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*The Swiss Ski Championships (Long Distance and Relay Races), Ste. Croix, February 12th/13th.*

The fact that the Swiss National Ski Races are occasionally divided into two parts, one consisting of Alpine and the other of Nordic events, gives an opportunity to smaller resorts, which would be unable to undertake the organization of anything so complex as a full programme of races, to organize one part of these championships. The Jura, which is a favourite district for long distance races and ski-jumping, is particularly suited to the Nordic events of the National Championships.

The Swiss Federation of Ski Clubs has entrusted the organization of these important competitions, to be held on February 12th and 13th, 1955, to the resort of Ste. Croix/Les Rasses.

Ste. Croix, which is known all over the world for its industries that export each year many million francs' worth of cinema apparatuses, gramophone and wireless sets, not to mention the famous "musical boxes" which are a delight to young and old alike, is connected to the plain by the Yverdon-Ste. Croix branch line and by excellent roads through Yverdon and Pontarlier. The Ste. Croix Ski Club is one of the oldest in Switzerland; it was founded fifty years ago, in the early days of this sport, which has grown at such a rapid pace in the Jura as well as in the Alps.

The routes chosen for the Nordic events pass through the beautiful forests of the district of Les Rasses, at the foot of the Chasseron (height 5,280 ft.) and well-situated enclosures have been set aside for the spectators. The jumping will be held at the Châble jump, which is one of the best in Switzerland, having been made shortly before the last world war under the supervision of the Norwegian world champion ski-jumper Birger Ruud.

#### OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, February 11th, 1955. We take this opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscriptions: A. G. T. Luminati, W. Schlatter, E. Kern, J. Hofstetter, E. A. Muller, W. Diener, Major A. Weber, J. Zimmermann, M. Gedet, R. J. Helfenstein, W. Goldmann, John Smith, W. Glur.

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#### NEWS FROM THE LEGATION.

Dr. René Faessler, Commercial Counsellor at the Swiss Legation, gave a cocktail party at his home, 233, Cromwell Road, S.W.5, on Monday, January 17th, to meet the members of the Swiss Trade Delegation then in London for concluding a new commercial treaty.

Amongst those present were the members of the Swiss Economic Council, the Swiss Press, Board of Trade, London Chamber of Commerce, Federation of British Industries, as well as a number of Commercial Counsellors of Foreign Embassies and Legations.

We extend a hearty welcome to Monsieur Alberto Albertini, who has recently been appointed Secretary to the Swiss Legation in London.

Monsieur Albertini, who hails from the canton of Ticino, entered into the service of the Confederation in April, 1943, when he occupied a post in the Swiss Legation (Special Division for Foreign Interests) in Rome.

From October, 1943 until March, 1945, he was in charge of the local section of the above mentioned Division at Florence. In 1946, Monsieur Albertini entered the Diplomatic Service, and was transferred to our Legation in Cairo with the rank of Attaché, there he remained until October, 1949, when he was sent to the Free Territory of Trieste to be in charge of the Swiss Consulate; three years later (1952) he returned to Berne to be attached to the Political Section of the Federal Political Department, followed by his present appointment.



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