

Nouvelle société helvétique : London Group not to die

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NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE.

London Group not to die.

Having alarmed and even shocked many of our readers by the announcement in the last issue of the "Swiss Observer," that the London Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique was about to give up its ghost, we have much pleasure in informing them, that that danger is now passed. A valiant last minute intervention to prevent the impending act of self-extinction by the present Council and assembly was stayed unexpectedly and successfully by Dr. Hans W. Egli, Chief London correspondent of the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, President of the Foreign Press Association in London and one time Editor of the "Swiss Observer."

Almost single-handed he took up the battle for the preservation of this venerable Society of our Colony. While acknowledging, that he and far too many of us have failed in the last few years to interest themselves in the work of the N.S.H., he admitted that the present Council also must share in the responsibility for this lack of interest. Much useful work could and should be done by this Society especially in the field of the discussion of general Swiss problems of the homeland or the Colony, and with the interest of its activities would also grow the support from all sides in the Colony.

Dr. Egli outlined a number of concrete suggestions for a truly formidable programme of discussion and action. He appealed to the Extra-ordinary Meeting to refuse consent to the resolution for liquidating the group submitted by the Council. This appeal was then supported by various other speakers with the result that in the end 22 out of 32 votes were recorded against dissolution, on the understanding that Dr. Egli would submit a sufficient list of new candidates for the Council in time for the election at the forthcoming General Meeting on January 25th, 1947. Dr. Egli's appeal addressed individually to a number of suitable potential supporters has, we understand, met with an instantaneous success beyond all expectations. His belief that the London Group of the N.S.H. not only should survive but could be brought back to a flourishing state proved to be the belief and desire of most of those he approached. An imposing list of fellow saviours of this good work is being submitted to the Annual General Meeting reading as follows:—

H. G. Aubaret, Dr. H. W. Egli, F. E. L. Ferraris, C. Ferrari, Alex Gautier, Dr. A. R. Lindt, Dr. E. Spuhler, A. J. Staehelin, Dr. G. Kullmann, H. Wasner, A. Tall, A. Renou, W. C. Weilenmann.

It is hoped that all will be elected to prove the justification of their confidence. Mr. Suter and his collaborators on the old Council, who wish to retire from office, are, of course, most delighted by this happy end to an unhappy episode, and they are making the change-over as easy for the new one as possible.

It does seem a pity that only the threat of suicide brought the necessary reinforcement upon the scene, entailing a complete change of stewardship. May it succeed in its ambitions, and may it secure the necessary support from the old as well as many new members, who are already beginning to enrol themselves. Dr. Egli and his friends are particularly anxious also to draw the Ladies of our Colony into an active participation. Application forms for mem-

bership (Subscription 10/- p.a.) may be obtained from the "Swiss Observer," 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2; or Dr. Egli, 3, Chesterford Gardens, N.W.3.

HELVETICUS.

SPORT EVENTS.

Olympic "inter Games" at St. Moritz.

A provisional programme was issued by the Swiss Olympic committee for the Olympic "inter Games" at St. Moritz 1948. The meeting will be held from Friday, January 13th, till Sunday, February 8th. The whole field of Winter sports will be covered, especially Ice-Hockey, Skiing, Bobsleigh, Skating, Pentathlon, Skeleton, etc. The full programme will be published in one of the next issues of the "Swiss Observer."

Football:

An international meeting was held between Portugal and Switzerland on the 5th January. The game took place in Lisbon and ended with a draw 2:2. The conditions for the match were extremely difficult as heavy rain fell during the whole game. Our compatriot, Steffen, London, was the outstanding player on the field.

The Swiss Winter Championship ended with matches of the last days of December. As expected, Lausanne Sport heads the list with 23 points out of 13 meetings, followed by Lugano (18 points), Basel (17 points) and Bienne (17 points). In the National League B Chaux-de-Fonds is on top with 21 points out of 13 plays with F.C. Zürich as second.

In 1946 the Swiss football team was engaged in altogether 6 international meetings. The results were as follows:—

| | |
|--|-----|
| 11th May: England v. Switzerland | 4:1 |
| 12th May: Luxembourg v. Switzerland | 0:0 |
| 15th May: Scotland v. Switzerland | 3:1 |
| 7th July: Sweden v. Switzerland | 7:2 |
| 14th September: Tchechoslovakia v. Switzerland | 3:2 |
| 10th November: Austria v. Switzerland | 0:1 |

Ice-Hockey:

The traditional Spengler-Cup was again at stake in an Ice-Hockey Tournament at Davos. The team of the LTC Prague won the trophy with victories over Davos, S.C. Zürich and Oxford.

The present position in the Swiss Ice-Hockey championship is as follows:—

| | Group 1: | P. |
|--------------------|-----------------|----|
| 1. Züricher S.C. | 4 3 1 — 40 20 7 | |
| 2. Basel-Rotweiss | 4 2 1 1 22 15 5 | |
| 3. Montchoisi | 3 1 — 2 13 16 2 | |
| 4. Grasshoppers | 3 — — 3 11 35 0 | |
| | Group 2: | P. |
| 1. H.C. Davos | 3 3 — — 21 4 6 | |
| 2. Young Sprinters | 4 3 — 1 41 32 6 | |
| 3. Arosa | 4 2 — 2 32 25 4 | |
| 4. Berner S.C. | 5 — — 5 17 50 0 | |

Automobile:

We received a circular from Switzerland which informs us that the "Grand Prix Automobile Suisse" will take place on the 7th and 8th June, 1947, at Berne. Berne possesses one of the most beautiful race-tracks in Europe. The races are open for cars and motorcycles. The track is 7,28 km. long and is known as *Circuit de Bremgarten*.