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throughout the whole of its use. The dishes stay hot therefore, even in the open air. The scratch-proof hot-plate is designed so that the dishes cannot slip. This appliance requires no special maintenance and it is sufficient to change the gas-bottle from time to time. As these dish-warmers (effective work area 33 x 18 cm) can be fitted one on top of the other, they are particularly suitable for use in hotels.

ELECTRONIC SYSTEM FOR RAILWAYS

A new electronic system for measuring distances and speeds on railways has been developed by a specialised firm in Berne (Switzerland). The Teloc-E system consists of a series of appliances forming a modular unit capable of being combined with tachometers and small, complex instrument board calculators. An impulse frequency — proportional to the speed of the wheel and corrected according to changes in diameter — serves as the measuring base. The system makes it possible to solve practically all operations connected with the indication, recording and processing of distance covered, speed and acceleration. It has already been adopted for trains on the Vienna underground, among others.

BIG ORDER FOR A SWISS CONCERN

J. Bobst and Sons Co., Ltd. at Prilly-Lausanne (Vaud, Switzerland), in co-operation with its American company, has just been awarded a big order for Brazil. The machines involved are four rotogravure presses and converting machines for the making of packages, totalling 8 million Swiss francs in all. In order to ensure rapid delivery of these machines, the Swiss firm will construct them partly in its works at Prilly and partly in its American works. The loan of 50 million Swiss francs, granted to consumer goods to Brazil, helped to conclude this contract.

THE "SOCIETE SUISSE POUR L'INDUSTRIE HORLOGERE" IN THE USA

The American company HWM Industries Inc. has just sold 83 per cent of the shares of its subsidiary, Hamilton Watch Co., Inc., in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA, to the Société suisse pour l'industrie horlogère SA (SSIH) in Geneva. As this big Swiss watch holding company, which includes Omega and Tissot, already owned 17 per cent of the American company's shares, it becomes, with immediate effect, the sole owner. In 1971 SSIH had already bought the Hamilton brand for all countries with the exception of the United States and Canada. The purchase of all the shares of Hamilton Watch Co., USA, will enable it in future to apply a truly integrated marketing policy and to promote the brand on a world scale.

SWISS BOOKS IN ALGERIA

The Association of Booksellers and Publishers of French-speaking Switzerland, in Lausanne, signed an agreement at the beginning of this year with the National Algerian Publishing and Distribution Association providing, on the one hand, for the holding of an exhibition of Swiss books in Algeria and the sale of the books exhibited in Algerian bookshops and, on the other hand, the organisation of an exhibition of Algerian books in Switzerland. As far as Swiss books are concerned, the transaction covers in a first stage over 350 titles, representing 6,000 copies in all and a value of 100,000 francs. The agreement signed with the Algerian Association should open up the way to similar transactions with other French-speaking African countries; in addition, the Committee for the Co-ordination of Swiss Books Abroad is considering the organisation in the Maghreb countries of an itinerant exhibition representative of Swiss publishing as a whole.

RESEARCH IN THE SWISS CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Switzerland is the only country in the world where the part played by private industry in scientific research is so much larger than that played by official circles: private enterprise in fact covers three-quarters of the whole of the costs involved. The chemical industry alone accounts for about two-thirds of this remarkably high participation on the part of the Swiss private economy. It is estimated that the amounts invested by the three big Basle chemical firms both in Switzerland and by their affiliated companies abroad work out at 7 million francs per working day, i.e. nearly 2 billion francs per year. The dynamism of the Swiss chemical industry is also evident in the statistics concerning patents. Of the 4,669 patents for chemical products taken out between 1st January, 1972, and 30th September, 1973, by the ten largest chemical firms in the world, 1,105 were lodged by Swiss firms, i.e. 23.5 per cent. First come three West German firms with 1,174 patents, followed by Switzerland (1,105), the United States (939) and Great Britain (851). In the order by firms, Bayer (Germany) tops the list with 812 patents registered. Switzerland comes 2nd, 9th and 10th with Ciba-Geigy (650), Sandoz (230) and Hoffmann-La Roche (225).

NEWS FROM THE COLONY

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GROUP RESOURCES EXCEED £500,000,000

GLORIA VANOLI'S HARPSICHORD RECITAL

On Wednesday, 3rd July, the Swiss artist Gloria Vanoli gave a harpsichord recital at the Swiss Church in London. The concert was under the auspices of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique and in conjunction with the International Liszt Centre for 19th century music in London.

Miss Vanoli was born and brought up in Chur, Switzerland and studied music with Sava Savoff in Zurich and under Isabelle Nef at the Geneva Conservatoire where she graduated with the harpsichord diploma. Next followed studies in Paris with Huguette Dreyfus and Laurence Boulav. She left the Paris Conservatoire with great honours.

When Miss Vanoli studied English harpsichord music in London two years ago, she ordered a new harpsichord from

the studio of David Rubio at Duns Tew near Oxford. She collected it prior to her recital at the Swiss Church, and the truly beautiful instrument was played on in public for the first time. The pale-blue background of the raised dais made an excellent setting for the harpsichord, and the golden letters *Quod Cantus Florere Facit* glittered in the gentle light.

The programme was a varied one, consisting of Scarlatti and Solèr sonatas, Couperin, Rameau and Bach, Handel and Bartok. Miss Vanoli played with great musicality and skill, although it was at times apparent that she was not yet quite familiar with the new instrument, especially as this model had no pedals at all and was adjusted entirely by hand. This was perhaps most noticeable in the Bach Italian Concerto.

On the other hand, Couperin's "La Convalescente" and "Le tic-toc Choc ou les Maillotins" were pure delight. The Bartok Three Romanian Dances which ended the programme, were most expertly rendered and obviously pleased the appreciative audience greatly.

One can but hope to hear Miss Vanoli again on her next visit to England.

M.G.

Departure

Our compatriot *Samuel Plattner*, who had been Correspondent of the "Tages Anzeiger" in London for four years, is leaving London to work on the Foreign Desk at his paper's head office in Zurich. Mr. Plattner was President of the Foreign Press Association. A reception to mark his departure was held at the

Association's premises at Carlton House Terrace, and a 19th century engraving of the building was offered to him as a parting gift by the new president of the Association. Before starting work again, Mr. Plattner and his wife will tour the Middle East for three months. He is succeeded in London by Mr. F. Brunner, a young journalist who has worked six years as Middle East Specialist on the "Tages Anzeiger's" Foreign Desk.

Reception

A reception was held at the Embassy on 21st June following a concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in which Andrej Lütschg was the leading violinist at the première of a *Violin Concerto* by Wladimir Vogel, a living Swiss composer. This performer and a great number of personalities from the world of arts and journalism attended the reception. From the accounts gathered, we understand that the ultra-modern *Violin Concerto* moved a minority of people, and that the evening was redeemed by Ravel's "Mother Goose Suite" and Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony".

Church News

Pastor Marcel Dietler, the former minister at the German-Swiss Church in London, met with his old parishioners at Endell Street on 9th July. His wife Fräni was with him for this friendly reunion. At their last Parish Council held in June, members of the German-Swiss Church were told that Pastor Jordi would be replacing Pastor Stefan during his July

holidays. Pastor Stefan had introduced a discussion on the future of the Swiss parish and its community in London. Similar questions were asked at the June parish council meeting of the French-speaking church, where the value of work among the Youth Club was reassessed. That meeting was the last one to be chaired by *Mr. Jacques de Reyland*, who is to take charge of a parish in Quebec Province, Canada. Your Editor was elected as new Chairman on the proposal of Mr. Jean Bader, President of the Consistoire. Another development in the Swiss church was the illness of Mrs. Nicole Languillat, Pastor Michel Languillat's sister, who had to be sent to hospital in France. Her illness caused the advanced departure of Mr. Languillat on holiday. He will be away until the beginning of August. Problems and queries can in his absence be addressed to Pastor Marcel Christinat, 01-445-1501.

SWISS NATIONAL DAY COLLECTION 1974

For decades, the first of August has been celebrated as National Day in order to remember the founding of the Swiss Confederation. The National Day should remind us, too, of the precious heritage we have and of the responsibilities such a possession implies. Every year, the Fund of the National Day organises a collection by selling special stamps and patriotic badges, the proceeds of which is allocated to a worthy cause. This year, it will be shared between needy mothers and homes for the old and those in need of care.

One is apt to say that there is no need to make special collections in these times of affluence and the welfare state. Yet, the need is indeed great for overworked mothers who cannot cope with their families due to bad health and other reasons. And nobody will deny that old age has its very real problems which should be the responsibility of every one of us.

So please, give generously and wear the attractive badge proudly in the knowledge that solidarity between the Swiss at home and abroad is no empty word.

M.M.



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Obituaries

ADRIENNE CHAPUIS

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mrs. Adrienne Chapuis on 29th June. She was 82 on 1st June and died peacefully after a short illness. She was born in Paris and came to this country at the age of 17. She met her husband, Louis, on holiday on the South Coast, and they married in 1918.

Louis and Adrienne Chapuis were a very happy couple, and she helped him in his career in an admirable way. She loved entertaining, and their home was a very