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# The Swiss Observer

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**The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain**

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

A Swiss Government proposal to amend the constitution so as to give women the vote in federal elections was rejected in a referendum by some 654,924 votes to 323,306, and by all the cantons except Geneva, Vaud and Neuchâtel. Canton Vaud also decided by 33,000 votes to 30,000 to grant women a vote in cantonal questions. It is the first Swiss canton to enfranchise women.

Here are the particulars of the poll:

Cantons	YES	NO
Zurich . . . . .	71,859	126,670
Bern . . . . .	55,640	101,697
Lucerne . . . . .	10,294	37,734
Uri . . . . .	885	5,183
Schwyz . . . . .	1,968	11,860
Obwalden . . . . .	565	3,376
Nidwalden . . . . .	807	3,331
Glarus . . . . .	1,455	6,159
Zug . . . . .	2,046	6,327
Fribourg . . . . .	7,985	18,780
Solothurn . . . . .	11,350	26,702
Baselstadt . . . . .	17,013	19,372
Baselland . . . . .	8,896	14,969
Schaffhausen . . . . .	4,782	10,212
Appenzell A.Rh. . . . .	1,517	8,224
Appenzell I.Rh. . . . .	105	2,050
St. Gall . . . . .	12,436	51,912
Graubünden . . . . .	5,473	19,732
Aargau . . . . .	17,919	60,825
Thurgau . . . . .	6,721	26,986
Ticino . . . . .	10,695	18,209
Vaud . . . . .	32,947	31,252
Valais . . . . .	8,255	18,745
Neuchâtel . . . . .	13,938	12,775
Geneva . . . . .	17,755	11,842
	<b>323,306</b>	<b>654,924</b>

66.2 per cent. of the electorate went to the poll.

The Federal Council has appointed Dr. Richard Aman, Counsellor of Embassy, and until recently Head of the Swiss Delegation to the Neutral Nations Commission for the Repatriation of Prisoners of War in Korea, to the post of Chef du Protocol at the Political Department in Berne, in succession to M. André Dominicé, who has been transferred to Moscow with the rank of Counsellor of Embassy.

The new Chef du Protocol is 45 years of age, and after having studied Law at the Universities of Zurich and Paris entered the service of the Federal Political Department in 1946. He held successively posts in Brussels, Warsaw, Paris and Tokyo.

\* \* \*

The Swiss Government has appointed Mr. Hermann Baehler to the post of Swiss Consul in Toronto. He succeeds Mr. Isidor Sembinelli, who is vacating his post on reaching retiring age.

Consul Baehler, at present Swiss Consul at Istanbul, was born in 1904 at Olten, and is a citizen of Buchholterberg (Ct. Berne). In 1923 he entered the service of the Swiss Federal Railways, and previous to the last war occupied a post at their London Office. In 1943 Mr. Baehler was transferred to the then Swiss Legation in London, from 1952 to 1955 he held the post of Swiss Consul at Accra, and since 1955 he has been in charge of the Swiss Consulate at Istanbul.

\* \* \*

Monsieur Afranio de Millo-Franco, Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the Republic of Brazil, has presented his credentials to M. P. Chaudet, President of the Swiss Confederation, at the Palais Fédéral in Berne.

## CITY SWISS CLUB

Will members kindly note that a

### SOIRÉE FAMILIALE

(with ladies)

will take place on:

**Wednesday, February 25th, at 6.30 for 7 p.m.  
at the Dorchester Hotel (Orchid Room),  
Park Lane, W.1**

After dinner, **Albert Ferber**, will give a pianoforte recital. Tenue de ville.

Th. von SPEYR,

Hon. Secretary.