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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

President Eisenhower, in the name of the four chief delegates at the Geneva Conference, addressed a letter of thanks to Monsieur Max Petitpierre, President of the Swiss Confederation, for the hospitality extended to them. He has also sent a letter of thanks to the President of the Government of the canton of Geneva, and the Mayor of the town of Geneva.

During the Geneva Conference of last month, the Federal Council offered a dinner at the Palais Lynard in honour of the chief delegates.

The President of the Swiss Confederation, Monsieur Max Petitpierre, in his address of welcome voiced the appreciation of the Federal Council and the Swiss people for having chosen Geneva as the meeting place for this important conference, and expressed the wish that the deliberations might be accompanied with success laying the foundation of a lasting peace.

The following attended the dinner: President Eisenhower, Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles, Miss Frances Willis, American Ambassador in Berne, Mr. Dillon Anderson, Major John Eisenhower (son of the President), James Hagerty, the President's Press chief, Marshall Bulganin, Chruschschow, 1st Secretary of the Russian Communist Party, Molotov, Foreign Minister, Schukow, Minister of Defence, Gromyko, Assistant Foreign Minister, Ershow, Russian Ambassador in Berne, E. Faure, French Prime Minister, A. Pinay, Foreign Minister, E. Dennery, French Ambassador in Berne, Louis Joxe, French Ambassador in Moscow, A. Bérard, R. de Margerie of the Quai d'Orsay, Sir Anthony Eden, Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan Foreign Minister, Sir Lionel Lamb, British Ambassador in Berne, Messrs. Brook, Kirkpatrick and Sir Harold Caccia, of the Foreign Office, Dag Hammarskjöld, General Secretary of UNO, Adrian Pelt, Director of European UNO, Wilkinson, General Secretary of the conference, M. Max Petitpierre, President of the Swiss Confederation, Federal

Councillors: M. Feldmann, Hans Streuli, Th. Holenstein and P. Chaudet (Federal Councillors Etter and Lepori were unable to attend), Häberlin, President of the National Council, Colonel de Montmollin, Chief of the Swiss General Staff, Minister Zehnder, General Secretary of the Political Department in Berne, André Dominicé, chief of the protocol, F. Perréard, President of the Government of the canton of Geneva, and L. Billy, Mayor of the town of Geneva.

* * *

The newly appointed Belgian Ambassador, Monsieur Pierre Attilio Forthomme, has presented his credentials to Monsieur Max Petitpierre, President of the Swiss Confederation at the Palais Fédéral in Berne.

Ambassador Forthomme has previously occupied various posts in London, Lisbon, Tokio, Lagos and Mexico. Until recently he held an important post at the Belgian Foreign Office.

* * *

The Federal Council has elected Dr. Fritz Dick to be Head of the Federal Police, in succession to Dr. Werner Balsiger, who has vacated his post. He was born in Berne, and studied law at the University of this town.

* * *

Mr. Fritz Albrecht, has been appointed Swiss Consul in Le Havre. He was born in 1905, and hails from Müllheim (Ct. Thurgau). Mr. Albrecht entered into the service of the Federal Political Department in 1929, and has held previous appointments in Lisbon, São Paulo, Porto Allegre, Laurenço Marques, and Rio de Janeiro. In 1946, he was promoted to the rank of Vice-Consul.

Cantonal

Dr. Gotthard Egli (Lucerne), who recently vacated his post as a member of the Government of the canton of Lucerne, has announced his retirement from the States Council, of which he has been a member since 1935.

[A.T.S.]

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In the first six months of the current year, 867 traffic accidents occurred in the canton of Lucerne. 506 persons were injured of whom 22 succumbed to their injuries. [A.T.S.]

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Johann Gasser-Gasser (Lungern) a former member of the "Kantonsrat" Unterwalden, has celebrated his 100th birthday. [A.T.S.]

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The 64th Federal Gymnasts Festival in Zurich came to a close on the 19th of last month, over 100,000 spectators went through the turnstiles. The