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Autor: Thalmann, Ernesto
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We bid welcome to our new Ambassador

Our new Ambassador has arrived. On behalf of us all, the Swiss Observer bids warm welcome to His Excellency Dr. Ernesto Thalmann and Mrs. Thalmann.

In spite of the numerous calls on his time, Mr. Thalmann has kindly written an introductory message for us.

A personal profile will appear in our next issue.

WGS

I am very grateful indeed to the *Swiss Observer* for giving me the opportunity of making contact with my fellow-countrymen in Great Britain.

May I say first of all how happy I am to be Swiss Ambassador to the Court of St. James's. My wife and I have always wanted to serve in London one day and we are both delighted that our wish has come true.

As you know, your former Ambassador, my dear friend and colleague Albert Weitnauer, has taken over the post I held for five years in Berne, and thus we have made a sort of switch. Ambassador Weitnauer's experiences in this country will be of use in his new assignment, just as my previous activities at headquarters will, I hope, be helpful in my new capacity as head of mission in London.

My first duty here will undoubtedly be to foster diplomatic and political relations with the authorities of my host country. I shall also have to do my best to maintain and if possible increase the excellent contacts that already exist between Switzerland and the United Kingdom in all the important aspects of international life which, as you know, cover a whole range of subjects including cultural and scientific questions, the economy, finance, the Press and social affairs.

And last, but certainly not least, I shall be keeping in touch with my compatriots, the members of the Swiss colony, who have contributed – and are still contributing – so much to the good name of Switzerland and the Swiss.

My wife and I are looking forward to meeting you all as soon as this can be arranged. In the meantime, please accept our cordial greetings and very best wishes.

Ernesto Thalmann.



His Excellency Dr. Ernesto Thalmann, newly appointed Swiss Ambassador to London.

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