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SWISS ARMS EXPORTS

Promising N.S.H. Talk

On Thursday, 26th June, the London Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique are holding their Open Meeting, as usual, at the Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9/11 Belsize Grove, N.W.3. Dr. Carlo Jagmetti, newly arrived Secretary and Press Attaché of the Swiss Embassy in London, will give a talk in German on "International Aspects of Swiss Arms Production, Exports and Imports". He is well qualified to talk on the subject as he was largely concerned with certain aspects of Swiss trade in war materials. It promises to be an interesting evening. All Swiss and their friends are invited 7.45 p.m.).

APOLOGY

We wish to apologise for a mistake which crept into the caption under a photograph on page 8 in our issue of 9th May. The article on that page was called "Alpine Crystal goes to Manchester" and describes Swissair's opening of a new daily service between Zurich and Manchester. The mistake refers to picture No. 3, the caption of which gave the name of the couple on the right as Vice-Consul and Mrs. Zellweger. We should like to point out that the group consisted of (from left to right) Mr. A. Kunz of the Swiss National Tourist Office in London, the Lord Mayor of Manchester and the Lady Mayoress, Mr. A. Keller, Swissair's General Manager for U.K. and Ireland, and Mr. W. Kunz, *Swissair's Manager for North of England, and his wife*. Sorry!

LAST MINUTE INFORMATION

The report by Commission appointed to put forward proposals aimed at solving the Jura dispute, has been published. The Commission was appointed by the Berne Cantonal Government last year on the recommendation of the Federal Council. It includes two former Swiss Foreign Ministers, Monsieur Max Petitpierre and Prof. F. T. Wahlen. The document

of 50 pages has been studied by the Federal Government, but not details were known when we went to Press.

* * *

A second Initiative against *Ueberfremdung* (over-foreignisation) has been launched. The man who started it is National Councillor James Schwarzenbach. Apparently, 71,772 signatures have been collected. The first Initiative, with 51,000 signatures, was launched in 1965, when Switzerland became aware of the dangers of having too many foreign workers. This first effort was withdrawn after Parliament had dealt with the matter. The new proposals want a definite ruling that the number of foreigners must not surpass 10% of the population.

* * *

The winner of this year's Lucerne Art Prize, conductor Herbert von Karajan has donated the whole sum of 10,000 Swiss francs to a fund for musicians in the city.

The winner of the 1968 Art Prize of Switzerland, the Swiss painter Hans Erni, has given his prize money for the training of young artists.

* * *

The Swiss expedition which reached the summit of Tukucho (6,814 metres) in the Himalayas, returned to Katmandu, Nepal, at the end of May. The leader of the expedition, Dr. Georges Hartman from Basle and Mr. Alois Strickler from Unteraegeri reached the summit on 10th May, accompanied by a sherpa. They put up the Nepalese and the Swiss flag on the summit. Two days later, two other members of the party, Dr. A. Hitz from Burgdorf and Mr. Ruedi Humberger from Arosa, reached the second summit. The expedition returned to Zurich; the undertaking was under the patronage of the Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research.

* * *

The Municipal President of Lausanne, National Councillor G. A. Chevallaz, is also an historian who reads diplomatic history at Lausanne University. He is co-author of a book recently published in Belgium "The File of the Cold War". The Mayor

wrote one of the four chapters, that of diplomatic aspects of the "Cold War" from 1948 to 1963.

* * *

The Federal Department of Communications and Energy authorised the motorised Army forces of North Eastern Switzerland to bring into service the electro-nuclear centre of Beznau at Doettingen in the Aargau on 12th May. This was in accordance with the Federal law of December 1959, concerning the peaceful use of atomic energy.

The operation of putting the centre into service involves the charging of combustible elements in the reactor, creating the critical condition in the heart of the reactor and all the necessary processes for tests and trials until an electric current of 360 mw. is obtained. This will probably take several months.

At the end of this programme of tests, those concerned will apply to the Department of Communications and Energy for a definite authorisation to exploit the nuclear centre at Beznau.

(By courtesy of Agence Télégraphique Suisse and "Weekly Tribune" Geneva.)

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