

Presidents' assembly

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BIRTHDAY WISHES TO GENERAL GUISAN.

General Henry Guisan, Commander-in-Chief of the Swiss Army during the last war, has celebrated on the 21st of this month his 75th birthday anniversary.

On this occasion the Swiss Economic Council and the Confrérie Vaudoire in London have sent him the following telegrams:—

*General Henri Guisan Chamblandes
Lausanne*

Le Conseil Economique Suisse de Londres vous envoie tous ses vœux de santé et de bonheur à l'occasion de votre anniversaire et espère que notre General restera longtemps encore parmi nous, lien vivant des grandes traditions qui unissent les Suisses au Pays et à l'Étranger.

Steiner, Président.

*General Henri Guisan Chamblandes
Lausanne*

La Confrérie Vaudoise de Londres qui se souvient avec émotion de votre visite et de tout ce que la Patrie vous doit vous envoie ses vœux les plus sincères en ce jour anniversaire santé bonheur et que longtemps encore vous puissiez inspirer jeunes et vieux et rester celui autour duquel tout un peuple reconnaissant reste uni. Vive Le General et merci.

Renou, Président.

EDITOR'S POST-BAG

61, Woodland Rise,
N.10.

October 21st, 1949.

A. Stauffer,
Editor, Swiss Observer,
London.

Dear Mr. Stauffer,

I do not know if the following item would be of any interest to the S.O. but I think it will interest you and Mrs. Stauffer personally.

Last Thursday Rosemary, as one of six senior prize-winners at the College, received her prize from Princess Elizabeth. After the Concert these young and happy few were presented to Her Majesty the Queen and were invited to take tea with her and the Princess. For three quarters of an hour the Royal Ladies chatted happily with the young people. She was particularly interested to hear that Rosemary was a pianist as well as a solo 'Cellist. As a pianist herself she said she could appreciate how much time and hard work must have gone in one so young to acquire this double effort.

Rosemary came running home, happy and starry eyed; surely every young artist's dream come true. The Princess was charming, the Queen was sweet and lovely and so easy to talk to, just like to one's own mother. It was only on waking next morning she suddenly remembered she had been told that if one of the Royal Ladies spoke to her she must reply "Yes (or No) Ma'am"!!

Can you remember being twenty years of age, how rosey it all looked! What a happy experience such an afternoon was and what a happy memory it will be.

My husband joins me in sending you our very kindest regards and best wishes.

Very sincerely yours,
Nina Pfaendler.

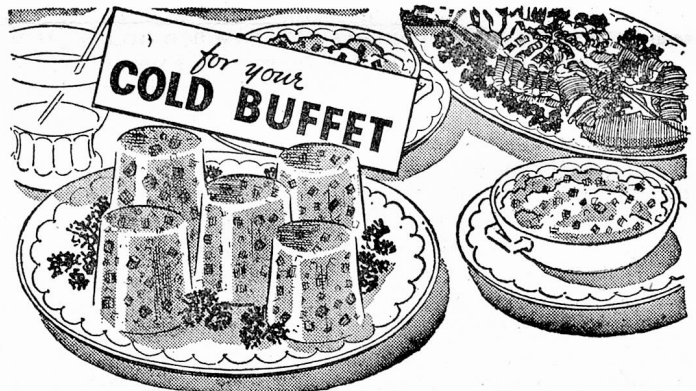
PRESIDENTS' ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly of Presidents of Swiss Societies in Britain has just held another meeting — the fourth since its constitution as the coordinating body in our Colony some 18 months ago. The rareness of these meetings makes rather crowded agenda unavoidable.

Chief among the matters discussed were: A request for more support of the Swiss Club Schweizerbund; the failure of the negotiation on a Swiss Centre at No. 1, Gerrard Place; a plea for transfer facilities of current savings of long residents to Switzerland; the unsatisfactory position regarding Old Age Insurance premiums.

The rules of the Presidents' Assembly requiring annual election of the officers, who may not stay in the same office longer than one year. Dr. Egli was replaced by Mr. Sommer as Chairman; the latter's former position as Vice-Chairman was entrusted to Mr. Berti, President of the Unione Ticinese. Finally Mr. W. Meier is succeeded as Hon. Secretary by Mr. Streit, President of the Swiss Philatelic Society.

The Hon. President, Mr. Henry de Torrenté, our Minister, kindly offered the Presidents cocktails and refreshments before the meeting which was held at the Legation. M. de Graffenried, Dr. Bircher and M. Magnin were present at the meeting, at which of the provincial Swiss societies that of Dunfermline, Scotland, was represented on this occasion by Mr. Frick.

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