

# Swiss Benevolent Society

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**NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE.**

Meeting of the Council on Wednesday, April 16th,

1. The Treasurer announced one admission and no resignations.

2. Communications of the Committee:—(a) The Committee heard that the Schweizerische Gesellschaft für kaufmännisches Bildungswesen had organised a journey to London in July, and Mr. Theo. Weber suggested that the Swiss Colony of London ought to profit by their stay and organise some lectures. The Secretary mentioned that the Commercial Service of the Swiss Legation had taken the necessary steps to enable this party to see all they wanted to see in England. The Council decided to transmit this matter to the Swiss Mercantile Society in consideration of the fact that it is an economic one. (b) Mr. Suter read a letter from the S.S.E. to Mr. Baer which accompanied a few copies of a new pamphlet, issued by this organisation, entitled: "Les Suisses à l'étranger; une oeuvre nationale 1914 à 1924." This pamphlet is an up-to-date resumé of the N.S.H. organisation for Swiss Abroad, and gives, amongst other things, the opinions of many distinguished Swiss people about this work (extracts of letters from Mr. Motta, the late Swiss Minister Dr. Carlin, and so on). The S.S.E. asked the London Group of the N.S.H. to give them their help in the new financial campaign which is being undertaken to assure the maintenance of this "oeuvre susceptible de fortifier la position de notre pays," as Mr. Motta wrote. After some discussion and, in spite of the fact that the Council would have liked to be able to do something in this connection, it was decided that the present condition of our Group would not allow of this. (c) Mr. Baer asked the Council to express its opinion about the term "la quatrième Suisse." This term was first used by Mr. de Traz, who wished to find an expression which might represent a symbol and a motto. But during these last months there have been several attacks against it, more especially in the Swiss press. Almost every member spoke on this question, and everybody, with the exception of the Secretary and one other, agreed that this expression not only had no signification for Swiss abroad, but was also an unhappy one, as it seemed to imply division instead of unity. The outcome of the discussion was that the Council voted a resolution to be sent to the S.S.E. asking them to stop using this term.

3. Report of the Propaganda and Entertainment Committee: Mr. Theo. Weber read a report concerning a few suggestions which had been presented, amongst others, by Mr. Bloch. It was decided to get into touch with the 'Liedertafel' of Basle, who intend to come to London next year, and see if it would be possible to arrange a Charity Concert. Besides this the Council agreed to send out to all our members, with the copy of *The Swiss Observer* which contains our last Annual Report, a special letter emphasising the necessity of a closer collaboration on their part.

4. The next Day for the Swiss Abroad: The Council agreed to delegate the Secretary to the next Day for Swiss Abroad, which takes place at Basle on the 19th of May. The Secretary was charged to ask all the Swiss Societies in London whether they had any resolutions or wishes to bring forward at this manifestation.

5. Communications of the Secretary: (a) The Secretary reported on his visit to Mr. Roget, who declared himself ready to give his lecture on "Swiss Propaganda in England" on the 5th May. He announced at the same time that the Swiss Mercantile Society and the Swiss Institute had also agreed to give their patronage to this lecture. (b) The Council was informed of a letter which the Secretary had sent to the *Daily Mail* concerning the recent incident between Italy and Switzerland. (c) The Secretary informed the Council that when he had heard of the publication of the new book, "La Question Ticinese," he had had this book sent to him and submitted it to the Unione Ticinese, which Society was kind enough to lay it before its Committee and to vote a resolution which was published in one of the recent issues of *The Swiss Observer*. Dr. AG. KRAEFF, Secretary.

**SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.**

The above Society held their last Concert of the season at the Union Helvetia Club last Sunday afternoon.

Owing to the advanced time, the audience was rather smaller than usual, but nevertheless those present had a most enjoyable afternoon.

The Choir almost surpassed itself in the rendering of the different songs, in particular the one in French, entitled "Une nuit aux avant postes." The double quartette was at its best, and Mr. Gaillard, the able conductor, delighted the audience with several solos from his famous repertoire.

The zither solo by Mr. Stoll also received much appreciation.

Mr. Wyss, who acted as chairman at the close of the concert, expressed his thanks on behalf of the Club House Committee and the audience to Mr. Manzoni, the president, and all members of the Swiss Choral Society, and pointed out that great things are in store for next season, wishing them every success in all their undertakings.

**SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**

In spite of the very unfavourable weather conditions, shooting practice was kept up last Saturday and Sunday, and even graced by the presence of a few ladies, who made one quite forget that it was pouring heavens hard. "The target which always tells the truth"—the writer means the 'Chef-d'oeuvre suisse' in marking mechanism—the Michoud Automatic Target, which now works to perfection and is very much admired by our English visitors, could never have shown its enormous advantages better than on Sunday last, when not even the worst downpour interfered with the shooting, where ordinary marking would have been impracticable.

The writer would like to again enlist the interest of every Swiss resident in London to pay a visit to the range and ultimately join the ranks of the Association.

Present funds have not enabled the Committee to build the range as big and complete as was planned; the accomplishment of the scheme depends on the expected aid of new members and friends.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Rohr, 2, Ormond Mansion, Gt. Ormond St., W.C.1, is at your disposal for any information that is desired.

**SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.**

The Committee of the Swiss Benevolent Society held their quarterly meeting on April 28th at 79, Endell Street, W.C.2, under the chairmanship of the Swiss Minister, their Hon. President. Monsieur Paravicini was assisted by Mr. George Forrer, the Hon. Vice-President; the other Hon. Vice-President and representative in Switzerland, Mr. E. A. Steiger-Züst, was unable to attend.

The chief item on the agenda was the appointment of the Executive for the current year. In place of the late much regretted Mr. Georges Dimier, Mr. Robert Dupraz, who for several years had acted as Hon. Treasurer, was elected President of the Society. The other posts were filled as follows:—Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Jean Baer, Alexander Baume and Oscar Gambazzi; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Fred. Gamper; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Theo. Ritter. Messrs. G. Forrer and R. de Cintra were nominated Auditors.

The past three months have told heavily on the finances of the Society in consequence of the great amount of unemployment among the Swiss in London and the hardships of the extra long winter. This, combined with the loss of the generous Mr. Dimier, somewhat darkens the outlook, but the Committee feel confident that the Colony will support, as in the past, the unselfish aims of the Fonds de Secours by subscribing largely to its funds.

Be it remembered that no distinction whatsoever is made as to language or creed of applicants, and no deserving poor Swiss is ever refused assistance.

**PERSONAL.**

We regret to hear that the Rev. R. Hoffmann-de Visme is confined to his room through illness. We are sure that the entire Swiss Colony are united in the hope that he may speedily regain health and strength.

The editor of *The Swiss Observer*, Mr. P. F. Boehringer, has been ill and confined to bed during the whole of this week.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.**

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

V. Cima (199), Mrs. Cl. Apitzsch-Ott (199), S. Bollag (167), H. Reichenhart (194), E. R. Hartmann (195), F. Isler (195), E. Engler (157), Alb. Staehli (196), Ch. Studer (196), T. Spahn (190), E. Fankhauser (197), H. A. Birmann (159), H. Hoesli (198), Mrs. Homberger (172), G. F. Rohner (159), A. Indermauer (174), J. Bosshardt (199), R. Gaillard (173), E. Widman (173), O. Bastadin (174), Miss E. Braegger (200), B. Bretscher (174), Mlle. Chollet (174), A. Despond (200), M. E. DuBois (200), J. Geilinger (174), E. Hefter (174), G. A. Ochs (200), A. P. Rosselet-Droux (200), J. H. Speich (200), H. Steiner (174), Swiss House (174), J. Weber (200), W. Wetter (200), Chas. Gysin (201), M. Samuelson (167), Swiss Consul, Liverpool (185), G. E. Colomb (201).

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by the  
Swiss Institute Orchestra,  
at  
MORLEY HALL, 26, GEORGE STREET,  
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1.  
on Saturday, May 10th, at 7.30 p.m.

All Swiss and their friends are cordially invited.  
Admission Free. THE COMMITTEE.

**Swiss Mercantile Society****A LECTURE**

has been arranged, in conjunction with the *Nouvelle Société Helvétique* and *The Swiss Institute*, to be given in English by **Prof. F. F. ROGET**, from the Geneva University, on

Monday, May 5th, at 8 p.m.,

at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.

(near Holborn, Piccadilly Tube, and British Museum, Central London Tube, stations).

ADMISSION FREE to Members and Friends.

**CITY SWISS CLUB.**

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine

**Assemblée Mensuelle**

aura lieu le MARDI 6 MAI au Restaurant GATTI et sera précédée d'un souper familial à 6.45 h. (sh. 5/- par couvert).

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. (Téléphone: City 4603).

**Ordre du Jour.**

Procès-verbal.  
Admissions.

Démotions.  
Divers.

**EGLISE SUISSE, 79, Endell St., W.C.2.**

Dimanche, 4 Mai, 11h.—M. Rosset, missionnaire à Val-dézia.

6.30.—Pfr. H. Urner.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**

Monday, May 5th, at 8 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY (in conjunction with the N.S.H. and the Swiss Institute): Lecture by Prof. F. F. Roget on "Swiss Advertising Propaganda in England—its objects and its mistakes" at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C. (See adv.)

Tuesday, May 6th, at 6.30.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting, preceded by a Supper, at Gatti's Restaurant, Strand, W.C.

Saturday, May 10th, at 7.30.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Second Concert at Morley Hall, 26, George Street, W.1. (See adv.)

Saturday, May 10, at 6.30 p.m.—SWISS Y.M.C.A.: Lecture by Dr. Horatio Matthews on "The Evidence of Language"—preceded by Tea at 5.30—at the Foyer Suisse. Ladies and gentlemen are cordially invited.

Friday, May 16th, at 8.30.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Lecture by G. P. Gooch, Esq., M.A., on "European Affairs."

Saturday, May 31st, at 2.30 p.m.—SWISS SPORTS at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

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