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NEWS AT RANDOM

Federal

Sir Patrick Scrivener was received at the Palais Fédéral in Berne, where he submitted to M. Ph. Etter, President of the Swiss Confederation, his letters of credence as Ambassador of Britain.

Monsieur Victor Doré, formerly Canadian Minister, accredited to the Confederation, has presented his credentials as Ambassador to M. Ph. Etter, President of the Swiss Confederation.

Monsieur Luang Vichit Vadakan, the newly appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the Kingdom of Thailand, has presented his credentials to Dr. Phillip Etter, President of the Swiss Confederation.

A career diplomat and historian, Monsieur Vadakan was until recently Thailand Ambassador in New Delhi.

The Federal Council has accepted the resignation of Mr. Max Schwab "Direktionspräsident der Schweizerischen Verrechnungsstelle", Zurich thanking him for the services he has rendered. Mr. Robert Kohli has been appointed as his successor, who is at present Swiss Minister in Belgrade.

M. Kohli was born in 1896, and hails from Rüschegg (Ct. Berne). He entered into the service of the Confederation (Foreign Office) in 1918, and in 1941 was promoted to the rank of Counsellor of Legation. Monsieur Kohli was for several years a permanent member of the Swiss Delegation for foreign trade negotiations. In 1945, he was appointed Swiss Minister at the Hague, and since 1949, has held the post of Swiss Minister in Belgrade.

During March 1953, the Swiss Federal Railways carried 16.88 million passengers, which is 1.27 million less than during the same period in 1952. (Receipts 23.64 million francs; 1952: 24.46 million francs).

Goods traffic also shows a set-back, 1.60 million tons having been carried, which is 28,000 tons less than in March, 1952. (Receipts: 30.50 million francs, March; 1952: 31.25 million francs).

Customs Duties during the month of April, 1953, amounted to 58.8 million francs, which are 5.5 million francs more than in April, 1952.

During the first four months of the current year altogether 143.5 million francs have been collected, or 7.5 million francs more than during the same period in 1952.

Cantonal

The "Schweizerische Kaufmännische Verein" held its Annual General Meeting, which coincided with the 80th anniversary of its foundation, in Zurich. About 2,000 members attended, amongst them various Delegations from abroad. Federal-Councillor R. Rubattel was one of the official speakers. [A.T.S.]

The "Arms and Armour Society" of Great Britain has nominated Dr. Hugo Schneider, Conservator of the "Schweiz. Landesmuseum" Zurich, an Honorary Member. [A.T.S.]



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