

A Swiss reality

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Objektyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): - **(1946)**

Heft 1054

PDF erstellt am: **27.06.2024**

Persistenter Link: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-692132>

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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 2nd, the Swiss Mercantile Society is inviting their members and friends to participate in their 58th anniversary festivities, which will be held at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

We understand that the Society has circularised its members regarding this function, and it is therefore hardly necessary to enlarge here on the arrangements which have so far been made. We consider it, however, our duty, and a pleasant one at that, to bring this most important event to the notice of a wider circle, hoping that many of our compatriots will make it a point to be present at this 58th "birthday party."

Many of the Swiss Societies have decided to abstain from holding their formerly held Banquets, and the Swiss Mercantile Society function will therefore be one of the rare "affairs" during the season, a quite justified undertaking considering the occasion, and a fact which should induce many to be present who otherwise might have considered that attending several functions entails too much expense.

The Swiss Mercantile Society has a long and distinguished record, eminent members of the Colony have directed the destiny of the Society.

In attaining now the age of 58 years, it would be a befitting opportunity to express an appreciation for the long and faithful services rendered to the Swiss community and this could best be done by attending their gathering, which, we have not the slightest doubt, will be a most enjoyable one in every respect.

We already now extend to the Swiss Mercantile Society our heartiest and most sincere congratulations, wishing this institution many happy returns of the day, and further prosperity. The spirit of comradeship and patriotism has been through all these many years an outstanding feature and has made the Society a little corner of "Home" on foreign soil.

It is therefore our most ardent wish that this function should be well attended, thus proving it to be not only a red letter day in the annals of the Swiss Mercantile Society, but also a day well worth remembering in the history of the Swiss Colony in London.

(Tickets 15/6 including Luncheon, Dance, Tea and gratuities, obtainable from the Hon. Secretary, Swiss Mercantile Society, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.)

A SWISS REALITY.

On every shelf in the show-cabinet are many and varied interesting souvenirs. The knowledge of them brings back vivid pictures to my mind, unfortunately, not realized in every life. The show-cabinet is not the ordinary type, glass three sides, with wooden back. It resembles one in a museum, fitted with oak; glass all round. It is a real Swiss cabinet; hand carved by the countrymen in Switzerland. Each flower is intact, and each leaf too. Edelweiss, gentian and Alpine rose are carved out in marvellous array. It was bought during my many visits there some years ago.

Hand-carved woodwork was remarkably cheap then, and it is everlasting wear.

Many of the relics were collected from the high mountains climbed, others from the various 22 Cantons. I wanted a special place to keep them, see them, and show them, and pictures of a Swiss reality.

MARY E. BRANDWOOD.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Monthly Meeting.

The October Meeting of the City Swiss Club took place on Monday, the 7th, and was attended by 102 members and friends.

Mr. Bon, who was in the Chair, was warmly greeted by the entire company on rising to welcome the Guest of Honour, the Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, P.C. The President also extended a welcome to Dr. Schurch, Mr. Fischle and National Councillor Jlg, who are at present in this country *en mission*.

Mr. Amery gave a very excellent talk on "European Union," which was followed with great interest, and it is to be regretted that this excellent *exposé* cannot be made available for publication in the "Swiss Observer".

The Swiss Minister, Monsieur Paul Ruegger, in thanking Mr. Amery for his lucid conference, explained the rôle Switzerland could play in a European Union.

After a short discussion the Meeting was closed shortly after ten o'clock.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will, D.V., be published on Friday, October 25th, 1946. We take this opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind donations: O. Frei, C. J. Bernheim, J. Zimmermann, Miss Kerr Waddel, E. Winzeler, E. H. Hess, J. H. Buchi, P. Lequint, H. Zimmermann.

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