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## RETIREMENT OF CONSUL H. W. HIRS

As briefly reported in our issue of 16th September, Mr. H. W. Hirs, Consul in Cleveland (U.S.A.), has retired from his post. Mr. Hirs was at one time a prominent personality in the Swiss Colony in Great Britain, when he occupied the position of Swiss Consul in Manchester.

The "Amerikanische Schweizerzeitung", published in New York, writes:

"Having been in Swiss government service for 46 years, Consul H. W. Hirs retired on August 26 of this year.

"On August 1 and August 7, he was the official speaker at the Swiss Independence Day celebrations in Cleveland and Canton.

"On August 24, the Cleveland Swiss societies honoured Consul and Mrs. Hirs with a dinner party at the Swiss Hall.

"Mr. and Mrs. Hirs left Cleveland September 1 for New York and will sail September 8 for Switzerland, where they intend to live in retirement.

"Born 1895, Mr. Hirs can look back on a long career in the service of the Swiss Confederation. In 1914 he accepted employment with the Swiss Military Department. He also served during the first World War in the Swiss artillery. In 1917 he joined the

Division for Foreign Interests and in 1920 the Swiss Foreign Service of the Federal Political Department.

"In 1922 Mr. Hirs was assigned to the Swiss Consulate in Bombay, 1929 to Manchester. In 1943 he was transferred to New York, where he was nominated Consul in 1946. In 1949 he took charge of the Swiss Consulate in Constantinople. In 1955 Consul Hirs was assigned to the Swiss Consulate in Cincinnati, which had existed in that city since 1864.

"Because of his vast knowledge of life and business in the United States, Consul Hirs was asked by the Swiss government to organize the transfer of the offices of the Swiss Consulate in Cincinnati to Cleveland.

"Our compatriots of Greater New York well remember Consul and Mrs. Hirs from their stay here from 1943 to 1949, and the keen interest they took at all times in our colony life.

"We wish our departing friends the best of health and happiness in their well deserved retirement."

## PERSONAL

We regret to announce the passing away, in Fahrwangen (Switzerland), of Mr. Hans Schlatter-Helbling, at the age of 71. The deceased had many friends in the Swiss Colony who will sadly miss him.



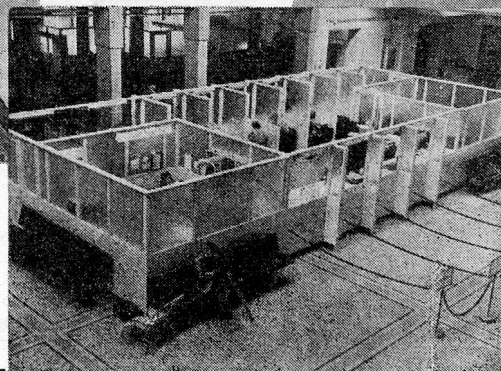
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