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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The Federal Council has raised the following Legations to the status of Embassy, and their heads to the rank of Ambassador: Denmark (M. C. Gorgé), Finland (M. F. Real) and Norway (M. O. Seifert).

Hans Streuli, President of the Swiss Dr. Confederation, and Dr. Max Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, have received the following Diplomats at the Palais Fédéral on the occasion of the presentation of their credentials: Monsieur Edmond Turcotte, Canadian Ambassador, Monsieur Henry Taylor, American Ambassador, Monsieur Carl Adalbert Brun, Danish Ambassador, and Monsieur Hugo Valvanne, Finnish Ambassador.

The Federal Council has conferred the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary on Monsieur Bernard Barbey, Permanent Delegate at UNESCO, for the duration of his mission. Minister Barbey was formerly Press Counsellor at the Swiss Embassy in Paris.

Federal-Councillor Dr. M. Feldmann, head of the federal department of Justice and Police, spoke in the States Council (Upper Chamber) of the espionage case which led to the suicide in March of the Swiss Attorney General, M. René Dubois, and the arrest of a police inspector, Mr. Max Ulrich.

Dr. Feldmann said the suicide of M. Dubois had occurred against a background of foreign intelligence services. But it was wrong to think that an Attorney General should not, in principle, try to obtain police and political information.

Trustworthy information was necessary to enable a country to defend itself against dangerous intrigues. An intelligence service could be effective only if information could be exchanged with foreign services. The scope of such an exchange of information was a matter of appreciation. It must be dictated by the highest interests of the country.

The inquiry into the affairs of M. Dubois and M. Ulrich would show whether or not these principles had been transgressed.

The Swiss National Bank has recently issued new types of bank notes with denomination 1,000.-, 500, 100, and 50.— francs.

These notes were printed by two British firms, namely Thomas De la Rue and Waterlow's. The old note issue is still in force but will later on be withdrawn.

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