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A DEPARTURE.

J. J. HUBER.
Swiss Consul.

Once more we have to bid good-bye to a member of the Swiss Embassy. Whilst in pre-war years changes in the Diplomatic and Consular services were less frequent and longer stays were accorded to them, the new policy of the Swiss Foreign Office — pursued for the last few years — is limiting in most cases appointments at each place to a period of five to six years.

The news announced some time ago, that Consul J. J. Huber was going to be transferred to the Swiss Consulate General in New York, was received by the Swiss Colony in Great Britain with genuine regret, because his work and services rendered first at Manchester and afterwards in London were greatly appreciated.

Consul Huber is a hard and conscientious worker. Apart from his official duties he has taken a keen interest in the Swiss Colonies in London and the Provinces. His advice sought in many intricate cases was always readily given, proving most helpful. He was a sympathetic helper to many of our compatriots who, at one time or another, encountered difficulties. Nobody seeking information on any sort of question or problem was ever refused a hearing. Those who have during the last few years attended the meetings of the Presidents Assembly — an institution brought into being by the last Swiss Minister and now Ambassador in Washington, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté — can testify with what zeal and patience he took part in their deliberations. His explanations as to the various Swiss Government decrees — the latter not always easily understandable — concerning the A.H.V., the retaining of Swiss nationality for Swiss women married to foreigners, etc., were lucid and to the point.

By his departure the Colony is losing a man who will be difficult to replace, and we take this opportunity of thanking him for the services he has rendered both to our country and to the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

On the social side he was greatly aided by his charming wife, who accompanied him untiringly to a great number of functions. She took a great

interest especially in the work for the young girls who are coming to this country on a temporary visit. To her, too, go our thanks for all the help she has so unselfishly given.

* * *

Consul Huber was born in 1902 and is a citizen of Maegenwil (Ct. Aargau). He received his schooling at the "Bezirksschule" Zurzach, the "Handelschule", and the "Collegium" Schwyz.

In 1922 he entered the service of the Swiss Federal Railways, where he held appointments in Horgen, Le Locle, Zurich and Berne.

Six years later (1928) he was transferred to the London Agency of the Swiss Federal Railways.

At the outbreak of the last war Mr. Huber was appointed Chancellor of the Swiss Legation London (Special Division, Foreign Interests). The writer, having been a colleague of his during the period of 1939 to 1946, can testify to the energy and foresight with which he worked at this Division, at the head of which was Mr. W. Preiswerk of Basle.

When the Division was wound up at the conclusion of the war Mr. Huber was appointed Acting Swiss Consul at Manchester, which post he held until October 1951, when he was transferred to London as Consul.

Consul Huber married an English lady, and has two daughters and a son.

* * *

A hitherto successful career has now entered into a new phase, and we have no doubt that his work in the new surroundings will be equally successful and beneficial.

The writer, in wishing him and Mrs. Huber an agreeable stay in their new sphere of activities, wishes to take the opportunity of thanking him most sincerely for his friendship and the help he has given him for this paper, a help which will always be warmly appreciated.

In this departing hour we will not say "Farewell" but

"Auf Wiedersehen".

ST.

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