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NEWS FROM THE COLONY



HENRI MONNEY †

The Swiss Community in Great Britain has lost another faithful member. This time it is the Manchester Colony which has become the poorer by the loss of Henri Monney who died on 20th February after a long and courageously borne illness.

Henri Monney was born in Fribourg in 1894. He received his schooling at the "Collège St. Michel", Fribourg, where he obtained the "Baccalauréat en Sciences Commerciales" with first degree in 1912.

After a short stay in Bohemia, he came to England in November 1912, and, but for twelve months in Accra in West Africa (1915/16), he remained in this country.

Mr. Monney was engaged in the production and distribution of textile specialities for the West African market. In 1926 he started business on his own account, taking up agencies for Swiss embroideries and fine textiles.

In 1920 he became a member of the Swiss Club, Manchester. He joined the Committee where he held the post of Librarian for three years and that of Honorary Treasurer for nineteen years. In 1955/6/7 he was President of the Club, and he was made an Honorary Member a few years ago in recognition of the great services he rendered to the Club and the Swiss Colony.

He was one of the founder members of the Swiss Rifle Section in Manchester, which is associated with the Manchester Rifle Club. For many years he was Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer of the Manchester Swiss Relief Society.

He was a devoted and dedicated member of the Swiss Community, and he was always ready to assist the many young people coming to Manchester. He also organised many rambles for young and old and was ever ready to give a helpful hand.

A couple of weeks before he died he said to the new President that the members of the Club should hold together and keep it active in spite of the times not being easy for Swiss Societies abroad. His thoughts were always with and for his friends, and many now mourn his departure. Just how many was demonstrated by the large number who accompanied him to his last resting place. A Requiem Mass was held at St. Mary's Church, Heaton Norris, Stockport, on 26th February, and the Burial took place at the Southern Cemetery, Manchester.

His modest, unassuming ways and his special brand of humour endeared him to all, and his memory will be treasured by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

His wife, Mrs. Trudie Monney, has been engaged in her husband's many activities together with him, and as Honorary Secretary of the Club she will be able to continue his work. Our deep sympathy goes out to her, but also our admiration for the way she has carried on during her husband's illness and especially for the brave manner in which she faces the tragic loss. May she find consolation in the fact that he is now at peace. He rests from his labours, but his good works follow him.

Mariann.

MONSIEUR DE STOUTZ NEW AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL

The Federal Council, at its meeting on 17th February, appointed Monsieur Jean de Stoutz, Counsellor of Embassy in London, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador to Israel, in succession to Monsieur Pierre F. Bruegger recently transferred to Pretoria.

Whilst the Swiss Community in Great Britain is delighted at the news of Monsieur de Stoutz's appointment, its joy is mixed with regret at the thought of losing a trusted friend.

Monsieur de Stoutz originates from Geneva. He was born in Tokio in 1913 and studied law in Berne, Munich and Geneva where he graduated. After working with the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris, he entered the Federal Political Department in 1942. His diplomatic career took him to Paris, Moscow and Addis Ababa. In 1956 Monsieur de Stoutz went to Korea as head of the Swiss Delegation, and in August 1961 he came to London as Counsellor of Embassy and Chargé d'Affaires during the Ambassador's absence.

From the very first, Monsieur de Stoutz took a keen interest in the affairs of the Swiss Community in the U.K., ably and charmingly supported by his wife. Their many friends are grateful for all they have done for the Colony and wish them happiness and success for the future.

PERSONAL

We wish to congratulate Mr. Ernst Burgaezzi on being promoted to Swissair Deputy General Manager for the United Kingdom and Ireland. Mr. Burgaezzi has been Traffic Manager of Swissair in London for seventeen years, and his many friends wish him success and happiness in his new responsible position.

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We have heard that Mr. J. W. Bonjour has retired after forty-four years of loyal service to the Swiss Bank Corporation. We wish him many years of happy retirement.

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On going to press we have just heard that Mr. Henry Pfirter has died. An obituary will appear in the next issue.

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We wish to congratulate Mr. Juerg Schmid of the Swiss National Tourist Office, Honorary Secretary of the Schweizerbund (Swiss Club), on his engagement to Miss Jill Leins. The wedding will take place on 28th March.