

A Social centre for the young Swiss in London

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Confederation. Thus the movement for the woman's vote will spread from the bottom to the top.

The interesting and vital problem of how to keep the Swiss abroad in contact with the Homeland was also brought up. It was agreed that more should be done in this connection than has hitherto been done, which is one of the tasks that the N.S.H. has set before itself. When the matter was discussed at the "Journée des Suisses à l'Etranger," last summer, a small hope of some participation in the political life of Switzerland was given, one suggestion being that eventually Swiss abroad might be able to vote on an issue in Switzerland without being on the spot and paying taxes. Although the hope given was small, it showed that at least a beginning is being made in strengthening the ties between the Swiss abroad and their Homeland.

The very successful Meeting came to an end and we now look forward in the near future to M. Lindt's next lecture in the series which will deal with Swiss History.

A SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE YOUNG SWISS IN LONDON.

Urgent Appeal for Furniture.

The endeavours, to which the Council of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, London Group, has lately devoted its attention, to provide the young Swiss in England, of whom several thousand have arrived since the war, with some sort of social *piéd-à-terre* in the metropolis, are about to materialise at least on a provisional basis. A suggestion, submitted to Monsieur Escher, Chargé d'affaires in the absence of the Minister, that a suitable room might possibly be spared for the purpose in the Grosvenor Square building of the Legation, has met with his instant agreement, recognising as he does, the importance and the urgency of the problem.

A big and beautiful room is thus available in the Legation building at *Grosvenor Square* (entrance 28, Duke Street) for use as a sort of social club for the young Swiss in London. It is hoped to effect all the necessary arrangements within a matter of days, in order to make use of this magnificent opportunity, so readily granted, at the earliest possible moment. For this, however, the full co-operation of the Colony is required immediately.

First, the *furniture*. A large table and some 20 chairs are being lent by the Swiss Tourist Office. But more chairs, some club-chairs and settees, another table or two, a book case, a piano, a wireless-set and some floor rugs are needed, as well as a pair of chandeliers or globes for two ceiling lights. Any offers of such articles on loan will be gratefully received by Mrs. Egli on the telephone: HAMpstead 2051, or by letter to 3, Chesterford Gardens, N.W.3.

Second, the *organisation*. A responsible Committee of Management must be formed to make the neces-

sary arrangements, assist in the running of the place and supervise its proper use. Three lady-volunteers are required for this task, requiring sympathy and understanding for the young, imagination and tactful firmness. It is a wonderful opportunity for rendering our country as well as our young compatriots invaluable and interesting service. Volunteers are invited to communicate immediately with Mrs. Egli as above.

A meeting of those interested in the social welfare of our young compatriots, including representatives of the churches and the various societies, as well as the volunteers above mentioned will be held to discuss the scheme, how and by whom it should be handled, and how to co-ordinate it with the existing facilities. It is thought that the Social Centre might most usefully be made available on the evenings when no other facility is provided.

Thousands of young Swiss are lonely in London and thus exposed to all sorts of hazards as well as unhappiness. Please help to remedy this situation by responding to the above appeal for furniture and active help and possibly for financial assistance.

Helveticus.

A DIRECTORY OF OUR COLONY

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Welcome to New Arrivals from Switzerland.

A most interesting suggestion for issuing a booklet of welcome to the new arrivals from Switzerland, containing detailed information about all Swiss societies in the United Kingdom, the Legation, Consulates, Churches, etc., as well as the Swiss publications here and a list of Swiss owned or managed firms, has been submitted to all concerned by the Council of the N.S.H. We reproduce the proposal herewith, coupled with the request, that any society or group or firm not directly approached by the N.S.H. should kindly assist this worthy initiative by communicating with the Hon. Secretary of the N.S.H., 18, Montague Place, W.1.

Proposals for a booklet of welcome to new arrivals in the Colony, representing a complete guide to our Colony, submitted by the Council of the N.S.H., London Group.

Several thousands of young Swiss have arrived in this country since the end of the war, thus bringing the possibility of rejuvenation of the Colony, the need for which has so often been expressed on all sides.

Very few of these new arrivals have, however, found their way into our societies. We are losing their potential support. They are missing the help, friendly advice, etc., and the social background of our Colony which might be useful to them in more than one way.

The N.S.H. suggests that a booklet of Welcome and information on our Colony should be issued to all new arrivals and anyone interested in our Colony. The Minister, Monsieur Paul Ruegger, has agreed to write a covering message of greeting for this booklet and to help in reaching the new arrivals.

The contents of the booklet of 24 small size pages should, in our opinion, be as follows:

- page 1: Welcome by the Minister.
- 2: Welcome by the Colony.
- 3: Swiss Legation and Consulates, names, addresses, etc.
- 4: Swiss Churches, details of services, ré-unions, etc.
- 5 — say 13: Swiss societies, their history,

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