrecht's address had subsided, Mr. W. Meier, President of the Swiss Mercantile Society, thanked him for the various lectures he had given to his Society during his *séjour* in London. Mr. A Stauffer, Editor of the "Swiss Observer" expressed his appreciation to Dr. Umbrecht for his valued collaboration with regard to the commercial part of the paper, expressing the hope, that should be the "Swiss Observer" deem it necessary to apply to the World Bank for credit, that this application would find in him a benevolent supporter. Mr. Louis Chapuis spoke very feelingly about Monsieur Umbrecht's friendliness and cheerfulness, saying: "We shall never forget you as a friend". He also paid a compliment to Madame Umbrecht, and extended, on behalf of the members of the City Swiss Club, best wishes. Mr. Ch. Fer, spoke of the willingness with which Dr. Umbrecht met every enquiry, saying: "We always had a fair deal, for which we are grateful." Mr. R. de Cintra, thanked Monsieur Umbrecht on behalf of the Swiss Watch Traders for the ever ready help he had given to them.

* * *

By the time this report appears in print, our friends will have arrived in Washington. They have taken with them all our best wishes, and our expressions of gratitude for all they have done. We have parted from them the best of friends, and we shall always welcome them as friends whenever we meet again.

ST.

NEWS FROM THE COLONY.



F. STREIT.

Chairman of Assembly of Presidents
of Swiss Societies in Great Britain.

At the Meeting of the Assembly of Presidents of Swiss Societies in Great Britain, which took place on Thursday, October 1st, 1953, at the Swiss Legation, Mr. F. Streit, President of the London Swiss Philatelic Society, was elected Chairman.

Mr. Streit was born in 1898. He arrived in this country in 1921, when he joined the staff of Barclays Bank Ltd., Chief Foreign Branch, E.C.3, in which Bank he holds an important appointment as Principal of Department.

He is co-founder of the London Swiss Philatelic Society, and President for the 11th year. From 1930-1939, Mr. Streit was a member of the Education committee of the Swiss Mercantile Society. He entered the Council of that Society during the war. Mr. Streit is also Hon. Treasurer of the 1st of August committee.



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