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NEWS FROM THE COLONY

DEPARTURES AT THE EMBASSY

Two of the oldest and best-known members of the Swiss Embassy are about to leave London on new assignments.

Dr. Juerg Iselin, First Collaborator of the Ambassador, has been appointed Deputy Director of the Political Division of the Political Department, and has been promoted from Plenipotentiary Minister to Ambassador.

General Consul Fritz Adams has been appointed *Chargé d'Affaires* in Wellington. This is a fine promotion because Mr. Adams will in this capacity be leading the Swiss diplomatic mission in New Zealand.



Dr. Juerg Iselin

Dr. Juerg Iselin, the son of a minister and theologian, was born in 1920 at Winterthur but his origins are in Basle. He studied in this city and completed a doctorate in law. He entered in the service of the Political Department in 1945 and was posted to New Delhi in 1945. He was recalled to the Political Department in Berne in 1953 and, in 1956, joined the Swiss observers' office at the United Nations in New York. He was transferred to Cologne in 1959 and was concerned with commercial issues as from 1961. Back in Berne in 1963, he was posted to the Integration Office of the Political and Public Economy Departments. Three years later, he was

named Head of the Integration Office by the Federal Council. He was posted to London in 1969 as number two at the Embassy. He was awarded the title of Minister in 1971.

As Deputy Head of the Political Division, Dr. Iselin will take the succession of Ambassador Gelzer. In his new capacity he will be in charge of Swiss embassies and diplomatic missions in Africa, Asia, Australia and New Zealand, and Latin America.

Dr. Iselin married Miss Elizabeth Heartzog in 1955. They have a daughter, Beatrice, who is 24.

Mr. Fritz Adams was born in 1919 in Vienna, the son of a Swiss abroad but also hails from Basle. After many years in private industry he joined the Political Department in 1943. In the course of his consular career he has been posted to Vienna, Berne, Stuttgart, Cairo, Dijon and Bucharest. Called back to Berne in 1964, he was named Consul in London in 1968, and promoted to the rank of General Consul in 1974.



Mr. Fritz Adams

Mr. Adams was very active in the Colony. His efficiency, kindness and wisdom were highly appreciated by the Swiss Protestant Churches and by the Swiss Benevolent Society. Mr. Adams not only took an active part in the life of the Church, but it was thanks to his efforts in channelling Embassy support that the bi-annual bazaars have been so successful during the past six years. Mr. Adams' involvement with the Swiss Benevolent Society was essential in promoting its work among straying young Swiss. Mr. Adams was also involved with the First August Committee and represented the Embassy at the Advisory Council of the *Swiss Observer*. In this capacity, he accomplished a lot of work in getting the "Special Issues" scheme off the ground both in London and at the Commission for Information of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad.

Mr. Adams married Miss Suzanne Gerber in 1955. They have three boys:

Christophe, 18, Daniel, 11, and Marc, 8.

We wish both Dr. Iselin and Mr. Adams and their families success and prosperity in this new stage of their careers.

P.M.B.

MR. GABRIEL GODET

We have the sad duty of reporting the death of *Mr. Gabriel Godet*, a former member of the Consistoire and of the Swiss Benevolent Society Council. Mr. Godet died at his home at La Neuveville, near Neuchâtel, on 13th December, at the age of 83.

A great many Swiss of all generations will remember Mr. Godet for his untiring work for the Church and the Swiss Benevolent Society. As far as the Church was concerned, his friends said of him that he was married to it. A bachelor all his life, Mr. Godet devoted his energy and means to the welfare of the Swiss Church in London and became an invaluable help to a long succession of ministers. Elected to the Consistoire in 1924, he served on that body for over fifty years and was an honorary member until he left London to retire in Switzerland some two years ago. Mr. Godet also served for many years as treasurer of the Church.

He was indeed well qualified for the job since he had had a banking career. Coming to this country in 1916, Mr. Godet worked first at the *Credit Lyonnais*, then at the *Banca Commerciale Italiana*. When this bank was compelled to employ Italian staff under the Mussolini regime, Mr. Godet found employment at the City firm of Leopold Joseph. His retirement certainly did not spell the end of an active life. Mr. Godet thereafter took care of the Evangelical Library in Marylebone and was closely involved with the Gideons Organisation, well known for supplying hotel guests all over the world with the Scriptures. Even in his Swiss retirement, Mr. Godet kept himself busy and useful by engaging in voluntary work.

Countless Swiss, many of whom have now disappeared, were helped by the visits which he carried out both under the auspices of the Swiss Church and of the Benevolent Society. He was a "man behind the scenes" leading a very frugal and perhaps solitary life. But his hidden contribution in helping our less fortunate compatriots in London must have been immense. He was until the end among the faithfuls at the Swiss YMCA, and involved in the life of several other London churches, such as the French Reformed Church and the City Temple.

Despite his unassuming life-style, he was a man of some means and of a cultured background. Among his forefathers was the famed 19th century theologian Philippe Godet. The deceased sponsored a re-edition of this theologian's work by the publishers Delachaux et Niestlé. Mr. Godet owned a large house at La Neuveville which has been bequeathed as a home for ministers and missionaries. He also left a sizeable sum to the Swiss

Benevolent Society. Mr. Godet had two unmarried sisters both of whom predeceased him.

Mr. Godet will certainly be remembered by all those who knew him well as the most dedicated and selfless member of the Swiss Protestant Parish.

P.M.B.

MRS. TERESITA EUSEBIO

With the old year also died Mrs. Teresita Eusebio née Fedele, in her room at the Ricovero Anziani of the Ospedale Distrettuale at Faido/TI on Sunday evening, 29th December, 1974, only a few weeks from her 94th birthday.

The members of the "Coin Suisse" at Diviani Restaurant in Newgate Street, City, in the between-the-Wars years will remember her as the wife of the proprietor, Mr. Aurelio Eusebio, with whom in 1946 she retired to Fontana near Airolo in her native Canton Ticino, after a stay in London of over forty years.

Despite advancing age she kept to the last an alert mind and a good memory, and when visited from London she would insist on receiving news of her favourite patrons, and friends.

Children's Christmas Party

A long tradition was upheld on Saturday, 4th January, as 85 children and many of their parents arrived at the St. Mary Hall, YMCA Central Building, for the annual Colony Children's Christmas Party.

This year's event proved once again a great success, judging by the response of the young guests. The entertainment began with a series of cartoon films after a prayer by the Rev. Michel Languillat. Also included in the programme were films of a touristic nature supplied by the SNTU. Then came the magician whose tricks and pranks delighted his gleeful audience. As usual, the party ended with a most generous tea during which Father Christmas, impersonated by Mr. Bruno Frei, distributed the traditional presents. They consisted of apples and oranges, Mars Bars, assorted sweets, and five coloured pencils, collected in plastic bags. Although 103 children were announced, only 85 were brought to the party with their parents. As a result, there were a great many bags to spare. These, we understand, will be given to the Swiss mothers who meet at the Mothers' Union of the Swiss Churches.

PICTURE RESTORERS: Kent & Mackim, restorers, would welcome your enquiries. Brochure from 78-79 Lots Road, Chelsea, London SW10. Tel: 01-351 0247/8.

WANTED: Stamp collections, especially Switzerland, France and Great Britain. Offers to E. M. Huber, 10 Linton Lawns, Golf Links Road, Ferndown, Dorset.

SWISSAIR APPOINTS NEW GENERAL MANAGER FOR UK AND IRELAND

We are very sorry to learn of the imminent departure of *Mr. Franz Fraefel*, who has been Swissair's General Manager for the United Kingdom and Ireland for the past five years.

Mr. Fraefel will leave his present responsibilities on 1st April and take up the newly-created position of Regional Manager, Africa (Southern Countries) based in Nairobi. Mr. Fraefel was well known to members of the Colony, in particular of the City Swiss Club, and his departure will be very much regretted. Before holding the London job, he had previously held management appointments in Switzerland and several countries abroad, including the United Kingdom as Manager for the North of England from 1953 to 1957. The region for which he now assumes responsibility comprises the countries of East, Central

and South Africa. We should like to express our best wishes to Mr. Fraefel and his family for this new part of his career.

Mr. Fraefel will be succeeded by *Mr. Louis Nart*. Having joined the Company in 1948 in Zurich, Mr. Nart had his first assignment outside Switzerland in Manchester, where he was District Manager for the North of England from 1952 to 1953. Subsequently, he was Manager for Bavaria in Munich and for South East Asia in Bangkok until 1964, when he took up his present position as Manager for South Africa in Johannesburg. In this capacity he was actively associated with Swissair's introduction of services between Switzerland and South Africa in 1968.

Mr. Nart is 49, married with two sons. We hope that he and his family will have a very pleasant stay here in London.

P.M.B.



Mr. Franz Fraefel



Mr. Louis Nart

BIRTHDAYS

The following readers will celebrate their birthdays soon:

Mrs. E. Jamieson, of 9 Mowbray Road, NW6, will be 75 on 20th February. Mr. J. W. Bonjour-Collet will be 76 on 23rd February. Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Daeniker (Berne) will be 77 on 24th February. Mr. O. Grob, KSG, of 60 Seafield Road, N11, will have his 75th birthday on 26th February. Mr. F. Gerber will be 83 between the last day of February and 1st March! Mr. F. G. Sommer will be 83 on 1st March and Mr. E. Hardmeier 87 on 3rd of the month. Mr. R. A. Marchand (Bienne) will be 83 on 9th March, and Dr. H. W. Egli and Mr. R. Chappuis will have their birthdays on 17th March, the 76th and 79th respectively.

Best wishes and many happy returns all round!

With great regrets for the delay, we announce that Mr. and Mrs. J. W.

Bonjour-Collet, of 72 Shirley Avenue, Croydon, Surrey 8SH, celebrated their Golden Wedding on 10th June last. We are sorry we did not know of the happy event at the time but express our best wishes for a trouble-free future.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE:

Thursday, 20th February, 7 p.m., ANNUAL FILMSHOW, Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9 Belsize Grove NW3. All Swiss and their friends welcome.

Thursday, 20th March, Nouvelle Societe Helvetique: Annual General Meeting and Dinner. Prince of Wales Hotel.

Thursday, 17th April, 7 p.m. Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9 Belsize Grove NW3. Talk (possibly illustrated by film) by Mr. R. A. Ramseier, First Secretary, Swiss Embassy, on the