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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

The Federal Council has appointed Dr. Fritz Hegg, at present Swiss Minister at Tel Aviv, to the post of Minister in Hungary.

Minister Hegg was born in Berne in 1903, and is a citizen of Münchenbuchsee (Ct. Berne). He studied law at the Universities of Berne, Munich and Florence, and entered the service of the Confederation in 1931. Dr. Hegg has successively occupied posts at Besançon, Montreal, Toronto, Oslo and Stockholm.

In 1946 he was appointed Chargé d'Affaires and later on Minister at Helsinki. After a short stay at the Federal Political Department (Swiss Foreign Office) he was appointed in 1954 Minister at Tel Aviv.

* * *

Monsieur Felix Schnyder, since 1954 1st Counsellor of Legation at the Swiss Legation in Washington, has been appointed Minister in Tel Aviv.

Minister Schnyder was born in Burgdorf and is a citizen of Kriens (Ct. Lucerne). He studied law at the University of Berne and afterwards occupied various posts in commercial concerns.

In 1940 he entered the service of the Federal Political Department and successively occupied posts in Moscow, Berlin and Washington. On his promotion to Counsellor of Legation in 1949 he was nominated head of the "Swiss Delegation" in Berlin. Since 1954 Minister Schnyder has functioned as 1st collaborator to the Minister in Washington.

* * *

The Federal Council has nominated Monsieur Pierre Dupont, Counsellor of Legation, to the post of Swiss Minister to Venezuela and Panama with residence at Caracas.

Minister Dupont was born at Geneva in 1912. He studied law and qualified as a barrister. In 1939 he entered the service of the Federal Political Department and was sent to the Legation in Paris as Attaché. Five years later (1944) he was transferred to Brussels. In 1948 he became a member of the Swiss Delegation

at the "Organisation for European Economic Co-operation" (O.E.E.C.). In 1953 Monsieur Dupont was recalled to Berne where he was put in charge of the Finance Section at the Federal Political Department.

* * *

The American Ambassador in Berne, Miss F. Willis, has been transferred to Oslo. She will be succeeded by Mr. Henry J. Taylor. The new Ambassador was born in 1902 at Chicago, and is at present head of the Chemical Bank and Trust Company of New York; formerly a journalist and radio commentator he is not a career diplomat.

* * *

Monsieur Luis Gonzales Barros, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the Republic of Columbia, has presented his credentials to Dr. H. Streuli, President of the Swiss Confederation, and M. Max Petitpierre, Swiss Foreign Minister, at the Palais Fédéral in Berne.

* * *

The Swiss Federal Railways carried 17.3 million passengers in February 1957, or 300,000 more than during the same period in 1956. Receipts: 21.8 million francs (February 1956: 21.5 million francs).

Goods traffic is returned as 1.95 million tons, which exceeds last year's figures by 410,000 tons. Receipts: 38.8 million francs (February 1956: 34.5 million francs).

Cantonal

A messenger left for a moment a brief-case containing 17,970 frs. in cash at the counter of the post office, Fraumünster, Zurich, in order to put a letter in the letter box; when he returned the brief-case had gone and another had been put in its place. [A.T.S.]

CITY SWISS CLUB

MONTHLY MEETING.

Thursday, May 9th, 1957 at 6.30 for 7 o'clock
at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1,
followed by a causerie illustrated with slides given
by M. Nicole and entitled "Franchir les alpes
avec élégance".

L. A. CHAPUIS,
Hon. Secretary.