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THE SWISS MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE COLONY OF LEEDS AND BRADFORD.

On Sunday, July 2nd, took place a Garden Party at the home of M. and Mme Hagenbach, near Leeds, a most delightful gathering of the Swiss Colony of the West Riding of York. About 150 members of the Colony from Leeds and Bradford and surroundings were present and gave the Swiss Minister and Madame de Torrenté, who had specially travelled to Leeds for this occasion, an enthusiastic welcome. The guests were received by M. and Mme Hagenbach as hosts, Professor Inebnit as President of the Swiss Club, and then introduced individually to the Minister. The beautiful garden which surrounds the house was soon filled with small groups of people wandering about, exchanging news. Monsieur and Madame de Torrenté went from one group to the other and had a smile and friendly word for each. It was the first time that a Swiss Minister had visited the Colony of Leeds and Bradford. Later on the Party assembled in the huge marquee where Professor Inebnit addressed a few words of welcome to Monsieur and Madame de Torrenté. Our Minister then rose and brought the official greetings from the Federal Council and in an eloquent speech referred to "the task which devolves on all Swiss to defend their spiritual patrimony which has come into such special relief since successive catastrophes have battered Europe and spared our country. Switzerland must remain a source of energy and moral values from which the shaken countries may be able to draw the elements for their own reconstruction. Likewise our neutrality is an example which we can give to the world. It presupposes the renunciation of political and territorial ambitions. If nations were to impose on themselves discipline in this respect and base their economy on the work of their people, the spectre of war would soon cease to trouble all our minds."

There followed an excellent tea interrupted by some songs and a final address by Professor Inebnit. Our thanks are due to both the Minister and Madame de Torrenté as well as to our hosts for this memorable occasion, which has done much to stimulate that feeling of belonging together which is so essential to the flourishing progress of a Colony.

SWISSAIR SERVICES TO NEW YORK NEXT WINTER.

Swissair — The Airline of Switzerland — will maintain its services between Switzerland and New York during the whole of the coming winter season. From 22nd October until 14th December, 1950, and from 19th March until 14th April, 1951, the route will be flown twice weekly, meanwhile once a week.

Two new Douglas DC-6 B have been ordered and will be put into service as soon as received from Santa Monica (California) where they are being built.

Provided permission will be granted by the interested governments Swissair and the other member airlines of the I.A.T.A. taking part in North Atlantic traffic, will be issuing 15-days round-trip tickets at considerably reduced fares.

"SCHWEIZER ECHO"

Die Zeitschrift der Schweizer im Ausland. Erscheint monatlich reich illustriert in einer vollständigen Ausgabe (deutsch, französisch, italienisch) und einer "Edition réduite en français".

Politische und kulturelle Schweizerchronik, Berichte aus den Kolonien. Reportagen und Aufsätze über das Kolonieleben, grosse Auslandschweizer usw. *Redaktion, Verlag und Verwaltung*: Auslandschweizerwerk der NHG., Wallgasse 2, Bern.

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INTERNATIONAL MOTOR RALLY AT INTERLAKEN.

There is to be a full and interesting programme for the coming great Motor Rally, which will take place from September 7th — 12th with Interlaken as its centre. The programme includes:

1. The Rally's minimum compulsory run 2,200 km.
2. Reliability test: Lausanne-Interlaken.
3. International Motor-Slalom on the air-field at Interlaken.
4. Mountain race on the Susten Pass.
5. Drive over six mountain passes.

For example the mountain motor-race on the Susten taking place on Monday, September 11th, as a start to the 6 Pass-Rally, will be very interesting. It begins in Gadmen, the highest village, 3,986 ft. above sea-level, and the finish is on the top of the Susten, 7,454 ft. — about 500 ft. from the Pass. It is the first time that a motor-race will take place on the Susten Pass, a large road which makes no special demands on any driver. The total length of the course is 15.1 km.; the difference in altitude 3,468 ft., the maximum gradient 9% and the mean gradient 6.9%. A flying start is planned and the ranging will be made by no other factor than the time taken. 6 different classes. Only participants in the Rally are entitled to take part. The race over the Susten, both from a sporting and technical point of view, promises to be a very interesting event.

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