

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Band: - (1928)
Heft: 335

Rubrik: Eglise suisse = Schweizerkirche

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Dances, held at the Midland Grand Hotel, have also proved a great attraction to the members and their friends.

At the end of 1927 the Society consisted of 16 Honorary Members, 336 Active Members (26 ladies and 310 gentlemen), 16 Corresponding Members, 79 Contributing Members and 53 Contributing Firms and Donors."

Mr. J. Pfaendler, Hon. Secretary of the Education Committee, read out the Report concerning the Education Department and gave us some very interesting news.

"He first of all thanked Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Mr. Borsinger and Dr. Rezzonico, as well as other members of the Swiss Legation, for their generous assistance and the goodwill shown to the Society. He also mentioned that Mr. H. Martin, Hon. President of the Education Committee, was good enough to give two Lantern Lectures, during his recent visit, one evening for the benefit of the members and on another occasion for the students. The Society's thanks were also due to Trustees of the Educational Fund, Messrs. Barbezat, De Brunner, Eichenberger, Gamper and Schupbach.

The Committee held a good many meetings during the year under review, necessitated by the additional work the new home has brought and the increase in students. Based on the monthly average, the total number of students for the whole year amounted to 2,290, as against 1,547 the previous year, which represents an increase of 48%.

The recent visit of National-Councillor Ph. Schmid-Rüdin (Central Secretary of the Swiss Mercantile Society) was also referred to and his great interest, especially his successful endeavours to obtain scholarships for necessitous students from the Swiss Government, was noted with great pleasure.

The Committee's thanks were due to all the teachers of the Day and Evening Classes for their untiring efforts and their splendid services, rendered not only to the students but also to the Society.

The Report of the Evening Classes was rendered by Mr. A. A. Schutz, Hon. Chef de Cours (one of the tellers calling him later 'Chef de Secours'—an office for which there has not yet been a demand at any of the meetings!):

"The number of courses held has again decreased on account of the circumstances mentioned at the beginning of this report. It is, however, gratifying to know that the attendance, expressed in percentage, is better than in previous years, a sign that our young compatriots fully realise the necessity to prepare themselves well for the great fight of life. 30 Language Classes and 11 Short-hand Courses were held in course of the year, and the students sitting for the National Union of Teachers' Examination did great credit to our school and their teachers. From 8 candidates entered 1 obtained a Bronze Medal, 4 a First Class Certificate with Distinction, and the remaining 4 a First Class Certificate."

The first Report of the House Committee covering a whole year in the new home was then read by Mr. J. J. Boos, Hon. Secretary-Treasurer: "The year under review has also been a busy one for the House Committee, and several minor alterations and re-decorations had to be attended to. Special mention must be made of the very comfortable Members' Room, and it is to be regretted that not more use is made thereof.

The House Committee have arranged several Socials, Whist Drives, Jass Evenings, etc., and they will continue doing so in the future. These informal gatherings were greatly enjoyed and hopes were expressed that in the coming year the attendances will grow bigger and bigger.

The following Societies made their Headquarters at Swiss House: The Swiss Institute, which has, however, decided to discontinue activities as from the 31st December, 1927; the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, and the Swiss Benevolent Society. It is noteworthy to mention that they feel very much at home, and the name "Swiss House" thus does not only apply to the building, but is already the one place in London where Swiss meets Swiss irrespective of creed or social standing.

It must further be added that on Friday evenings very interesting lectures are arranged for the students, events to which the members are, of course, also invited, and which ought to be a great attraction, especially to the younger generation.

The four Reports were unanimously accepted by the Meeting with thanks to the different writers.

The Accounts of the various Committees were recommended for acceptance by the Auditors and duly passed.

Two proposals of the House Committee, one of them dealing with the bar, were submitted and accepted after some discussions where the pros and cons as to the closing of the bar on certain evenings were voiced.

The whole Committee then tendered their resignations, and Mr. A. Schupbach, Hon. Member and Trustee to the Educational Fund, was enthusiastically requested to take the chair as President *ad interim*. He first thanked the outgoing Committee for all the work they have done and congratulated them on the success achieved during the past year, and then recommended a re-election *en bloc*. One or two of the Committee Members could not see their way to retain, or preferred to change

over to some other office. The voting was then proceeded with and the result declared a short time afterwards. The further progress and the welfare of the Society were placed in the hands of the President, Mr. A. C. Stahelin; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. M. Paschoud (Chairman of the Education Committee), R. Chappuis (Chairman of the Entertainment Committee) and G. Jenne (Chairman of the House Committee); Hon. Secretary, Mr. O. Jaeggi; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. Brand; Hon. Assist. Secretary, Mr. H. C. Meili; Hon. Assist. Treasurers, Messrs. O. Grob and P. W. Schoop; Librarian, Mr. L. Meyer; Acting Secretary, Mr. A. A. Schutz. *Education Committee*: Messrs. J. Pfaendler, A. A. Schutz, J. H. Attinger, E. Hardmeier and J. H. Buchi. *Entertainment Committee*: Messrs. A. Jufer, J. C. Nussle, J. A. Seiffert and W. Wyss. *House Committee*: Mr. J. J. Boos, Mrs. T. Lunghi-Rezzonico and Messrs. A. Jufer and W. Burren. Press Reporter, Mr. A. A. Schutz; Delegate on the Advisory Board of the Employment Department, Mr. C. Chappuis. Delegates on the Swiss Sports Committee, Messrs. Ch. Strublin, E. Werner and M. Gerig.

Last but not least, it must be mentioned that the outgoing Committee recommended the following nominations for election: as Honorary President, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini; as Honorary Members: Messrs. Chas. A. Barbezat, W. Gamper and W. Eichenberger for their generous assistance and the never-failing interest they have taken in the welfare of the Society as Trustees to the Educational Fund, and Mr. B. Bretscher, the retiring Chairman of the Education Committee, who has over 7 years' uninterrupted and valuable service as a Committee Member to his credit.

We conclude by quoting Mr. Stahelin's last few sentences of his report: "Already a new year is well on its way, and we hope that our next report will be a further chapter of success. The year 1927 has brought us the mixture of ups and downs inevitably connected with any live and growing undertaking. We wish to record our grateful thanks to all our members for their support, and we look forward to their continued co-operation."

Let us trust each other and pull together in true team spirit, preserve us from well-meant but ill-directed interference, and 1928 will be a worthy successor of the years gone by. If every one of us will do his or her full share of work ungrudgingly, be it in Committee or elsewhere, then we must and shall progress." A.A.S.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week:—

Mr. W. Richard, Bellinzona: "The Fight for the Atlantic by the World's Shipping Combines." Mr. G. Burkhardt, Basle: "About Rowing." Mr. P. Aerni, Wichtrach (Berne): "Gymnastics." Mr. A. Honegger: "Reasons for the Depression in the English Spinning Trade." Miss Alice Gautschi, Reinach (Aargau): "Tobacco Industry." Miss Paula Schmitzler, Locarno: "My Native Town, Locarno." Miss F. Huelimann, Kreuzlingen: "Skiing." Mr. Walter O. Vögele, Basle: "English Composers and English Music." Mr. Rud. Grossmann, Zurich: "Mark Twain." Mr. F. Hagmann: "Giving Sight to the Blind (figuratively)."

On Friday last a splendid Lecture, with numerous Lantern Slides, was given by G. E. W. Herbert, Esq., on "Kings in Exile: The Life and History of the Wild Animals."

Saturday: The Excursion on the first nice day of the year was to the Kew Botanical Gardens, a march along the Thames to Richmond; lunch and a walk through the Park. The number of Students formed quite a small army, occupying 4 omnibuses outside.



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THE **Annual Dinner and Ball**
WILL BE HELD ON **Thursday, March 15th, at 8 p.m.**
PLEASE BOOK EARLY.
Phone: Museum 908. The Committee.

CITY SWISS CLUB.
Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine **Assemblée Mensuelle** aura lieu le **MARDI, 6 MARS** au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Gt. Portland Street, W.1 et sera précédée d'un souper à 7 h. (prix 6/6).
Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard St. E.C. 2. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 95959).

Ordre du jour:
Procès-verbal. Admissions. Démonstrations. Divers.

The Publisher will be pleased to forward free specimen copies of "The Swiss Observer" to likely subscribers whose addresses may be supplied by readers.

Divine Services.
EGLISE SUISSE (1762), 79, Endell St., W.C.2
(Langue française.)
Dimanche, 26 Février, 11h.: M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.
6.30: M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6 (Téléphone: Mountview 1798), Heure de réception à l'Eglise: Mercredi 10.30 à 12h.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE (Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)
St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Sonntag, den 26. Februar, 11 Uhr morgens und 7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.
8 Uhr: Chorprobe.

BEERDIGUNG.
Beerdigt wurde am 17. Februar Walter BLUM von Matten-Interlaken; geboren am 25. März 1892, gestorben am 14. Februar.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12—1 Uhr in der Kirche. Mittwoch, 3—5 Uhr, im Foyer Suisse.
Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen etc., an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde C. Th. Hahn, 8, Chiswick Lane, W.4. Telefon Chiswick 4156.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.
Saturday, 3rd March, 6.45 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance (final) at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, N.W. Tickets 8/6. (See Adv.)
Tuesday, March 6th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting at Paganis, 42, Great Portland Street, W.1. (See Advert.)
Tuesday, March 13th, 1928.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Banquet & Ball at Café Monaco, Piccadilly, W.1.
Thursday, March 15th, at 8 p.m.—SCHWEIZERBUND: Annual Dinner and Ball at 74, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1. (See Adv.)
Saturday, March 31st, at 6.30 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Cinderella Dance at New Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly. (See Advert.)