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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

According to the recent census the population of Switzerland on 1st December 1960 numbered 5,411,000 compared with 4,714,992 on 1st December 1950. Here are the provisional figures :

Cantons	Population 1st Dec. 1950	Population 1st Dec. 1960	Increase Decrease
Zurich	777,002	941,800	21%
Bern	801,943	889,400	11%
Luzern	223,249	253,100	13%
Uri	28,556	32,300	13%
Schwyz	71,082	78,200	10%
Unterwalden	19,389	22,200	14%
Obwalden	22,125	23,200	5%
Glarus	37,663	40,500	8%
Zug	42,239	52,500	24%
Fribourg	158,695	159,800	1%
Solothurn	170,508	201,500	18%
Basel-Stadt	196,498	226,500	15%
Basel-Land	107,549	148,300	38%
Schaffhausen	57,515	66,100	15%
Appenzell A.Rh.	47,938	49,400	3%
Appenzell I.Rh.	13,427	13,100	-2%
St. Gallen	309,106	338,100	9%
Graubuenden	137,100	145,600	6%
Aargau	300,782	359,800	20%
Thurgau	149,738	166,100	11%
Tessin	175,055	195,700	12%
Vaud	377,585	430,200	14%
Valais	159,178	178,900	12%
Neuchâtel	128,152	147,500	15%
Geneve	202,918	251,200	24%
	4,714,992	5,411,000	14.8%

* * *

The Federal Council has appointed Monsieur André Parodi, at present Swiss Ambassador to the Republics of Colombia and Ecuador, to the post of Swiss Minister to the Republic of Czechoslovakia.

Ambassador Parodi was born in 1909 at Cairo, and is a citizen of Geneva. He studied Political Science at the Universities of Geneva, Baltimore, Exeter and Fribourg i.Br. He entered the service of the Federal Economic Department in 1932, and changed over to the Political Department in 1945, when he was transferred to the then Swiss Legation in Rome with the rank of 1st Secretary of Legation; two years later (1947) he was promoted to the rank of Counsellor of Legation. From 1954 to 1956 Monsieur Parodi occupied the post of Chargé d'Affaires at Bucharest. In 1956 he was nominated Swiss Minister to Colombia and Ecuador with residence in Bogota, and when the Legation was raised to the status of an Embassy he received Ambassadorial rank.

* * *

Dr. Hans Adolf Berger, Swiss Ambassador to Peru, and Swiss Minister to Bolivia, has vacated his post on reaching retiring age. He was born in 1895 and is a citizen of Langnau (Ct. Berne). In 1922 Dr. Berger joined the Swiss Consulate in Lima; ten years later (1932) he was promoted to the rank of Vice-Consul, and in 1946 to Consul. The following year the Federal Council asked him to open a Legation in that town in the capacity of Chargé d'Affaires. The same year he was accredited to Bolivia. In 1954 Dr. Berger was nominated Minister Plenipotentiary to the two countries with residence at Lima. When in 1957 the Legation was raised to an Embassy he received Ambassadorial rank.

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Dr. Paul Frei, hitherto Swiss Consul in Düsseldorf, has been appointed Consul-General in Hamburg, in succession to Mr. Paul Hochstrasser, who on reaching retiring age has vacated his post. Mr. René Cuttat, hitherto administrator of the Consulate-General in La Paz, has been nominated Swiss Consul in Düsseldorf.

Dr. Frei was born in 1905 and hails from St. Gall. He entered the service of the Federal Political Department in 1929, and held successively posts at Dijon and Munich. He was appointed Consul at Düsseldorf in 1951.

Mr. R. Cuttat was born in 1910 and is a citizen of Rossemaison. Entering the service of the Political Department in 1931, he held successively posts in Besançon, Paris, Strasbourg, Lyons and Ankara. After a two-year stay in Berne he was transferred to La Paz in 1954.

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The Federal Council has conferred the title of Consul-General upon Mr. Jean Studer, Swiss Consul in Strasbourg.