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# A VERY WELCOME GUEST

The Chairman of the British Tourist Authority, Sir Alexander Glen, was a most welcome Guest of Honour at the Anglo-World Group's enlarged 'House of Travel' Headquarters in Bournemouth recently. He was there to officially open a recently completed two-storey extension to the premises, which house the administration offices of Anglo-World Travel, Education and Leisure activities.

Mr. Gustav Scheller, Swiss-born founder and managing director of Anglo-World, paid tribute to the British Tourist Authority in his speech to staff and invited guests from all over the World.

"The Authority has performed, very professionally, the vital role of creating an awareness and appreciation throughout the World of Britain's tourist products," he said, and continued: "The wealth of raw materials which this country can boast in its language, culture, history, tradition and scenery, provides a unique basis for continuing success."

Sir Alexander, in his reply, and prior to declaring open the extended premises, mentioned his early links with Bournemouth, and agreed with Mr.

Scheller concerning the future of tourism to Britain, which was unrivalled in its attractions.

He was full of praise for the way in which Anglo-World plays a leading commercial role in the promotion of Britain as a tourist venue; and looked forward to a continuation of the foresight and dedication which had earned the Company the Queen's Award to Industry for outstanding export achievement in 1974.

Following a conducted tour of the enlarged building, guests lunched at one

of Bournemouth's leading hotels, during which Mr. and Mrs. Scheller received a bouquet and a gift from Anglo-World staff to mark their twentieth wedding anniversary.

Later, back at the House of Travel, a film recently produced by Anglo-World Education was shown, and Anglo-World Travel executives were able to discuss with guests future development plans which are designed to maintain and even improve the Organisation's undoubted position to the forefront of incoming Tour Operators.



*Sir Alexander Glen, on right of picture, Chairman of British Tourist Authority with Mr. Gustav Scheller, Managing Director of Anglo-World Group Limited, at the Official Opening of the extended House of Travel.*



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## Milestones in Swiss insurance

- 1848 First cantonal factory law was adopted in the Canton of Glaris. Other cantons that followed suit in the same year were Aargau, Schaffhausen, St. Gallen and Zürich.
  - 1877 The factory law was accepted at the Federal level. It represented the first comprehensive social legislation for the protection of industrial workers.
  - 1884 Establishment of the first unemployment fund (a result of private initiative) by the Swiss Typographers' Union.
  - 1890 Passage of Constitutional Article 34bis concerning sickness and accident insurance.
  - 1911 Passage of the Federal Law on Sickness and Accident Insurance, effective 1st April, 1918. Founding of "SUVA", the Swiss Industrial Injury Insurance Company.
  - 1924 Passage of the Federal Law on Contributions to Cantonal and Occupational Unemployment Funds.
  - 1925 Passage of Constitutional Article 34quarter regulating old-age, survivors and disability insurance.
  - 1940 Federal Council Decree regulating loss of earnings compensation for persons on active duty in the army.
- Courtesy Union Bank of Switzerland.*

## LETTER FROM SWITZERLAND

By Gottfried Keller

It has for long been an open secret, but now it is official: the Federal Council would favour Swiss Membership in the United Nations, but does not dare to submit an appropriate proposal to a plebiscite. The Federal Council's communiqué, issued at the end of June, speaks of "careful consideration", after which our highest magistrates have come to the conclusion that Uno-membership would, all in all, be desirable.

The Government's consideration has indeed been careful, for it has been going on for 31 years. An appropriate proposal, the official communiqué says, is to be laid before the country's people "in the not too distant future." It is obvious that the timing of the next step is deliberately left vague and the reason for such vagueness is equally obvious: if the Swiss population were asked to vote now on a governmental proposal to join the UN, a refusal would be an absolute certainty. And such a refusal would make an even more disastrous impression abroad than continued abstinence does. However, very often the Swiss people turn proposals from Berne down when

they are first submitted, only to adopt them in a second or third attempt. After all, the proposal to give the women of Switzerland the right to vote had a similar fate.

If the Federal Council wants to wait until such time when there is no crisis inside the United Nations or until such unattractive figures as Idi Amin Dada have lost their membership through death, Swiss membership in the UNO will never become a reality. At any rate, the examples of Sweden and Austria are proof that political neutrality is not necessarily an impediment to participation in the nearly universal world organisation.

In the summer of 1975 Foreign Minister Graber's journey to Helsinki to sign the KSZE documents on behalf of Switzerland raised a storm of protest. But in the spring of 1977 a large majority in the Federal Parliament approved Mr. Graber's decision to take part in the follow-up conference in Belgrade. Perhaps the Swiss hedgehog is, after all, about to shed some of his spines. Neutrality need not of necessity be identical with immobility and with sitting tight.



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