

# City Swiss Club

Objektyp: **Group**

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

Band (Jahr): - **(1950)**

Heft 1145

PDF erstellt am: **08.08.2024**

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## CITY SWISS CLUB.

The lecture of Mr. Philip James, Art Director to the Art Council of Great Britain, which should have taken place on July 5th and which, unfortunately, had to be postponed at the time owing to a insufficient attendance, took place on Wednesday, September 27th, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

Reporting on that meeting, which was held *without* the distinguished lecturer, I asked the question, "Where oh where, were the intellectuals of the Club?" This *cri de cœur* has not been left unanswered, I am glad to say; although considering the subject of the lecture "Art in the Community", and the name of the lecturer, which ranks high in Art circles, one could have wished for a still better attendance.

For the first time, since time immemorial, and after, at times fierce opposition, the Ladies were asked to grace a monthly meeting of the Club, and I am delighted to state, that they have not "let us down," and their presence greatly added to the success of the evening.

Previous to the meeting cocktails were served in the attractive anti-chambre, where an animated conversation took place, principally on the subject of recent holiday experiences in our home country.

Soon after 7 o'clock the company adjourned to the Orchid Room which was richly adorned with flowers, as a special compliment to the Ladies present. As usual, an excellent dinner was served, and equally famous Swiss vintages were produced. The "Dôle de Sion", as well as the fine "Neuchâtel" evoked in many of the consumers happy memories of recent times spent "back home".

After the customary toasts were given and duly honoured, the President, Mr. R. Dupraz, extended a hearty welcome to the lecturer, who, without further ado, gave us a most interesting *exposé* on the history, aims and achievements of the Art Council of Great Britain. With rapt attention the company followed the lecturer, who — intermingling it with humorous remarks — presented this most interesting subject, in a masterful manner.

It was good to hear, that in spite of the enormous sums spent on the social services of the "Welfare State", the present Government has not neglected to support — alas not too generously — the Arts which play such an important rôle in the life of the community. It was less amusing to hear of the sad plight in which a great number of artists find themselves nowadays, principally due to the fact, that many of the generous supporters in the past find it impossible, owing to high taxation, to give adequate patronage.

The lecturer closed his excellent address, with the wish, that Art, in all its branches, should get a new impetus and a new lease of life on the occasion of next year's "Festival of Britain".

Loud applause greeted the lecturer as he regained his seat.

No less enjoyable was the performance on the Cello of Mlle. Rosemarie Pfaendler (Mrs. S. C. Coulling), who was efficiently accompanied by Mlle. A. Broomhead on the piano. She rendered in her usual charming style a cello solo "Elégie" by Fauré, *pièce en forme d'un habeneau*, and two pieces from "Suite populaire Espagnole," by Falla.

Members of the City Swiss Club have had the good fortune to hear this gifted artiste on many previous occasions, and her splendid performance has still further enhanced her name as a really fine and accomplished musician. The generous applause which her performance evoked was well deserved.

Thus we left the realm of Art, and before closing the meeting, the President of the Club, called upon Mr. A. Renou, to give the members an account of the work which the London Delegation rendered on the occasion of the recent "Journée des Suisses à l'Etranger" which took place at Lausanne on September 1st to 3rd, 1950.

It was altogether a pleasant and enjoyable evening, and it is hoped that it will be repeated and that again our Ladies will be with us to make it a real success.

ST.

## Xmas Greetings

Following former years' practice we propose to publish again in our December issue a collective greeting.

The scarcity of paper and the costs of Xmas cards, should induce many of our subscribers to make use of this facility to extend to their friends the compliments of the season.

Those of our readers and friends wishing to be included should forward name and address to our office not later than Tuesday, December 5th, 1950, together with remittance for 6/-.

## CITY SWISS CLUB

Will Members kindly note that the next

### MONTHLY MEETING

will take place on **Tuesday, November 7th, 1950, 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m., at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, W.1.**

The dinner will be followed by a game of Jass or Bridge.

Members wishing to attend should send their cards to The Manager, Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, W.1, to reach him not later than Monday, November 6th, 1950.

C. E. SEINET,

Hon. Secretary.