VIIth Annual Report (1922) of the nouvelle societe helvetique

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VIIth ANNUAL REPORT [1922] NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

In presenting you the 7th Annual Report of our Group, and following the same plan as customary, I find under the heading "Membership" that, against 545 members on January 1st, 1922, there were 480 at the beginning of 1923. This loss of 65 members is mostly due to departures from England for the Continent or oversea countries.

- 1. The PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE made endeavours, in the spring of 1922, to increase the membership by sending out special invitations for our March concert to several hundreds of young Swiss who had come over here recently. In the latter part of the year no special efforts were made to increase our membership, as it was found that many of those young people could not afford more than the minimum contribution, which means an actual loss to the treasury on every member.
 - 2. The COMMITTEE met 13 times.
 - The COUNCIL met 11 times. 3.
- 2. The COUNCIL met 13 times.

 3. The COUNCIL met 11 times.

 4. LIBRARY, BOOKS FOR SALE, PAPERS AND REVIEWS.—(a) The Library has increased by 82 books and now numbers 795 volumes. 69 books have been asked for by about 20 different people, and 24 reviews by four different people. Our Library has, therefore, been more frequented this year than it was last. One of our most constant readers is a young Englishman who uses our Library to furnish himself with information for lectures which he gives on Switzerland. He has given no less than-six so far. An appendix of the acquisitions to our Library in 1921 was made in the beginning of the year and was distributed to the members of the Press Committee. (b) Books for Sale: We sold 13 books and pamphlets, amounting to the value of about £1. We have still a stock of more than 250 books and pamphlets for sale, the prices of which have roughly been reduced by one-half. Price-lists, containing the reduced figures, have been repeatedly offered to our members. Suggestions as to how to get rid of this stock will be welcomed. (c) Papers and Reviews: During this year we have received regularly about 34 Swiss, American, French and English reviews and papers, only 14 of which are paid for by us, the remainder being given gratuitously Some are kindly given us by members who subscribe to them. (d) In connection with the above, thanks have to be rendered for gifts received to: Mr. A. Baume, Dr. A. Daeniker, Mr. G. Dimier, Mr. J. Emmenceger, Information Office of Lugano, Dr. Paul Lang, Mr. H. Martin, Office Suisse du Tourisme, Polyglot Printing Co., Pro Juventute, Mr. R. Renou, Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger, Swiss Bank Corporation, 'Swiss Observer,' Dr. C. Urech, 'Vorort,' Union Helvetia, Mr. P. Walser, Dr. W. Wegelin, Mr. Jean Baer.
- 5. Events of the Year and Gatherings of E Group.—

Feb. 17.—Annual General Meeting.
 Mar. 22.—Public Concert and Address by the Secretary.
 April 21.—Lecture, Dr. J. Zollinger: "Die deutschschweizerischen Mundarten; ihre Entwicklung und ihr Verhältnis zur neuhochdeutschen Schriftsprache."

ihr Verhältnis zur neuhochdeutschen Schriftsprache."
May 26.—Lecture, Dr. Paul Lang: "The Attitude of
the British Foreign Office towards Switzerland during the 19th Century."
June 15.—Soirée annuelle Suisse.
June 24.—Participation of the Group in the League of
Nations Union Hyde Park Demonstration—Speaker,
Professor E. Borel.
Sept. 29.—Dinner at Pagani's, with intermediate report
by the President and addresses by Dr. James Vallotton and Dr. A. Koch.
Oct. 27.—Lecture, Dr. Paul Lang: "Die gegenwärtige
deutschschweizerische Dialektdichtung."
Nov. 24.—Lecture, Dr. W. Wegelin: "Financial Reforms in Switzerland" (Resolution on Capital Levy
Initiative).

Initiative).

Dec. 15.—Lecture, Professor E. Borel: "Problèmes Internationaux dans l'Histoire Suisse."

Dec. 15.—Lecture, Professor E. Borel: "Problèmes Internationaux dans l'Histoire Suisse."

6. Lectures—Owing to the reduced budget we had no lecturer from abroad this year, but fortunately we had again a lecture by Professor E. Borel on "Problèmes Internationaux dans l'Histoire Suisse." Our members, too, gave the Secretary far greater assistance in this way than last year. We had two ectures by two members, one in German, and one in English. a French lecture, also to be given by a member, had, unfortunately, to be put off owing to the unexpected departure of this gentleman. Two lectures were given by the Secretary, one in English, and one in Schwyzerditisch—this also a novelty.

We had rather bad luck with our lecture half, steinway Hall having had to be abandoned for financial reasons, and the accousties of the new hall being far from satisfactory. We are on the lookout for a better hall for 1923. If we had no visitors to give us a lecture, we had at least two very interesting addresses from two Swiss gentlemen, Dr. J. Vallotton and Dr. Koch, who spoke at our dinner in September. This was such a success—there being 170 participants—that it has encouraged the Council to anticipate more arrangements of a similar kind, as they seem to meet a desire on the part of the members. The reading of an intermediate report by the President at this dinner helped many of our members to realise more clearly than by reading the Secretary's reports in "The Swiss Observer" the exact situation of the Group, which must henceforth, more than ever, rely on the active support of the average member, as many of the donors have been unable to assist us any further.

The programme for next year anticipates a lecture by a distinguished Swiss scholar, Prof. F. Zschokke, who will be the first exchange professor to a British University.

7. LECTURES OTHER THAN TO THE GROUP.—The Secretary repeated lectures to the Bradford and Manchester Groups in the spring and autumn. He gave a German lecture on "The History and Aims of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique" to the Swiss Y.M.C.A., and one, on January 13th, in Schwyzerditisch to the same association on "The Swiss Poet Paul Haller." He also addressed them on our National Thanksgiving Day. On November 28th he delivered another lecture in German on "Carl Spitteler" to the Union of German Societies, that is to say, the students of the

Seminaries of German Literature of the University of

Seminaries of German Lindanies of London.

The Secretariat provided the Manchester Group with documentation for a discussion on the Zones Problem. It also provided a Swiss and an English gentleman with documentation for lectures.

Our members, Mr. G. Dimier, the Rev. Hoffmannde Visme, Mr. C. Kiefer and Mr. A. Renou spoke to different audiences about things Swiss.

6. Our Relations with other Groups, Socie-and Institutions.—

8. OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER GROUPS, SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS...

(a) Groups: We are in constant touch with the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger and a number of the Groups abroad, but in particular with those in England, which are visited twice yearly by the Secretary. During the past year we have had to congratulate new Groups on their foundation on several occasions. There are now 85 Groups abroad, which means an increase of about 20 during the last year. From a number of them we receive regularly printed bulletins and newspapers. They all get monthly circulars from us, containing summaries of the proceedings of the Council and short notes on the lectures and other arrangements of the Group. We are glad to say that we are sometimes visited by members of other Groups, who bring us greetings from home.

It is very satisfactory for us to watch the growing extension of the Auslandschweizer movement which our Group has fostered this year especially as regards its extension to California and Australia. The foundation of the Parliamentary Group for Swiss Abroad, which came about in December, thanks to the untiring endeavours of prominent members of the Auslandschweizer Committee and the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger, has at last given the claims of Swiss Abroad a proper channel through which legislation at home can be efficiently influenced. It is now up to the Swiss Abroad to formulate their 'desiderata' more precisely than ever, but at the same time to prove that they are ever willing to fulfil their obligations towards the mother country. Greater rights involve greater duties.

(b) Swiss Legation and Swiss Societies in London Our relations with the Swiss Legation are of the very

une Swiss Abroad to formulate their 'desiderata' move precisely than ever, but at the same time to prove that they are ever willing to fulfil their obligations towards the mother country. Greater rights involve greater duties.

(b) Swiss Legation and Swiss Societies in London: Our relations with the Swiss Legation are of the very best. We have on different occasions been called upon to assist it, and have in return received assistance from it. Equally good are our relations with the other Swiss Societies in London. We are often invited by these fellow-societies to attend their meetings and dinners, and we shall also, as soon as our finances permit, extend our invitations in this latter respect more freely than we have been able to do in the past. "The Swiss Observer," of course, helps a good deal towards fastening these ties, keeping us, as it does, exactly informed on everything which happens in the Colony. We have all welcomed its increase in size and its improvement in different respects. On the other hand, we are sorry to tell you that the "Anglo-Swiss Review," which fostered the improvement of the relations between the two countries in an effective way and with which the Secretariat has been in constant touch, became bankrupt during the last few months. During the course of the year the Secretary wrote several times to this review about the doings of the Colony. I also regret to inform you that the "Neue Schweizer Zeitung" has ceased to exist.

The Council has at different times tried to speak as kind of embryo Parlament of the Colony, thus, when it passed the Resolution on the Initiative of the Heraldic Society, regarding the abuse of the Swiss mblem abroad; when it discussed the Marriculation Card and the Military Tax, in connection with the article published by Mr. Aguet in the "Echo Suisse"; and when it adopted a resolution, backing up the suggestion that the Auslandschweizerta should be developed in such a way as to include an Auslandschweizer pavillion or stall which will be erected at the forthcomin

9. Committees.-

9. COMMITTEES.—
(a) Art Commission: (Members, Dr. C. Paravicini, President: Mr. F. Beyli, Reporter: Mr. T. Ritter, Mr. T. Schaerer, Dr. W. Weibel and Mr. G. Wuthrich. This Commission continued to consider the project to hold a first-class Art Exhibition in London. Professor Paul Ganz, our Commissioner, succeeded in forming a Committee of Experts in Switzerland and has entered into communication with the Directors of the different Museums from which we hope to get pictures. The Federal Council has been induced to allow the members of the Federal Art Committee to participate in the meetings of Professor Ganz's Commission in Switzerland, with a view to selecting the pictures. It has been decided that works belonging to the Confederation will be sent to London, provided that the Directors of the Cantonal Museums will agree to do likewise. The Federal Council has finally taken a decision to the effect that it will defray expenses of the Federal Delegates to this Jury. In view of the great stagnation of

business, which now reigns in the City, the Art Commission is waiting for a definite programme from Switzerland before it will look out for the necessary funds. If these can be guaranteed from London within a reasonable time, the scheme will be pushed further become

a reasonable time, the sense.

(b) The Budget Commission activities will be dealt the our Treasurer's report. The members are: in our Treasurer's report. rs. Joss, Gamper and Suter.

(c) Entertainment Committee: (Members, Méssrs. Despond, C. Kiefer and A. F. Suter.) This Committee has excellently prepared the March concert and also the September dinner, which was unanimously considered a very great success. It will have even greater opportunities of displaying its qualities during the next

opportunities of displaying its quanties during the next year.

(d) Entr'Aide Committee: (Members, Mr. J. Ffaendler, President; Messrs. C. Bertschinger, E. Buser, J. Hausermann, C. Kiefer, P. Preisig and H. Roost.) This Committee had a meeting in February, 1922. Information was exchanged on the situation of the younger members of our Colony. It was decided that the Committee, although there was no practical work it could do at the moment, should from time to time meet informally in order to exchange their experiences, as all the members have to deal with young people professionally in one way or another. In March it adopted a resolution which was transmitted to the Swiss Press, to warn people against coming to this country without having sufficient funds, several recent cases having shown that public opinion in Switzerland was not sufficiently informed as to the extent of unemployment in this country.

(e) Financial Committee: (Members, Messrs. A. F.

was not sufficiently informed as to the extent of unemployment in this country.

(e) Financial Committee: (Members, Messrs. A. F. Suter and G. Wuthrich.) This Committee has worked hard to find the necessary income for the coming year, a task difficult for outsiders to appreciate. It has deserved our heartiest thanks.

(f) Press Committee: (Members, Dr. F. Bodmer, Mr. J. H. Buchi, Dr. E. Gerwig, Miss A. H. Reutiner, Dr. E. Schwegler, Dr. W. Wegelin, Dr. W. Weibel, Dr. E. Zehnder and Dr. Paul Lang, Reporter.) The Press Committee, which was in part reconstituted this year, owing to the departure of several of its members, was asked to pay particular attention to the Hyde Park Demonstration of the League of Nations Union of June 24th, when writing to their different papers. Two articles appeared, telling our people at home the part played by the London Colony in this demonstration. It had one meeting on October 5th, the purpose of which was to consider how the members of this Committee could best assist the Secretary in its campaign for the upkeep of the Secretary in 1923. The members present engaged themselves to send out about 20 articles to different papers and reviews, which would convey to the whole country the activities of the Group in London and what it expects to do in the near future. Fifteen articles appeared, written by seven different correspondents. One article appeared in a bi-lingual review, nine in German-Swiss papers, and five in papers of French-speaking Switzerland. The Press Committee expressed their willingness to be convened by the Secretary as soon as he thought they might do useful work for the Group. The Secretary is, of course, in constant private touch with practically all the members.

(g) Propaganda Committee: (Members, Mr. F. Emmermann, President: Mr. J. H. Buchi, Dr. E.

is, of course, in constant private touch with practically all the members.

(g) Propaganda Committee: (Members, Mr. F. Zimmermann. President: Mr. J. H. Buchi, Dr. E. Schwegler, Mr. T. Weber and Dr. Wegelin.) This Committee suggested that a special invitation leaflet, giving a resume of the advantages offered by the London Group, should be sent out to prospective members along with the invitations to the concert in March, and this was accordingly done. The leaflet was printed in three languages, and a number of them were sent to the Legation, the different Consulates and to some members of ours for distribution to newcomers. During the remainder of the year the Propaganda Committee considered a scheme to found a Junior Section in order to meet the wish, expressed by younger members, to have an opportunity of meeting more informally than is possible at lectures. The scheme for such a section was abandoned, however, partly owing to a certain reluctance on the part of the Committee osupport it in the form in which it was presented, and partly also because the Propaganda Committee was not prepared to take the matter up on a new basis. There is now, however, a vague hope that such informal meetings may still be arranged.

(h) Delegates to the Swiss Club House Committee.

mal meetings may still be arranged.

(h) Delegates to the Swiss Club House Committee: (Messrs. T. Ritter and G. Wuthrich.) The Club House Committee, having made extensive enquiries as to the readiness of the Swiss Societies in London to have a Central Club House, arranged a meeting in June, after having received satisfactory answers. It was decided at that meeting that the scheme should be pursued further, and the Societies which had declared their readiness to do so were invited to send new delegates with power to proceed in the matter. Messrs, T. Ritter and G. Wuthrich were accordingly appointed to this definite Committee on September 20th.

(i) Delegates to the Swiss Sports Committee: (Members, Messrs, E. Bech, E. Bloch and F. Golay.) This delegation, stogether with delegates from other Swiss Societies, organised an excellent afternoon of sports at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds on May 27th.

(j) League of Nations Union Sub-Committee:

sports at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds on May 27th.

(j) League of Nations Union Sub-Committee: (Members, Messrs. F. J. Borsinger, J. Buchi. E. Buser, Dr. A. Daeniker, Mr. J. R. Goetz, Rev. Hoffmann-de Visme, Dr. Paul Lang, Miss A. Reutiner and Mr. F. Treuthard.) This Committee, which had been in abeyance for some time, was reconstituted in the course of the year. Its inaugural meeting took place on January 17th, 1923. This Committee will in future act as a link between the Legation and the Swiss Colony on the one hand, and the League of Nations Union on the other. At the same time, it will act as an intermediary between the League of Nations Union in this country and that of Switzerland. A large International Art Exhibition being contemplated by the League of Nations Union in the Nations Union in the Royal Academy at the end of 1923, this Committee is at least sure not to lack scope.

10. STAFF OF THE SECRETARIAT.—The Secretary had during the year the untiring help of Miss Crawford and, until May, Miss Muller's assistance for one day in the week, and later on for three days a week. During the second part of the year he was thus able to have much more copying done than previously, which he required particularly for the launching of the literary page of "The Swiss Observer."

11. Propaganda Work.—Excepting the invitation to the March concert, there was nothing sent out in great masses for propaganda purposes. Certain financial pamphlets were distributed to interested people, and propaganda copies of the "Echo Suisse" were

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sent out. In August and September last, the "Helvetic Bibliography" was prepared. It is a combilation containing about 250 exact titles of books on Switzerland, written in English, and having been published since 1880. This work will appear in the forthcoming "Swiss Travel Almanac," and 5,000 expt in the forthcoming "Swiss Travel Almanac," and 5,000 expt organisations and individuals in the United Kingdom, the United Kingdom, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Switzerland. Most of the addresses have been compiled in 1922.

12. Correspondence and Vistra—Calls are of a very irregular character, sometimes four and five people coming consecutively and other times one or two days may pass without any caller at all. Unfortunately, there are still students and other young Swiss in London, likely to be interested in our endeavours, of whose existence the Secretary is unaware, work on behalf of the Group. He would be grateful if he could be brought into touch with open work on behalf of the Group. He would be grateful if he could be brought into touch with other people in their special line of work. He has also from time to time visits from young business people, although less frequently. Many members happily do not forget to call round to see him of work. He has also from time to time visits from young business people, although less frequently. Many members happily do not forget to call round to see him of the propers of them who pay visits to the Secretariat for the special purpose of reading the appers, to which they know they are always welcome, especially as they have the option of reading the appers, to which they know they are always welcome, especially as they have the option of reading the appers, to which they know they are always welcome, especially as they have the option of reading they was able to procure confortable accommodation for several young Swiss. Of the manifold subjects on which he is consulted, the following samples may give some idea: (a) A lady asked whether he could tell her

English press men on matter Swiss.

15. HISTORIC RESEARCH WORK.—In preparation for his lecture on "The Attitude of the British Foreign Office Towards Switzerland in the Nineteenth Century," the Secretary had a number of copies taken from the manuscripts of the Record Office. These copies were afterwards used by the Author of the sixth volume of Dicrauer's "Swiss History" and were finally sold to the Swiss Federal Archives. This gave a new impetute to the desire of the Swiss Federal Archives to have copied out all the records which were some time ago thrown open here to the public, and which are of interest to scholars of Swiss history. The Secretary was able to secure the Swiss Federal Archives, and the historian who is finishing the Dierauer, an efficient copyist.

As you have gathered from this report of our activities, the year 1922 has been one of great anxiety for your Council and your Committee, but especially for our devoted Treasurer and Secretary. Financially, it has been a long struggle to economise wherever possible, and at one time it was even doubtful whether we could make both ends meet. This is the reason why our Group has had to considerably restrict its activities. Much has been left undone which we should have dearly liked to have accomplished, but, taking everything into consideration, we can console ourselves in the thought that it might have been worse. We have, therefore, much reason to be thankful and hopeful at the beginning of this New Year, during which the life of our Group will depend largely on the moral and material support which you are prepared to give. especially for our devoted Treasurer and Secretary.

on the moral and material support which you are prepared to give.

We have received most encouraging assurances to this effect from a good proportion of our members, and I hope that many of those who have not yet replied to our appeal have come here tonight, fully decided to do their best.

Thanks to the disintersted patriotism of our secretary, we have been able to retain his services, at his own suggestion, for three days in the week, and, by exercising the strictest economy, we shall be able to carry on during the present year. This will naturally mean greater efforts on the week, and, by exercising the strictest economy, we shall be able to carry on during the present year. This will naturally mean greater efforts on the part of everybody, more work for those in charge, more sustained interests on the part of the members, more sacrifices in the shape of a higher subscription and donations; yet, without hesitation, ladies and gentlemen, members of the Group, I ask you for all this, because your past record is a criterion of what you can do. I know that, if at times your patriotic feelings are temporarily silenced by the great difficulties under which we are all struggling at the present hour, they are nevertheless there, ready to answer to the call, ready to serve the ideal of the N.S.H.

There never was a greater need for such an ideal, because there never was such a struggle in the world between spirit and matter, than at the present time. On which side are you going to enlist, Members of the Landon Group? This is the question I ask from everyone of you, and I await your answer with confidence.

February, 1922.

J. Baer, President.

J. BAER, President. February, 1922.

SWISS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB.

SWISS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB.

SWISS BANK Ist XI v. CANADIAN BANKS Ist XI. (London Banks' Football Association, Senior "B" Div.)
Played on the latter's ground at Elmer's End on Saturday, March 3rd. The home team won the toss and took advantage of sun and better conditions. Play started with the visiting team making a strong effort to open scoring, and their target seemed to be in danger at once. The pressure was kept up, and the first goal was registered 10 minutes after the start of play. To this lead was soon added another goal by the Swiss Bank, who seemed to be less put out by the thick mud and general wet state of the ground than their opponents. The home team tried hard to retaliate, and the visitors' goalie effected a number of fine saves. Play being transferred to the other end, the visitors' centre-forward broke through, putting the ball nicely in position for the right wing to take it down to the corner flag. A nice centre across the goalmouth, which was badly missed by the Canadian Banks' defence, gave their custodian no chance to save, the ball being netted with the finishing touch of the visitors' inside left. The home team tried now really hard to settle down, and after a great effort managed to score Just before the interval the Swiss Bank increased the lead to 4-1. The second half was very evenly contested and by no means as fast as the beginning of the play, owing to the state of the ground (ploughed field by this time), and although there were several exciting moments in front of both goals, no further scoring took place.

Result: Swiss Bank 4, Canadian Banks 1.

Result: Swiss Bank 4, Canadian Banks 1. Team: Floyd; Herzog, Kurz; Schwendener, Way, Shaw; Quaife, Tobler, Rufer, Bornand, Holton.

SWISS INSTITUTE.

A full verbatim report of the lecture delivered on March 2nd by Mr. G. P. Gooch, M.A., on "The Euro-pean Situation" will appear in our next issue.

Owing to extreme pressure on our space, both the "Literary Page" and the "Financial and Commercial News" have unavoidedly been crowded out.

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Dimanche, 11 Mars, 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 4.30.—Répétition du Choeur. 6.30.—Pfr. U. Wildbolz.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Sunday, March 11, at 7.30.—GYMNASTIC SOCIETY
"Schweizerbund": Grand Gymnastic Display at 74,
Charlotte Street, W. 1.

Tuesday, March 13th, at 8 p.m.—SWISS SPORTS
COMMITTEE: Delegates' Meeting at Gatti's
Restaurant.

Wednesday, March 14th, from 8—1.30 a.m.—UNION
HELVETIA: Bockbierfest mit Wurstessen und
Tanz (see adv.).

Saturday, March 17, at 6.30.—CITY SWISS CLUB:
Cinderella Dance at Gatti's Restaurant.

Friday, March 23, at 8.30.—SWISS INSTITUTE:
Lecture on "Abraham Lincoln" by Frank E,
Broughton, Esq.
Friday, March 23, at 8 p.m.—SCHWEIZERBUND:
Annual Dinner at 74. Charlotte Street, W. 1.

Thursday, March 29, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE
HELVETIQUE: Lantern Lecture by Professor F,
Zschokke on "The Swiss National Park" at St.
George's Hall, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.

Tuesday, April 10th, at 6.45.—CITY SWISS CLUB:
Catti's Restaurant.

Saturday, April 14th, at 7.30.—UNION HELVETIA:
Grand Benefit Concert in Aid of London Hospitals
at Wigmore Hall (tickets 3s. and 5s.).

Thursday, April 19th.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual
Banquet and Ball at Gatti's Restaurant, Strand,
W.C.

Friday, May 4th, at 8 p.m.—UNION HELVETIA:
Annual Dinner and Ball.

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