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NEWS OF AND FROM OUR READERS

It is with great pleasure that we announce the award of an honorary doctorate to the former Federal Councillor **Prof. Dr. Friedrich Traugott Wahlen** by the University of Basle. This is the fifth doctorate this great statesman and man has received. The first he acquired himself at the ETH where this son of the *Landschullehrer* of Mirchel in the Emmental studied agronomy. Twice he received a doctorate for agricultural science (Laval in Quebec, Canada, and Goettingen in Germany). Zurich University awarded Prof. Wahlen an honorary medical doctorate in recognition, too, of the great work which he had done to save the Swiss people from hunger in the second world war. The new doctorate of law has been given for his outstanding statesmanship during the six years the former Federal Council was in office. It also recognises his merits in preparing the way to the total revision of the Federal Constitution — Prof. Wahlen is the Chairman of the special commission — but equally the qualities of the man and the Christian whose whole life and work is anchored in the principles of law, justice and humanity.

We congratulate this great friend of the Swiss living abroad, regular reader of the "Swiss Observer", and wish him many more years of God's rich blessings!

* * *

We wish to congratulate **Monsieur Jean-Denis Grandjean** on his appointment as Ambassador to Algiers. As First Counsellor of Embassy, he has, until recently been in London, and his many friends here wish him and Madame Grandjean a successful and happy stay in the new country.

* * *

Another subscriber, Captain T. D. Richardson, O.B.E., Founder and Chairman of the **Commonwealth Winter Games** at St. Moritz and a great friend of Switzerland, has sent us a letter from Mr. L. Lamont Gordon, Vice-President of the Canadian Amateur Bobsleigh and Luge Association, in which he said "... *I have contacted several associates of mine in Canada, and we feel very strongly that the Commonwealth Winter Games should continue to be held in St. Moritz, mainly because of the fact that the various Commonwealth Countries do not have the proper facilities to host the games at this time. St. Moritz, of course, offers the perfect facilities and is also well located for most of the competing countries.*" He continues to say that Mr. Richardson could count on Canada participating, and that Canada would provide money for trophies. Good luck!

* * *

We are happy to announce the **marriage** on 30th November of Mr. R. E. G. Ronus, of 11 St. George's Mansions, 12 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.1, son of Mr. George Ronus, Managing Director of the Dorchester Hotel. We wish him and his Australian wife a very happy future.

* * *

Babies: We are happy to announce the arrival of another grandson, the eighth grandchild, to Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wetter, of "Sentis", 8 Carew Road, Northwood, Middlesex, and of a grandchild to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Shepherd, of 11 Abbotshall Avenue, N.14. Congratulations and best wishes!

* * *

Mrs. E. Weber, of 8 Oakfield Road, N.14, has sent us a most amusing and well-written verse in German, a "**Stoss-Seufzer des Frauenvereins**", appealing to the powers that be that in the future cultural and social centre, the "Forum of Switzerland" there should also be a place

where the Swiss Ladies' Circle could meet once a month, so that their needlework and knitting activities which they do in aid of the Swiss Benevolent Society and the Swiss Church, could be done in congenial surroundings.

* * *

Finally, Mrs. S. Lewis, of 10, Ludlow Road, W.5, expressed in the following words what many of us felt:

Miss World. *I enjoyed seeing the girls who paraded in the first round of this competition. They appeared wearing their national costumes, and I was impressed by their dignified appearance, especially that of the Japanese and Jugoslav, to mention just two. When the Swiss girl appeared I was astonished to find that her national costume had been "minified" with the result that all appearance of dignity vanished. This is the second time that this has happened and I deeply deplore it.*

(News of Prof. Wahlen's latest honorary degree by courtesy of "Basler Nachrichten".)

SWISSAIR EXTRA FLIGHTS FOR CHRISTMAS

To cater for the large number of winter holiday-makers travelling to the Alps, Swissair is laying on 22 extra jet flights from London to Switzerland between 19th December and 5th January.

Sixteen of the extra flights will go to Zurich, five to Geneva and one to Basle. Nine extras will be day flights and thirteen night tourist services.

From 20th to 23rd December alone, Swissair will provide about 3,600 seats to Switzerland, including the scheduled services. Peak travel day will be Saturday, 21st December, when the airline will operate thirteen flights from Heathrow Airport London to Switzerland, with accommodation for nearly 1,200 passengers.

ANNOUNCEMENT

In February this year, the two important Swiss Companies of Brown Boveri & Co. Ltd. and Sulzer Brothers Ltd. announced the formation in Switzerland of a joint Company to be called Brown Boveri-Sulzer Turbo Machines Ltd. ("T.A.G.") for the purpose of developing, designing and selling Gas Turbines and Turbo Compressors previously dealt with separately by each of the two Companies concerned. This Company will begin operations on a world-wide basis on 1st January 1969.

Since the announcement was made, the two Companies have been engaged on a rationalisation of their respective overseas representations, and it has now been decided that, with effect from 1st January 1969, Sulzer Bros. (London) Ltd., of Bainbridge House, London W.C.1 shall represent the interests of "T.A.G." in the United Kingdom. From that date also, Sulzer Bros. (London) Ltd., will be responsible for the servicing of all existing installations in the United Kingdom and the supply of spare parts.

It is pointed out that Sulzer Bros. (London) Ltd. and British Brown Boveri Ltd., will continue their activities in relation to other products of their Swiss associated Companies as up to now.

WELFARE OFFICE FOR SWISS GIRLS IN GREAT BRITAIN

(For Information, Advice or Help)

11 Belsize Grove, London N.W.3.

(Nearest Underground Station: Belsize Park)

Telephone: PRIMrose 4260

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