

News fromt the colony

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY.



FERNAND DELALOYE
President: "Schweizerbund", Swiss Club.

The Annual General Meeting of the "Schweizerbund", (Swiss Club) took place on Saturday, January 30th, 1954, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1. as was reported in our last issue.

This Club which has been in existence for 76 years, has had a somewhat chequered career, due, especially in later years, to frequent changes both in the administration and the stewardship.

In 1948, under the Presidency of Mr. E. Siegrist, and with the help of some of the older members, the Club's premises were completely renovated, and a stricter control was exercised with regard to visitors from outside.

Handicapped by a reputation which was detrimental to a successful carrying on, the Society made a great effort to amend its past errors, and during the last five years, under the Presidency of Mr. W. Schneeberger, ably assisted by his wife, the Club tried very hard, and we may say, has been successful in putting their house in order.

The leadership has now been entrusted to Mr. Fernand Delaloye, who is no stranger to the Colony, and we feel sure that under his guidance the "Schweizerbund" will now look forward to a prosperous future.

The newly elected President hails from Ardon (Ct. Valais), and arrived in this country in 1905 after a sojourn at Monte Carlo.

Mr. Delaloye joined the same year J. Lyons & Co. and worked in "The Troc" florist shop, where he stayed for a few months before being transferred to the kitchens. He has been vegetable cook, commi, head waiter, chef waiter, superintendent and Manager. Within ten years of his start in the kitchen, he was assistant chief superintendent of the Coventry Street Corner House, and was then transferred in the same position to the newly opened Regent Palace Hotel. Promoted Manager of the Regent Palace, he stayed there eleven years before taking over the managership of the Trocadero Restaurant in 1926, from which post he retired some time ago.

During his long *séjour* in this country he always took a great interest in the life of the London Colony. He is an Honorary Member of the Union Helvetia, a Trustee of the Société de Secours Mutuels, as well as an Honorary Member of the "Schweizerbund".

The President is assisted by the following committee: H. Caluori, Vice-President, R. Weist, Hon. Treasurer, Secretary: Mr. Westell, Hon. Secretary: J. J. Keller, members: Mr. Henry, Mr. de Lara, B. Baylies, Mr. Roth, Mrs. Oggier, Miss O'Sullivan.

The stewards are Mr. and Mrs. K. Caluori, a young couple, who promise well for the future.

We are wishing Mr. F. Delaloye and his collaborators a very successful year of office.



PIETRO JACOMELLI
President: Unione Ticinese.

On the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of the Unione Ticinese, which was held on Sunday, February 14th, at "Swiss House", 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1., Mr. Pietro Jacomelli was elected President. He succeeds the late Mr. Pietro De Maria, who had since 1951 so ably guided the destiny of the Society, and whose untimely death has been greatly deplored.

The Unione Ticinese whose members hail from the southern part of Switzerland, enjoys the reputation of being one of the most patriotic Swiss Societies in the London Colony, and their always willing and helpful collaboration in matters which concern the Colony as a whole, has been, and is always greatly appreciated.

To succeed, such a popular President as Mr. De Maria was, is no easy task, but we feel sure, that the Unione Ticinese has chosen the right man for the job in the person of the youthful Mr. Jacomelli.

The newly elected President was born in England, the son of Ticinese parents, who emigrated to this country some 55 years ago and started a family catering business here. Mr. Jacomelli received his education in England and Switzerland. He is now the principal and Director in a newly formed catering concern in Richmond. (Surrey).

For the last three years he has held the office of Vice-President of the Society, having been previously Assistant Secretary.

Mr. Jacomelli is a keen sportsman and was one of the "star turns" at former Swiss Sports meetings. He served for six years in the British army during the last war, and was taken prisoner at Corsino.

We extend to him our best wishes for a successful year of office.



ERMANNO BERNER
President: Swiss Club, Manchester.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Club Manchester, which took place on February 20th, 1954, the following committee has been elected:

President: E. Berner, Vice-President: M. Lichtensteiger, Hon. Secretary: R. Beaujon, Hon. Treasurer: H. Monney, Librarian: H. Schweiwiler.

The newly elected President E. Berner, has already in 1950 occupied the post as President. He is succeeding, Mr. Etienne R. Cottet, who has been at the head of the Society since 1952.

Mr. E. Berner was born in 1903 at Cene (Bergamo, Italy), and received his schooling at the "Kantonschule" in Aarau and the "Ecole Supérieure de Commerce", at Neuchâtel. Later on he attended the "Preussische Höhere Fachschule für Textil Industrie" in Krefeld, and subsequently joined the "I.G. Farben Industrie, A.G." Leverkusen. (Cologne).

In 1925, he joined the "Società Italiana Industria Velluti", in Bergamo, a subsidiary of the firm of "Johs. Girmes & Co., A.G.", Oedt, nr. Krefeld, velvet and plush weavers, dyers and finishers, of which firm he became Managing-Director and a member of the Board until 1936.

Mr. Berner came to this country in 1937 and entered the firm of Messrs. Giron Frères (Great Britain) Ltd., of Accrington, French velvet weavers, dyers and finishers, in which concern he holds the position of Managing-Director and a member of the Board.

We extend to the new head of this active and patriotic Society our very best wishes for a successful and fruitful year of office.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, March 26th, 1954. We take the opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscription: Emil H. Hess, C. Berti, A. Schmid, C. H. Willi, Mrs. L. C. West, F. Winkelmann, A. Ritzmann, R. Jaeger, R. Weist, H. Gattiker, M. A. Roethlisberger, E. Rognon, E. Rietmann-Adams, W. Graf, R. A. Jequier, F. Eggar, P. Lequent.



ETIENNE R. COTTET

We have much pleasure to announce that Mr. Etienne R. Cottet, has been appointed Chief Hotels Manager, Northern Group, British Transport Hotels and Catering Services, with headquarters at York.

Mr. Cottet was born at Bossonens (Ct. Fribourg) in 1894, and started his schooling in his native village and at the Ecole Régionale d'Attalens. On the conclusion of his studies he made his apprenticeship at the Hotel Eden at Montreux.

In 1911, at the age of nearly 18, he decided to go abroad, and his choice was Germany, where he obtained a position at the "Kaiserhof" Berlin, and afterwards had several appointments at Breslau, Bad Salzbrunn, etc., etc.

It was in 1913, that Mr. Cottet arrived in this country, where he obtained a position at the Hotel Adelphi in Liverpool, belonging to the London Midland Scottish Railway; after having spent several years at various Railway Hotels, he was appointed Manager of the Euston Hotel in London, during the coronation of the late King George VI, in 1937.

For several of the tragic war years, he was in charge of the Hotel Adelphi at Liverpool, which Hotel was, on many occasions, bombed and badly damaged. In 1943, he took over the management of the Midland Hotel in Manchester, and at the same time also managed the famous Gleneagles Hotel in Scotland, which under his direction was again transformed into a Hotel after having been used as a hospital.

In April, 1949, he was nominated Manager Superintendent of the British Railways Hotels in the North-West region of England, which brought twelve of the largest Hotels under his supervision.

Two years later, October 1951, Mr. Cottet was appointed Chief Hotels Manager (Headquarters).

Mr. Cottet was until recently President of the Swiss Club, Manchester, and we are tendering him our best wishes in his new sphere of activity.

SWISS SPORTS.

At the Delegate's Meeting of the "Swiss Sports", it was decided to hold this year's Meeting on Saturday, May 22nd, 1954, at the Chiswick Stadium.