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NOT so very long ago all the pupils in a class sat at heavy, fixed wooden desks and forms – irrespective of their size. If the form was too big for one, then it was too small for the other.

The teaching methods corresponded to the uncomfortable desks, with the intent to discipline rather than to motivate.

In the meantime, teaching has changed, and classroom furniture has improved with it.

The old-fashioned desks have been replaced by new adjustable tables and chairs which can be adapted to the ergonomic requirements of the pupils so that learning is more comfortable.

From March 20 to 24, 1984, the 20th International Educational Materials Fair, Didacta 84, will be taking place in the halls of the Swiss Industries Fair in Basle.

## Head of Chancery

MR Siegfried Zurbrugg arrived in Manchester in August 1983, to take over the position as Head of Chancery from Consul Theodor Mosimann, who was recently transferred to Berne.

Born in 1944, citizen of Reichenbach BE, Mr Zurbrugg terminated his commercial studies in Zurich and London.

After being employed for eight years in private industry, mainly in the fields of machinery, pharmaceuticals and publishing, he entered, in 1968, the then Federal Political Department and has successively been transferred to diplomatic and consular posts in Brussels, Dar-es-Salaam, Madrid, Rio de Janeiro and

Seoul.

In 1981, he returned to Berne where he worked for the purchasing section of the Directorate of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid.

## Swissair sells planes

AS part of its long-term fleet strategy, Swissair is to sell five of the 12 DC-9-51 aircraft it currently has in service to the US carrier Muse Air.

The first two of the aircraft sold are due to be phased out of service this month, with an additional aircraft following in February 1984 and two more in March 1986.

Swissair took delivery of its first

DC-9-51 in August 1975.

In the course of its major fleet renewal programme, Swissair has already replaced most of its DC-9-32s with DC-9-81s.

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