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# FAREWELL TO A LOYAL FRIEND



Mr. P-A. Ramseyer, First Secretary at the Swiss Embassy in London for the last few years is now moving to Mexico.

It is with great regret that The *Swiss Observer*, on behalf of its readers and friends, bids farewell to Mr. P-A. Ramseyer from our Embassy in London.

Mr. Ramseyer has been first secretary there in charge of press relations, information, legal affairs and politics since 1974. He is quite well known to many of the community as an erudite and interesting speaker at functions organised by various societies. Most recently he delivered a beautifully researched lecture on the new Canton Jura to the Nouvelle Société Helvétique.

But it is probably Mr. Ramseyer's many friends in the British and foreign

press who will be most sorry to see him go. He has done much over the years to establish and develop a good working relationship with journalists of many different disciplines. What better tribute could be paid to him than the fact that these journalists regarded him with affection and respect, knowing that any request for information would be promptly and meticulously dealt with. In that sense alone he has done a tremendous public relations job for Switzerland.

But what of the man himself? I am sure he will not mind being described as a cultured man who has enjoyed his stay in London partly because of the cultural facilities of which he has been able to avail himself. He is well known as a music lover.

But there is much more to him than that. Born in Versoix, near Geneva where his grandfather settled from his native Emmental in 1866, Mr. Ramseyer pursued a notably academic legal career before joining Switzerland's Foreign Service.

He was educated in Paris and at "Le Collège" in Geneva where, in 1961 he took his "licence en droit" at the university. He then spent two terms at New York University law school to prepare for the certificate of international comparative law. From 1963 until he entered the foreign service in 1966 Mr. Ramseyer practised law and was called to the Geneva bar.

His foreign service began at the Swiss Embassy in Bonn as a trainee and subsequently took him to India, back to Berne and thence to London. His new assignment is to Mexico where we hope he will find further success and contentment.

The *Swiss Observer* also owes Mr. Ramseyer a debt. For some years he has served on its advisory council, frequently offering good advice and sensible suggestions. We thank him. W.G.S.

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## SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY'S AGM

employment Office in Zürich for their constant help and encouragement.

Acting as Chairman *pro tem* for the election of the Council and the Committees for the ensuing year, Mr. A. Jaccard thanked the President and Chairman of the Education Committee, Mr. F. O. Hausermann, and all the other members concerned, including the staff, for their valued services during the past year.

All members having declared their willingness to continue in office for another year were declared duly elected, with Mr. J. F. Meyer as an additional member of the Education Committee.

A motion that Mr. A. Jaccard, former President and Hon. Member of the S.K.V. and the London Section, be appointed a Trustee and *ex officio* a member of the Council, was adopted unanimously with acclamation.

The proceedings then terminated.

W.B.

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