

**Zeitschrift:** The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

**Herausgeber:** Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

**Band:** - (1967)

**Heft:** 1515

**Artikel:** Ernest Luterbacher 80

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**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-686579>

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## ERNEST LUTERBACHER 80

We are happy to announce the 80th birthday of Mr. Ernest Luterbacher of 102 Bourne Hill, N.13, who was born 26th January 1887.

After attending primary school at Péry and Reuchenette and the *Pro-Gymnasium* in Bienne, he started a three years' apprenticeship with the Swiss Bank Corporation in Basle in September 1903.

His apprenticeship terminated, he joined their London Office on 15th September, 1906. After six years in London, Mr. Luterbacher took up an appointment abroad, which led in due course to his becoming associated with one of England's leading manufacturing companies. For over fifteen years, Mr. Luterbacher travelled extensively and acquired experience matched by few.

Towards the end of 1929, he went back to the Swiss Bank Corporation and rose to the position of Deputy Manager, from which he retired on reaching the age limit in December 1952.

Mr. Luterbacher, whose vitality is undimmed by the passage of years, plays bowls regularly at his local club. He is a member of the Swiss Mercantile Society, the City Swiss Club and was, until it failed for want of new members, very active in the Swiss Male Choir. He is a very keen yodeller, and his friends always enjoy his renderings of some of the popular Swiss songs.

On the approach of his 80th birthday, we should like to offer our congratulations to Mr. Luterbacher, coupled with our warmest wishes for continued good health and many more years of happiness.

A.J.

## RETURNING TO SWITZERLAND

It is inevitable that there should be considerable comings and goings at the Swiss Embassy, both in the diplomatic and the consular sections. It is not often that a member of the staff remains for a score of years. We have a few amongst our readers who are still in this country, though retired. Today, we say farewell to Miss Eugénie Bossard who has been with the Swiss Embassy Commercial Section for 21 years.

Miss Bossard grew up in Zurich, and after nine years in Spain, she came to this country in 1937. She worked in private industry first, and in April 1945, she joined the Swiss Embassy staff.

From the very first, Miss Bossard took an active interest in the activities of the Swiss Colony. She has been an active member of the Swiss Mercantile Society, of whose Ladies' Group (now extinct) she was the first Chairman. Already several years ago, she received the silver *Verdienstnadel* for 25 years of loyal membership, awarded by the "Schweizerischer Kaufmännischer Verein", the mother society in Switzerland.

Miss Bossard has also been a faithful member of the Swiss Club and the Nouvelle Société Helvétique. She is now returning to Switzerland, and we wish her a happy retirement at Richterswil. We shall always be glad to see her again and spend a few hours in her cheerful company.

MM



## ANOTHER DEPARTURE

It is with mixed feelings that we announce the departure from this country of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Christen. Mixed, because, much as we are happy that Mr. Christen is returning to Switzerland to take up another important position with his firm (Sandoz of Basle), we are also sad at the loss of a staunch supporter and active member of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

Born in Switzerland in 1916, Peter Christen was educated in Basle and Vevey. After a commercial apprenticeship with a chemical trading company, he was awarded the Federal Diploma of Accountancy. In 1937, he joined Sandoz Ltd. in Basle, and just after the war, he was transferred to Sandoz Products Ltd. in Bradford as Chief Accountant. In 1948, he was appointed Secretary and nine years later Joint Managing Director.

Right from the beginning of his stay in England, Mr. Christen took an active interest in all things Swiss in this country. Living in Yorkshire, he supported the Swiss in the Midlands. Once his business took him to London for the best part of every week, he became interested in the London Colony as well. In May 1961, he was elected Chairman of the Swiss Economic Council, an office which he held until the end of last year with great success and distinction. If the Anglo-Swiss Trade Promotion Office at the Swiss Centre becomes a reality, it is due to a large extent to his dynamic personality and unceasing efforts. Mr. Christen was also Chairman of the Council of Management of the Swiss Hostel for Girls in Hampstead, with which capacity for a time he also combined most successfully that of Honorary Treasurer.

In other societies, too, he took an interest, mainly the City Swiss Club. For a number of years, he has been serving on the Commission of the Swiss Abroad, representing the Swiss societies of Great Britain North.

Whilst the Christens are now residing in Switzerland, we have at least the assurance that their ties with their fellow countrymen over here will not be severed, for Mr. Christen will be frequently in this country, and his many friends will always be glad to see him and ask for his advice; he will give it as he always has in a forthright way, not necessarily flattering, but always honest, perspicuous and shrewd.

Our best wishes accompany Ruth and Peter Christen in their new sphere of activities.

MM