

# Fête nationale

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another act of kindness, which was warmly appreciated.

While some returned to the shooting, others sang a few Swiss songs; indeed, without songs the affair would have been rather "dry"—or should I say "solemn"?—owing to the prevailing weather conditions.

Our Hon. President, with two single shots on the 300-metre target, fully qualified for inclusion in the next Team that goes seeking fame by making 9 points out of a possible 10.

The "red-coated" marker, made by "Ernest" and received only that morning, was well in evidence at the butts—but what is this I hear in the distance—£40 from Mr. Lutz towards a Flag—this is the crowning glory. Thank you, friend Lutz, we will certainly find the difference to get that jewel that will bind the S.R.A. yet more strongly together and help us to range ourselves worthily by the side of our brother "Ausland sections" at the next Federal Shoot!

Thus ended a happy day, and everybody, including the four new members elected during the afternoon, went homewards, feeling proud to belong to our great little country.

In conclusion we express our hearty thanks to all the willing helpers whose untiring efforts ensured the general comfort of all. F. R.

A return visit to the Wandsworth Borough Rifle Club has been arranged for Saturday, Sept. 20th. It will be remembered that when our range at Hendon was officially opened, members from this Club challenged our shots to a friendly competition, with the result that the S.R.A. team was beaten by three points, the respective collective scores being 342 and 339. At that time our own men had practically no practice with the particular miniature rifle used, and if present indications can be trusted, the Wandsworth Club will have to be at their best if they intend to beat again the S.R.A. team. Eight members will be selected from each side.

#### THE CUP PRESENTED BY THE LONDON COLONY AND THE WINNER.

The special Cup which Monsieur Paravicini has forwarded to Aarau in the name of the London Colony has been awarded to Mr. Paul Kaiser, of the Ochsenstübli in Zurich, who has acknowledged the prize in the following telegram sent to our Minister:—

"Hochehrent im Besitz Ihrer prachtvollen Gabe. Scheibe 'Glück,' sechster Rang, Habt heissen Dank beim Becherklang, Ich grüsse Euch nach Schweizerart, Edle Gesinnung hat sich hier gepaart."

#### FETE NATIONALE.

Some 500 Swiss and their friends attended in the evening of July 31st at Caxton Hall, Westminster, the Patriotic Concert arranged by the Swiss Institute in celebration of our National Day, the 1st of August.

As in previous years, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, our Minister, had again kindly accepted the honorary presidency of this annual gathering, and after an opening piece by the orchestra, he welcomed in a few well-chosen words all those that had assembled to celebrate the 633rd anniversary of the foundation of Switzerland on the Rütli in 1291.

His words of welcome were greatly applauded, and following another piece by the orchestra, Mr. Charles Schupbach recited two admirably selected Bernese poems, of which the first in particular, entitled "Schwyzergschicht," was greatly enjoyed by everybody.

He was succeeded by a piano solo by Miss Madeleine Theiler, whose great musical talent the audience very much appreciated.

Pasteur Hoffmann-de Visme in a speech, which space does not permit us to print *in extenso*, dwelt on the patriotic significance of the occasion, the pride which justly lived in the heart of every Swiss in the great history of our country, but also of the heavy duties which this sacred citizenship devolved on every compatriot, particularly those that enjoyed, permanently or temporarily, the hospitality of a foreign land. His words being the vivid expression of a great depth of patriotic thought and feeling, as well as responsibility not lightly conceived towards one's country in particular, and humanity in general, were met with hearty response in the spontaneous applause by the whole assembly when he had finished.

Whilst his inspiring words had awakened everybody's feelings of love, and pride alike, for our little homeland nestled around the highest peaks of the Alps, the truly Swiss atmosphere was created by the series of Swiss songs with which Mlle. Felia Dorio and her little troupe of ladies in national costume delighted all of us, only to be further heightened still by well-known Swiss melodies played subsequently by the orchestra.

Yet unfortunately the hour grew late, but the scene of the first meeting between the Three Confederates from Schiller's "William Tell," recited by three members of the Swiss Y.M.C.A., again earned well-deserved applause and appreciation.

The concert terminated with the singing of the Cantique Suisse by the entire assembly and the playing of the 'Marche Patriotique' followed by the National Anthem by the orchestra.

A number of young ladies, prettily attired in the national garb of various cantons, this year also sold tiny federal and cantonal flags, and together with the proceeds from the sale of the several cushions in the national colours, which were disposed of to the highest bidder, a handsome sum of £38 10s. was realised, enabling the Swiss Institute, after deduction of expenses, to hand over a balance of about £11 to the Swiss Benevolent Society. W. B.

#### PERSONAL.

The marriage of Mr. U. Bretscher ('Kyburg') and Miss V. M. Mawbey will take place on Saturday, September 6th, 1924. We are sure we voice the sentiments of all our subscribers in offering our valued contributor hearty congratulations.

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#### CITY SWISS CLUB.

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#### Assemblée Mensuelle

aura lieu le MARDI 9 SEPTEMBRE au Brent Bridge Hotel, Hendon. Cette assemblée sera précédée d'un souper familial à 7 h. précises (6/6 par couvert) et suivie d'une danse.

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 21, Garlick Hill, E.C. 4. (Telephone: City 4603).

#### Ordre du Jour.

Procès-verbal. Démissions.  
Admissions. Divers.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

(The figure in parentheses denotes the number of the issue on which the subscription expires.)

Walter Bretscher (210), R. H. Cornu (210), M. Bachofer (186), Chas. Schupbach (175), Alf. Herzig (176), F. Forrer (184), Foyer Suisse (210), P. Maestrani (212), E. Kreis (215), A. Maeder (215), O. Meier (215), W. Theiler (189), O. Schumacher (177), O. Uhlmann (190), W. Naef (175), G. Forrer (219), A. Stiefel (177), W. I. Gradmann (177), Leon Jaeggi (190), A. Lampert (216), F. W. Schwyn (216), J. Müller (216), Aug. Wyss (216), Pfarrer H. Urner (207).

#### Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE, 79, Endell St., W.C. 2.  
(Langue française.)

Dimanche, 31 Août, 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 79, Endell Street, W.C. 2.

#### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutsch-Schweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C. 2.

Sonntag, 31. August, 11 Uhr vorm.—Gottesdienst.

6.30 abends (79, Endell Street).—Bibelstunde, Amos. Pir. W. Dietsche.

Requests for Pastor's visits, Baptisms, Weddings, etc., can be made on Sunday morning after the service, or to the Treasurer, C. Bertschinger, 114, Fore St., London, E.C. 2.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, Sept. 9th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting, preceded by a Supper, at the Brent Bridge Hotel, Hendon. (See advert.)

Wednesday, Sept. 17th, at 8.30.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Monthly Meeting at 1, Gerrard Place, W. 1.

Every Saturday and Sunday (weather permitting).—SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION: Shooting Practice at Hendon (opposite Old Welsh Harp).