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BIRTHDAYS

We have just heard that Mr. A. G. Kiener celebrated his 82nd birthday on 5th March. He came from Yverdon in 1904 and served with the Swiss Bank until 1951. He can still be seen fairly regularly in the Woking area, riding his moped. *Ad multos annos!*

The following subscribers will be celebrating their birthdays within the next fortnight:

On 15th March: Mr. Frank Conrad (71); on 17th March: Mr. Raymond Chappuis (71) and Dr. H. W. Egli; on 23rd March: Dr. G. Schuerch, President of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad.

We wish them and any other readers whose birthdays fall within the coming weeks, many happy returns of the day.

ALPINE SUN FOR BRITISH CHILDREN

In November 1956, a society was founded for the purpose of providing convalescence in the Swiss Alps for British children suffering from asthmatic, bronchial and sinus troubles. So far, some 160 children have been able to benefit from a three months' stay at an Arosa Convalescence Home. They have been able to regain good health which had eluded them previously, for they had failed to respond to hospital, clinical and convalescent treatment in this country. The children are carefully selected, and no charge is made, but parents must provide reasonable proof of their inability to pay costs themselves.

The purely charitable society is under the patronage of the Swiss Ambassador in Great Britain and the British Ambassador in Switzerland. The President is Lt.-General Sir Archibald Nye, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., K.C.B., K.B.E., M.C., and the Chairman is Mr. Anthony Cripps, D.S.O., T.D., Q.C.

The scheme can be warmly recommended, and donations are gratefully received by the Hon. Administrator Mr. Alan J. Gowing, 8 Rowan Walk, Bromley, Kent. (Incidentally, he is a subscriber to the "Swiss Observer", and his wife is of Swiss extraction.) Any donations in Switzerland may be sent to the Hon. Assistant Treasurer, Mr. H. Hofmann, Schweizerische Bodenkredit Anstalt, Zurich.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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We are most grateful for their kind and welcome support.

TRAINING AIRCRAFT CRASH

On 10th February, a training aircraft, the twin-engined Metropolitan HB-IMF crashed in mist in the Legern district, between Baden and Kloten. The four occupants, Captain Enrico Matossi (40) and the three flying pupils Albert Mueller, Rolf Manz (both 27) and Walter Mischler (24) were killed. The aeroplane was completely torn to pieces.

Swissair's safety record is a very high one; during the past 13 years, there have been four accidents with loss of life. In June 1954, a Convair-240 crashed in the Channel (loss of three passengers). The crew of four were killed when a Convair-440 Metropolitan crashed on delivery flight between U.S.A. and Europe.

Three years later, a training aircraft DC13 crashed into the Lake of Constance, and the crew of nine lost their lives.

In September 1957, the most tragic accident ever in the annals of Swissair took place near Duerrenaesch when a Caravelle crashed with 80 people on board.

[A.T.S.]

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