

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1979)

Heft: 1753

Rubrik: Birthdays and anniversaries

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BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

The following readers are celebrating their birthdays soon: Mrs. A. Sommer will have her birthday on 15th May, and Mr. E. Huber will be 64 on the same day. Mrs. K. Grob will have her birthday on 18th May. Mr. Walter Schedler, of 58 Meadoway, London NW11, will have his 75th birthday on 24th May. Mr. W. Flory will celebrate his birthday on 25th and Ambassador A. Weitnauer (Berne) his 63rd on 30th May, the same day as Mr. A. Zullig will be 72.

Louis L. Portmann was 86 on 13th April.

Two couples will celebrate their wedding anniversaries, both their 33rd: Mr. and Mrs. F. Burri and Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Senn.

To all these readers and any others of whose birthdays and anniversaries we are not aware, we send congratulations and best wishes.

ALFRED CONRAD BOLLER, 80

It is with great pleasure that we announce the 80th birthday of Mr. A. C. Boller, of "Tadorne", Derrière le Canard, 1162 Saint-Prex, Vaud. He was born at Agasul, Zürich, on 8th May, 1899. He went to primary and secondary schools at Illnau in his home Canton and to the *Ecole Supérieure de Commerce* in Neuchâtel. After a three-year apprenticeship with Volkart Brothers, Winterthur, he was transferred to Bombay in 1919. He spent 12 years in India and returned to Switzerland in 1931. After a few years with the

firm of building contractors A. G. Hatt-Haller in Zürich, he joined the Swiss Office for Development of Trade (OSEC) to take charge of their new overseas organisation. The war brought its activities almost to a standstill.

In 1940, the Swiss Federal War Transport Office called in Mr. Boller to help with the organisation of their Sea Transport Section, a very exacting task, but much in his line and most rewarding. He had to travel a lot, at times quite a dangerous business. But with his exceptional knowledge of shipping which he had acquired in India, he was extremely well qualified. He rendered invaluable services to Switzerland, at that time surrounded by the Axis Powers.

Towards the end of the war, he was invited by the International Red Cross Committee to go to Greece as Vice-President of the *Commission Mixte pour les Secours en Grèce*. He returned to Switzerland in the summer of 1945, having accomplished a most difficult task. He was awarded an Order of Distinction by the Swedish and the Greek Red Cross.

Alfred Boller next joined the *Société Générale de Surveillance* and was soon sent abroad again, this time as Director of their subsidiary in the UK, Cargo Superintendents (London) Ltd. He became Chairman in 1966, an office he held up to his retirement to Switzerland.

He married Miss Elisabeth Escher in 1927. They had two sons. Mrs. Boller is remembered with

affection and great respect by many, for she did a great deal of devoted work in the Swiss Community. Her death in 1957 was a great blow. But Mr. Boller's many friends were delighted when in 1960, he married Miss Marguerite Frey from Lausanne.

When Mr. Boller was in London, he took a keen interest in the activities of the Swiss Colony and was a member of several societies, not least of the Swiss Economic Council. He was also a member of the Swiss Church and at one time ran the service for Swiss children's annual holidays in Switzerland, a "Pro Juventute" scheme.

Mr. and Mrs. Boller now live in Canton Vaud, and we wish him a memorable 80th birthday and the best of good health and happiness in the future.

MM

IN MEMORIAM

We have learned with great regret of the death of:

Mr. Fernand Delaloye, at Twyford Abbey Nursing Home on 7th March. He was 91 years old.

Mrs. Timme-Halter Anneliese, of 287 Gillroyd Lane, Heights, Linthwaite, Huddersfield, who died on 28th February, while on holiday in Lungern.

We extend our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the departed.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

The Annual General Meeting of the

Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

will take place on

Friday, 15th June, 1979, at 6.30 p.m.

followed by a buffet at 8 p.m., at the

Swiss Embassy, 16–18 Montagu Place, London W.1