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totalled 1,005.4 million francs, 13.3 million of which consisted supplementary benefits for accidental death. It should be pointed out that 2,119 of the policy holders who died had paid less than three annual premiums amounting in all to 2.6 million francs, their beneficiaries while received payments totalling 48.9 million. Life assurance benefits do not however refer only to cases of death. In fact, many insured persons still alive on the expiry of their policy also receive benefits from their company. This is the savings aspect of insurance, which makes an appreciable contribution to easing the situation in old age. The importance of this form of saving is obvious when one considers that of the total of 1,005.4 million francs paid out by Swiss insurers, 211 million only was paid as a result of death. No less than million francs was paid to

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## A New EDITOR for **Che Swiss Observer**

The Advisory Council of "The Swiss Observer" regrets to announce that the Editor wishes to resign shortly. This interesting position is therefore offered to any man or woman, Swiss or other national thoroughly familiar with Switzerland, who is interested in Swiss problems, political and economic life, education and culture and anything which occurs in Switzerland.

Knowledge of German and/or French and the ability to write in English are essential. Close co-operation with Swiss organisations in London and the U.K. and some administrative work are part of the job.

For further information please contact . . . Oscar F. Boehringer, 55 Woodstock Road, London NW11 8QD.

policy-holders still alive. To this amount should be added 179.2 million francs paid by way of life annuities and 66.2 million compensation for sickness and disablement.

International Conference on the Safety of Life at Sea

fourth International Con-The ference on Safety of Life at Sea was held for a week at the end of October in London. Convened by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO), it was attended by delegations from 67 countries with the representatives from the International

Organisation Labour and the International Telecommunications Union and observers from 9 non-governmental bodies with shipping and maritime interests.

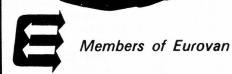
Switzerland was represented by Dr. Albert Weitnauer, Swiss Ambassador in London, and Mr. René Serex, First Secretary of the Swiss Embassy.

As a result of its deliberations, the Conference adopted the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, which incorporates new regulations on fire protection for passenger ships and tankers and on the carriage of grain in bulk, and a more speedy procedure for adopting future amendments and bringing them into force.

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