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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The Federal Council has appointed Mr. Olivier Rossy to the post of Honorary Swiss Consul in Luxem-

bourg.

M. Rossy was born in 1924, and is a citizen of La Chaux (Ct. Vaud). After the conclusion of his studies at the Commercial School, Lausanne, he obtained a post at the "Schweizerischen Bankgesellschaft" in Lucerne, (1943-1946) and afterwards with a banking concern in New York. Since 1948, he has been Manager of the Jewellery firm of Schroeder in Luxembourg.

* * *

The Turkish Government has raised their Berne Legation to the rank of Embassy. Minister Yakub Kadri Karasmanoglu has presented his credentials as Ambassador to the President of the Swiss Confederation.

* * *

The Federal Council has nominated Mr. Alfred Louis Tauber to the post of Honorary Swiss Consul in Rotterdam.

The new Consul was born in 1909, is a citizen of Basle, and is Manager of a commercial firm in Rotterdam.

Cantonal

Meinrad Ingling, (Schwyz) the well-known author, has celebrated his 60th birthday anniversary. The best-known of his many books is the novel "Schweizerspiegel".

The University of Zurich has honoured its author with the degree of *doctor honoris causa*. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The late Mme. Barbara Strickler-Kunz of Richterswil (Ct. Zurich) has left the following legacies: "Krankenhaus", Richterswil: 10,000— frs.; "Ferienkolonie," Richterswil: 5,000.— frs.; Swiss Red Cross: 3,000.— frs.; Children's Home Bühl in Wädenswil: 2,000.— frs. and to the poor of the commune of Richterswil: 10,000.— frs. [A.T.S.]

The French Government has nominated Dr. med. Karl Kistler, ear-nose and throat specialist, in Zurich, an officer of the "Légion d'Honneur". [A.T.S.]

* * *

An employee of a garage in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Franco, Dario Canonina was sent to a bank in La Chaux-de-Fonds to pay in an amount of 38,000.— frs. On the way to the bank he stole a motor-car in which he travelled to Les Brenets, where he left the car and crossed over the Doubs into France. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Professor Willy Forrer, "Vorstand der Forschungs-und Versuchsanstalt der Generaldirektion PTT und Professor für Elektroakustik" at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich, has been nominated a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Professor Th. Brogle, Director of the Basle Fair has celebrated his 60th birthday anniversary. He was



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born in 1893 in Sisseln (Ct. Aargau), and at the conclusion of his studies of National Economy became a teacher of commercial science in Baden, Zurich and St. Gall. In 1931, he became rector of the newly founded Commercial School, Basel, and in 1938, he succeeded Dr. W. Meile, as Director of the Basle Fair. He is also Professor of "Betriebswirtschaftslehre" at the University of Basle, and sat at one time in Parliament. (National-Council). [A.T.S.]

* * *

Dr. Robert Wenner (St. Gall) has been nominated Professor of gynaecology at the University of Basle. Dr. Wenner was born in 1909, and was until recently chief assistant at the "Frauenspital" Basle and since 1942, a lecturer at the University of Basle. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The late J. Steiger of Necker (Ct. St. Gall) has left legacies amounting to 438,000.— frs. to various hospitals and charitable institutions in the canton of St. Gall. [A.T.S.]

* * *

A young man entered a banking establishment at Wil (Ct. St. Gall) to change some notes; whilst the attention of the cashier was distracted for a moment, he made a grab at a bundle of 100 frs. notes to the amount of 10,000.— frs. and disappeared. A reward of 1,000.— frs. has been offered for news of the whereabouts of the thief. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Mr. L. Birkigt, Engineer, of Geneva has made a donation amounting to 500,000.— frs. to the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich in remembrance of his late father, Dr. h.c. Marc Birkigt, a former General Manager of the "Hispano-Suiza, A-G."

[A.T.S.]

* * *

Mademoiselle Hedy Salquin of Geneva, the well-known conductor was awarded the Harriet Cohen silver medal music prize. The medal was presented to the Swiss Minister in London, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, who, through the intermediary of the Federal Political Department in Berne has forwarded same to the recipient. [A.T.S.]

* * *

The following deaths are reported from Switzerland:

Rudolf Taugwalder, well-known Alpine guide, in Zermatt, at the age of 86.

He was the nephew of Peter Taugwalder who accompanied Whymper on his first Matterhorn climb. With Captain Lynch he ascended Mount Avarat in the Caucasus, and in 1908 was a member of the party which scaled the Hauscaran peak in Peru for the first time. He then had both his hands and feet badly frostbitten. Being unable to continue climbing, he was appointed keeper of the Zermatt Alpine Museum.

Friedrich Frey-Fürst, founder and head of the firm Frey & Cie, Lucerne, in Lucerne, aged 71.

The deceased was the founder of the "Elektrowerke Reichenbach", Meiringen, and President of the "Schweizerischen Karbidwerke".

In 1925, he bought the Bürgenstock Hotels as well as some Hotels on the Lake of Brienz. Frey-Fürst sat on the Board of a number of large banking and industrial concerns, and took a great interest in the political and social life of the town of Lucerne.

Hans Giger, senior partner in the firm Hans Giger & Co. (Wholesale Grocers) in Berne, at the age of 75.

The deceased played an important role in the economic and social life of the capital. He was for many years President of the "Bernischen Handels-und Industrievereins", a member of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce, the "Bankrates" of the Swiss National Bank and Vice-President of the "Bürgergemeinde" Berne.

Gilgian Maurer, Publisher and Editor of the "Oberländer Volk-Zeitung" in Spiez, at the age of 84.

Edouard Verdan, Engineer, first at the "Société des Clés", Yverdon, and afterwards with the "Maschinenfabrik Oerlikon", in Yverdon, aged 76.

Alfred Moser, engine driver, for 35 years in the service of Swiss railways. He played an important part in the "Lokomotivpersonalverband". He died in Basle.

National-Councillor Hans Hofer, "Käsermeister", in Spins near Aarberg, at the age of 64.

The deceased had been a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Berne since 1930, and its President in 1948/49. He sat in Parliament (National Council) since 1935. [A.T.S.]

* * *

Two Swiss climbers, Mr. Hollinger and Mr. W. Steinmaurer, both of Zurich, were killed after falling 1,200 ft. on the east side of the Zinal Rothorn (13,855 ft.).

On the Rothenfluh (Ct. Fribourg) Mr. Buchs of

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Fribourg stumbled and fell 900 ft., and was killed outright.

On the southern ridge of the Jäger Horn (Ct. Valais) a Swiss alpinist, Mr. Schluchter, fell 1,000 ft., after a rock had collapsed under his weight, and was killed.

Two Swiss alpinists, René Basset and Henri Mützenberger both of Geneva lost their lives on the Blümlisalhorn.

A 23 year's old student, Charley Imhof of Visp, lost his life when gathering flowers in the Val d'Hérens. (Ct. Valais). [A.T.S.]

* * *

Three hundred and sixteen candidates, representing 32 countries, have applied to take part in the ninth International Competition for Musical Performers, which will be held at the Conservatoire in Geneva from September 21 to October 4. Of the applicants, 154 are women and 162 men. The entries received so far include 106 pianists, 109 singers, and 39 cellists. France will be represented by 73 performers, Italy by 36, Germany by 34, Switzerland by 33, Austria by 27, the United States by 24, Belgium by 17, England by 12, and Yugoslavia by seven. Other countries to be represented will be Argentina, Denmark, Australia, Finland, Spain, Canada, Greece, Brazil, Mexico, the Netherlands, Uruguay, Chile, China, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Persia, Poland, Sweden, South Africa, and Turkey. The final concert of the prize-winners will take place on October 4 at evening and will be broadcast by several foreign stations.

Eighty-eight people were killed in the Alps during last summer and winter, the Swiss Alpine Club announced.

* * *

Professor August Picard, 69, the Swiss scientist, is ready to begin tests for an attempt to set up a new underwater record — two-and-a-half miles.

Professor Picard, who has already been up ten miles in the stratosphere in a balloon, will make the descent in a 30 foot cigar-shaped bathysphere. The tests, he said in Naples, will be held off Capri.

SWISSAIR FLY 500 HOLIDAY MAKERS TO SWITZERLAND IN ONE DAY.

The biggest ever Air Lift in one day was undertaken by Swissair on Saturday, July 25th, 1953, when 500 Britons, all holiday makers, were flown to various points in Switzerland.

To carry out this operation, Swissair had operated six extra services, in addition to the normal eight scheduled flights.

NEWS FROM THE LEGATION.

The Swiss Minister and Madame de Torrenté have left for Switzerland. They will be away until the beginning of October.

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