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NEWS FROM THE COLONY

WE WELCOME MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR DE FISCHER



Early in February Monsieur Beat de Fischer, the new Swiss Ambassador to the Court of St. James, arrived in London. On behalf of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain we extend a sincere welcome to him and his family.

Monsieur de Fischer was born in 1901 and is a native of Berne. He studied at the Universities of Berne, Fribourg, Munich and Paris. He obtained the degree of *Docteur en droit* of the University of Berne in 1926. After various periods of practical training in industry, in Switzerland and abroad, he entered the service of the Federal Political Department in 1929. He was posted to the Swiss Legation in The Hague in 1932, and then to Buenos Aires, Warsaw, Bucharest, Riga, Helsinki, Bucharest and Cairo successively. In 1949, the Federal Council appointed Monsieur de Fischer as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Swiss Confederation to Egypt. Three years later he was also accredited to Ethiopia but retained his residence in Cairo. In 1954, he was appointed Swiss Minister to Portugal.

In 1959 Monsieur de Fischer was accredited Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Austria. He has now taken up his duties as head of the Swiss Diplomatic Mission in Great Britain in succession to Monsieur Daeniker. He has also been permanent Swiss representative on the International Agency for Atomic Energy.

Monsieur de Fischer is married and has three children.

We wish him and his family a happy and successful stay in this country.

PERSONAL

We have just heard of the death of another of our regular subscribers, Mr. John Schmid of 13 Denbigh Place, S.W.1, who passed away in October. He was in this country for almost fifty years as a cook. We extend our deep sympathy to his wife, who is returning to Switzerland.

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME FOR YOUNG SWISS ABROAD

This may be the right time of the year to remind our readers of the existence of the "Association pour la formation des jeunes suisses de l'étranger" whose seat is at the Secretariat of Pro Juventute, 8 Seefeldstrasse, Zurich 8.

The aims of this Association which is subsidized by the Federal authorities, are not only to provide the funds for a young Swiss to be educated in Switzerland, but also to advise as to the method best suited to the applicant's abilities and background. Once the best training has been chosen the "Ausbildungswerk" will plan the whole course of studies or training as well as arrange for suitable lodgings. Where financial support is needed scholarships can be provided. In addition, the scheme aims at introducing young Swiss from abroad to their homeland by choosing suitable training centres, by fostering relations between the young student and young people in Switzerland, and by arranging special meetings and functions at which the young Swiss from abroad will be able to get to know and love Switzerland. By so doing the Association hopes to make a useful contribution towards the rejuvenation of our Swiss colonies abroad. Founded in 1961, it is the joint concern of Pro Juventute, the "Aide aux Suisses" Foundation and the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad of the N.S.H. The services of the scheme are available to young Swiss between ten and twenty-five, exceptionally also to older people.

Information and application forms may be obtained from the Swiss Embassy, 18 Montagu Place, London W.1.

CITY SWISS CLUB

The attention of the members and friends of the City Swiss Club is directed to the "Soirée Familiale" which is taking place on Tuesday, February 18th, at the Dorchester Hotel (Orchid Suite), Park Lane, W.1.

The committee extends an especially cordial invitation to the ladies to honour the Club by their charming presence.

The dinner will be followed by two interesting films "The Swiss Daulagiri Expedition 1958" and "Captive River" (The Story of the Kariba Dam), which will be, no doubt, well worth watching.

Reservations should be made direct to the Manager of the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, not later than Monday, 17th February.

Press Reporter, City Swiss Club.

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