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PERSONAL

Promotion

Two of our readers who are well remembered by their many friends in this country, have recently been appointed to new posts. Monsieur l'Ambassadeur P. H. Aubaret, at present accredited to Norway and Iceland, has been appointed Consul-General in New York, keeping his ambassadorial rank. He will succeed Dr. Hans Lacher who is the new Ambassador in Bonn.

As successor to Monsieur Juerg Iselin, the new first Counsellor of Embassy in London, Monsieur Max Feller has been appointed head of the Integration Bureau of the Federal Political and Economics Departments in Berne. Dr. Feller is at present Counsellor of Embassy with the Swiss Mission at the European Economic Community in Brussels.

Congratulations and best wishes!

Retirement

An old friend of the "Swiss Observer" and Frederick Printing Company in particular and the Swiss Colony in general has recently retired from active business life: Mr. Alec H. Smith. He joined the Swiss Bank Corporation on 15th June 1919, the day he was demobilised from the Navy where he had served as a Lieutenant in the RNVR since September 1914. He was with the Statistical Department at the time of Dr. P. de Wolff and remained there until he retired in December 1959. There was a break in 1941 when Alec Smith went back into the Navy and started again where he had left off in 1919.

After his retirement from the Swiss Bank, he served as Personal Secretary to Mr. W. A. de Vigier, Chairman of Acrow (Engineers) Ltd. He left the company at the end of February and has now retired to Falmouth in Cornwall.

Alec Smith's connection with the "Swiss Observer" goes back to its foundation — he was a friend of the late Mr. P. F. Boehringer, and saw the paper launched. He has always been a great friend of Switzerland's which he visited both privately on holiday and as a kind of Ambassador of the London Office to call on his opposite numbers all over the country. A Swiss friend who was asked questions about his native land, once turned to him and said: "Ask Alec — he knows it better than I do myself".

His many friends in the Swiss Colony wish him a very happy retirement, and hope that he will keep in touch with them across the Counties.

Forthcoming Marriage

We are happy to announce the marriage of Miss Jeanette de Vigier to Mr. Charles du Cane. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. de Vigier of Tinkers Lodge, Marsh Lane, Mill Hill, N.W.7. The Wedding will take place at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on 9th April. Congratulations and best wishes!

SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Owing to lack of space, a report of the Annual Dinner will be published in the next issue.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We wish to thank the following subscribers for sending donations in addition to their subscriptions and/or for taking out or renewing gift subscriptions for friends or old-age pensioners:

Mrs. M. Affentranger, Mrs. M. C. Baerlocher, Mrs. F. L. Daley, Miss M. Hochuli, Mrs. K. S. Leuch (Grindelwald), Mrs. J. Menessier (Les Baux de Provence), Mrs. A. M. Messmer, Mrs. O. Morton, Mrs. M. Rosselet, Mrs. E. West, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur J. de Stoutz (Tel Aviv), Monsieur F. Ansermoz (Tananarive), Brigadier J. Millioud (Morges), and Messrs. A. Baenziger, E. P. Banderet, O. F. Boehringer, R. Chappuis, J. A. Compagnoni, A. Corbat, F. Delaloye, H. W. Egli, P. Eichenberger, O. K. Gasser, B. P. Harper, E. Kern, J. Manzoni, J. E. Margot, A. Mengeu, L. L. Portman, P. Savoie, W. Schedler, W. A. de Vivier, H. E. Widtman, C. E. Wietlisbach, P. H. Wiesendanger, A. Wirz.

We are most grateful for their kind and welcome support.

SIXTH RADIO WORLD SHOOTING CONTEST OF THE SWISS ABROAD

For some time, we have carried a "Forthcoming Event" for next summer, viz. the Federal Shooting Contest at Thun from 7th to 27th July. We have just received a request of the Swiss Shortwave Service (Schweizer Kurzwellendienst, RWSF, Postfach, 3000 Berne 16) to tell our readers that the *Wettkampfreglement* is available at the above address. This is the sixth time that a special contest for the Swiss abroad is organised over the radio. At the last one in July 1963, over 600 men and women shots from 33 places on all the continents took place. There is no need for a group to be well-established, in fact, teams specially formed for this event are just as welcome, and the minimum number is three per group. Among the promised prizes are Army binoculars donated by the Federal Military Department.

GOLDEN ROSE OF MONTREUX

Ninth Contest

Lively interest is being shown in the 9th Golden Rose of Montreux Television Contest organised by the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation and the City of Montreux. This Festival, in which light entertainment programmes compete for the honours, will be held from 24th April to 1st May, at Montreux, Lake Geneva, under the patronage of the European Broadcasting Union.

Up to the end of February, 27 television organisations from Europe, Asia, North and South America had indicated that they would be taking part. Among them are Britain's BBC and ITA, and the television organisations of West Germany, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

Chairman of the Judges will be Hans Solvhoj, Director-General of Danish Radio and Television.

Chairman of the Press Jury will be Otto Pünter, journalist and judge in Berne.