

Recent federal appointment in Switzerland

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Switzerland, Eastern Switzerland, Lucerne and Aargau have received the largest numbers of refugees.

At the end of January, another group of 62 children from bad homes or camps arrived in Lucerne; most of them came from the suburbs of Paris and will be looked after by Swiss families for three months.

The International Red Cross Committee contacted the Red Cross in North Korea regarding the "Pueblo" affair.

And finally, the Federal Council submitted a message to Parliament in December stating that Switzerland should take part in the first World Exhibition in an Asiatic country in Osaka in 1970.

(Based on news and reports received by courtesy of Agence Télégraphique Suisse.)

RECENT FEDERAL APPOINTMENTS IN SWITZERLAND

The Federal Parliament in their winter session also elected President and Vice-President of the Federal Tribunal in the persons of Dr. Adolf Boner, former Solothurn National Councillor (1939 to 1959) and the Vaudois Dr. René-Frank Vaucher respectively. The new Federal Judges are Cantonal Judge Henri Fragnière (Sion), *Oberrichter* Prof. Dr. Arthur Haefliger (Olten) and *Oberrichter* Dr. Erhard Schweri (Horgen).

As new Federal Insurance Judge, the Federal Assembly elected Dr. iur. Theo Bratschi (Lucerne). The Federal Council appointed Dr. Felix Weber as delegate for special administrative questions, and Dr. Walter Buser, chief of the legal and information service of the Swiss Ministry of the Interior, and Lic. iur. Jean-Marc Sauvant, *Adjunkt* of the Federal Chancellery and translator of the Council of States, as Vice-Chancellors.

The Federal Council decided to change the Consulate in Tripoli into an Embassy; the Swiss Ambassador in Tunis remains accredited to Libya. Diplomatic relations have been taken up with Singapore and the Consulate has been changed to an Embassy. The Swiss Consul will act as *Chargé d'Affaires ad interim*.

The Swiss Consulate in Kobe, Japan, has been closed and a Consulate-General has been opened in Osaka. Consul Louis Scalabrino, at present in Mulhouse, has been appointed Consul-General.

Monsieur Celestino Ferretti (Rome) has been appointed Consul in Curitiba (Brazil) in succession to the retiring Consul Hans Kiefer. The Federal Council has decided to separate the two offices of Consul in Strasbourg and permanent representative on the Council of Europe and has promoted Monsieur Gagnebin to Ambassador as representative, and Monsieur G. Guibert, his assistant, to Swiss Consul in Strasbourg.

The new Federal Attorney is Dr. Hans Walder (from Eglisau and Glattfelden) in succession to the retiring Dr. Hans Fuerst. The new chief of information is *Fuersprech* Dr. Oscar Dueby and the new Federal Tribunal Clerk Edouard Nicole (Vaud), whilst Dr. Louis Klingler (St. Gall) succeeds Dr. E. Eggenschwiler as Director of the *Bundesgerichtskanzlei*.

[A.T.S.]

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