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particularly bad when it concerns Swiss nationals. The Federal Council is studying the problem.

The Cantonal Parliament has empowered the State Council to take up a loan from the Confederation (7m. francs) to lend funds in turn to UNO and WHO in Geneva. A higher ceiling has been fixed for assistance to unemployed persons who are in difficulty (7.5m.). 900m. have been put aside for the construction of cheap housing. 80m. francs have been granted for the extension of the Cantonal Hospital and two schools at Petit-Saconnex and Aire. 21m. will be required for the Science Institute.

Road improvements and maintenance will cost 6 million francs in the present year. Road construction within the next 8 years will require 61m., of which the town of Geneva will have to bear well over half. In July, the "Touring Club Suisse" opened a travel office in Geneva, and a generously conceived shopping centre has been planned for Balaxert. In June, the Bergues Bridge was closed to traffic, as it is no longer considered safe.

In 1966, the seven steamships and thirteen motorboats on the Lake of Geneva covered nearly 327,000km. and transported over 1.6m. passengers. The "Savoie", one of the finest Léman boats, has been completely renovated and was put back into service in June after five years.

Geneva has at all times been a favourite venue for conferences and exhibitions, and 1967 has been no exception. There were shows of contemporary Greek art, Brazilian and American fortnights, an exhibition "From Cézanne to Picasso", a centenary exhibition of Grisons art by the "Rhaetia" Society. The "Fêtes de Genève" in August, unfortunately were spoilt by bad rain, the first time for many years. The new Natural History Museum in the park on the Route de Malagnou was opened in spring, and in June a Research and Teaching Institute for Electronics.

The Geneva Literature Prize was awarded to Denis de Rougemont, the Music Prize to Roger Vuataz, that of Science to Prof. Pierre Duchosal and the Prize for Spiritual Sciences was received by Prof. Antony Babel.

The *Consistoire* of the Protestant Church has given the green light for women Ministers of the Church, who hitherto were only able to act as deputies.

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RECENT APPOINTMENTS IN SWITZERLAND

Diplomatic

Ambassador Friedrich Schnyder, Ghana, additionally to Sierra Leone and Togo;

Counsellor of Embassy Jean-Pierre Weber (New Zealand) as Consul-General in Saigon.

International

Ambassador Paul Jolles, in charge of the Commercial Section of the Federal Department of Public Economy, as President of the UNO Trade and Development Council in Geneva;

Joseph Dittert as Secretary of the Central Opium Bureau of ECOSOC;

Pierre Zumbach as Secretary-General of the International Union for the Protection of the Child;

Dr. Ernst Fritschi, Berne, as one of the three Vice-Presidents of the International Veterinary Society;

Dr. Paul Kuenzle (Gossau) as Director of the Vatican Library in Rome.

National

Vice-President Adolf Ehrsam (member of the Commission)

of the Swiss Abroad) as President of the Swiss *Bundesfeierspende*, successor to Dr. C. Mugglin; National Councillor and *Regierungsrat* Hans Tschumi (Berne) as new President of the Swiss Working Party for Mountain Farmers, in succession to National Councillor Andreas Zeller;

Dir. Ernst Rychen (Berne), as President of the Swiss Pool for the Insurance of Atomic Risks;

Publisher Heinz Helbing (Basle), as new President of the Swiss National Library in Berne (appointed by the Federal Council). [A.T.S.]

DIAMOND AND IRON WEDDINGS

Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and Marie Dubach-Baertschi at Remetschwil (Baden) and Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and Marie Stoerchli-Bosshart at St. Margarethen near Muenchwil (Thurgau), celebrated their Diamond Weddings in mid-August.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil and Elise Sahli-Steck at Bienne celebrated their Iron Wedding on 25th August. [A.T.S.]

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