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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Mr. Harry Andrews, the South African Ambassador, has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to Switzerland. This appointment he will hold in addition to that of Ambassador to France. Dr. W. C. Naudé, at present Consul-General at Lorenzo-Marques will be *Chargé d'Affaires* at Berne.

It was in Switzerland that Mr. Andrews received his diplomatic baptism, when he served as South Africa's accredited representative to the League of Nations.

Customs receipts for the month of July, 1954, amount to 66.7 million francs, or 4.2 million francs more than in July, 1953.

During the first seven months of the current year, receipts totalled 402.3 million francs, which exceeds last year's figures for the same period by 29.8 million francs.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, has written to M. Max Petitpierre, head of the Swiss Federal Political Department (Foreign Office), to thank the Swiss Government and the Geneva authorities for their hospitality during the Geneva Conference.

Cantonal

Two persons were killed, and two seriously injured, when a motor-car collided with a lorry near Bülach. Hans Wenger (43) hotel employee of Zurich, and his wife Elsa Wenger (35) were killed. Their children Hanspeter (9) and Katharina (5) were taken to hospital. [A.T.S.]

Mme. Katri Küng-Brun of Hausen a. Albis (Ct. Zurich) has celebrated her 100th birthday. [A.T.S.]

Two young mountaineers from Zurich lost their way when ascending the "Krönten" from the

"Leuchtschachtel". One succeeded in fetching help, but when the rescue party arrived they found his companion M. E. Fäh (19) dead. [A.T.S.]

The late Mlle. Alice Agnes Blattmann of New York, citizen of Oberägeri (Ct. Zug) has left an amount of 36,000.—frs. to the orphanage at Oberägeri. [A.T.S.]

A fire which broke out at the works of "Baukork, A.G." in Steinhausen (Ct. Zug), caused damage amounting to 200,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

In the month of July, 1954, 598 traffic accidents have been reported in the canton of Berne. 515 persons were injured of whom 23 succumbed to their injuries. [A.T.S.]

Two lives were lost in a motoring accident near Oberbüren, (Ct. St. Gall) when two cars collided with one another. The victims are: Walter Blatter (27) watch-maker of St. Gall and Eugen Gressimann (50) of Herisau. Two of the passengers received serious injuries. [A.T.S.]

The commune of Trun (Ct. Grisons) has bestowed on Mgr. Dr. Carl Fry honorary citizenship in recognition of his 25 years' service to the community. [A.T.S.]

The commune of Roggwil (Ct. Thurgau) which was founded eleven hundred years ago celebrated the occasion by a historical play given by the school children. [A.T.S.]

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Mlle. Claire Rubattel, daughter of the President of the Swiss Confederation, has climbed the northern ridge of the Südlenz-Dom (4,554 m.) with Alfons Supersax as guide. She is the first woman to ascend by that difficult route. [A.T.S.]

* * *
A fire which broke out at the "Patentmatratzenfabrik Engeli" at Schmerikon (Ct. St. Gall) caused damage estimated to be between 70,000-80,000.—frs. [A.T.S.]

* * *
A commemoration stone, the work of the sculptor Remo Rossi, was inaugurated at Russo (Val Onsernone, Ticino) in memory of Evaristo Garbani-Nerini, a former member of the Government of the canton Ticino and later President of the "Weltpostverein". [A.T.S.]

* * *
The Grand Council of the canton of Geneva, has decided that in future the Mayor of the town of Geneva is to be called "Maire". This title was only used during the French domination (1798-1814) and has been in abeyance for 140 years. [A.T.S.]

* * *
The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Charles Constantin, a member of the board of the watch-manufacturing firms Vacheron & Constantin, and Jaeger-Le Coultre, in Geneva, at the age of 67.

Dr. Emanuel Riggenbach, a former teacher at the *Gymnasium* Basle, in Basle, aged 81.

Heinrich Steiner-Brenner, a member of the board and manager of the engineering works "A. G. Rieter & Co.", Winterthur, in Winterthur at the age of 60. The deceased was for many years President of the "Arbeitgeberverbandes Schweizerischer Maschinen- und Metallindustrieller".

Mme. M. Sigrist-Lenzinger, from 1921-1941, President of the "Schweizerischen Katholischen Frauenbundes" in Lucerne, aged 76.

Dr. Ferdinand Nieracher, from 1925-1938, rector of the "Mädchen-Realschule", Basle. He sat in the Grand Council of the canton Basle-Town from 1914-1938. He died in Basle at the age of 81.

Ernst Maag, representative of the "von Moos'chen Eisenwerke", in Lucerne, aged 70. The deceased was President of the Ski Club, Lucerne from 1918-1922, and again from 1924-1926. From 1922-1925, Maag was President of the Swiss Ski Association.

Ernest Briod, from 1904-1940, German language teacher at the Commercial High School, Lausanne, in Lausanne, at the age of 79. He was from 1917-1920, Editor of the "Educateur".

Pater Paul Augustin Skehan, Professor of canonic law at the University of Fribourg, and Procurator of the Dominican Order, in Fribourg, aged 55.

Mme. Louise Corminboeuf in Villarsivriaux (Ct. Fribourg) at the age of 100.

Robert Biedermann-Mantel, in Winterthur, aged 85. The deceased was co-proprietor of the textile works Rorbas-Freienstein.

Dr. H. C. Konrad Ilg, in Berne, at the age of 78, a former President of the "Metallarbeiter Verband".

The deceased was for many years a member of the Municipal Council, Berne, as well as a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Berne. He sat in Parliament (National Council) from 1918-1947. In 1947, he received the degree of *doctor honoris causa* from the University of Berne.

Mlle. Emma Elisabeth Güder, in Geneva, aged 100.

Max Wirth-Kalin, President of the Board of the "Färbererei & Appretur Schusterinsel", Basle, in Basle, at the age of 64.

Jakob Fischli-Straub, formerly Publisher and Editor of the "Steiner Anzeiger" in Stein a Rh., aged 77. [A.T.S.]

* * *
The following anniversaries are mentioned in the Swiss Press:

Dr. J. Braun-Blanquet (70) of Chur, well-known botanist and author of several scientific works.

Siegfried Bittel (60) of Zurich, Director General of the Swiss National Tourist Office for 20 years, and a member of the European Travel Commission.

Hans Huber (70) of Berne, Publisher of scientific works. [A.T.S.]