News from the colony

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY.



M. WIESENDANGER,
Chairman of the Presidents Assembly 1959 to 1960

On the occasion of the Swiss Presidents Meeting, which took place on Monday, 1st June 1959, at the Swiss Embassy, Mr. M. Wiesendanger was elected Chairman for 1959/1960.

The new Chairman, who is also Chairman of the Swiss Economic Council, was born in 1897 in Zurich, where he attended the primary and secondary schools. Then followed a three-year apprenticeship with the firm of Escher Wyss Zurich. On its conclusion he entered the " Institute Minerva ", Zurich, for a one-and-a-half-year course, which finished with matriculation. Mr. Wiesendanger was then admitted to the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich, where on completion of his studies he obtained the degree of " Diplom Ingenieur " for his dissertation on Hydro-Electric Power Stations.

In 1923 Mr. Wiesendanger decided to go to the U.S.A., where he took up a position as research and design engineer with Messrs. Baker Perkins Co., in Saginaw (Mich.); he stayed there for five years. In 1928 he was offered a position as special representative for technical rubber goods by the Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co. On accepting, he was sent to Berlin to be in charge of the Central European section. Owing to the economic crisis prevailing at the end of 1929 the company closed down their offices in Germany, and he returned to Zurich, joining the Escher Wyss concern.

In the early days of 1930 Mr. Wiesendanger was sent on a special mission to South Africa to study and analyse the market there. This trip, which was originally intended to last about six months, was extended to over two years' duration, after which he was recalled and put in charge of the firm's London Office, which position he holds to-day.

We wish Mr. Wiesdanger a successful year of office.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

The financial year of the " Swiss Observer " comes to a close at the end of the current month, and the Publishers would be much obliged if subscribers who are in arrear with their subscription would send in their remittance as soon as possible.

PERSONAL.

We extend sincere congratulations to Mr. R. de Cintra, of Messrs. Dimier Brothers, Croydon House, 27-29 Tamworth Road, Croydon, on his appointment as Chairman of the Omega Watch Co. (England) Ltd., 26-30 Holborn Viaduct, E.C.1.

* * *

We extend congratulations to Mr. J. A. Reiber, of 247 Mortimer Road, South Shields, Co. Durham, on his re-election as President of the Northumberland and Durham Women's Athletic Association, and Chairman of the Yarrow Cycling and Athletic Club. Mr. Reiber has also been appointed Sports and Social Secretary of the Yarrow Conservative Club. He has recently been nominated a " Ehren Veteran " of the Union Helvetia for 50 years' membership.

Mr. Reiber, a Bernese, who came to this country in 1908, has been for many years a well-known personality in sports circles, winning many competitions and prizes.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

A memorial service for Mr. Emil Siegrist, late Managing Director of Messrs. Siegrist-Orel Ltd. and Silent Gliss Limited, London, was held on Wednesday, 3rd June, at the Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2. The Rev. Karl Huber officiated and paid a touching tribute to the departed.

Amongst the large congregation were Monsieur J. J. de Tribolet, 1st Counsellor of Embassy, representing the Swiss Ambassador, and the Presidents of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, Secours Mutuels, Swiss Benevolent Society, Unione Ticinese and Schweizerbund (Swiss Club).

JOURNALISTS VISIT SWISS WINE GROWERS.

A small party of British journalists has recently returned from visiting the Swiss wine districts of Valais, Vaud, and Geneva.

During their short visit they received hospitality from the Geneva Wine Union, Provins du Valais (the big wine co-operative in this part of Switzerland), and many individual wine growers, including M. Henri Badoux who is a member of the Swiss Parliament.

The party consisted of Rushworth Fogg (PA-Features), Miss Elizabeth Craig (Woman's Journal, The Scotsman, etc.), William K. Bliss (Kemsley Newspapers Limited), Tom Souch (Westminster Press Provincial Newspapers Limited), and Raymond Postgate, the well-known authority on wine.

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