

A centenary

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A C E N T E N A R Y .

Social events play an important role in the life of the Colony. It is often said — and not without some reason — that there are too many festivities, and yet by getting together on special occasions an opportunity is afforded to members of the respective Societies to keep in intimate touch; at the same time it is also a testimony of our attachment to our mother country to which we all owe so much.

Keeping in touch with each other is an important factor especially in a time when Swiss Colonies abroad are dwindling alarmingly either through death or departure of many of the older generation, and through the scarcity of new arrivals.

Speaking of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain, it is imperative to check the slow dying of a hitherto active and prosperous Colony, and those in charge of the destiny of the Swiss community strongly feel that those who are still left should not lose contact with each other and, therefore, consider that this can best be achieved by meeting from time to time on festive occasions.

The Colony had given a splendid proof of solidarity and patriotism during the last war; never did we feel more united than in those critical and eventful days.

The will to maintain a united front, facing in close collaboration whatever the future may have in store for us, has unfortunately somewhat relaxed during the last few years. Far too many of our compatriots living in this country show but little interest in the doings of the Colony, and by standing aloof hasten the disintegration of the community.

* * *

An opportunity to “serrer les rangs” will be given at the forthcoming Centenary Banquet and Ball of the City Swiss Club, on the 16th of next month, at the Dorchester Hotel.

Whilst it is primarily an affair concerning the members of this well-known Club, we are informed that friends of members will be made welcome.

Twenty-five years ago next month the Club celebrated its 75th Jubilee, at the Mayfair Hotel under the Chairmanship of the Swiss Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini († 5.11.1947), and assisted by the then President Mr. M. Golay († Nov. 1949).

Much has happened since then, countries and rulers have tottered and disappeared, but the City Swiss Club has survived and is still very much alive.

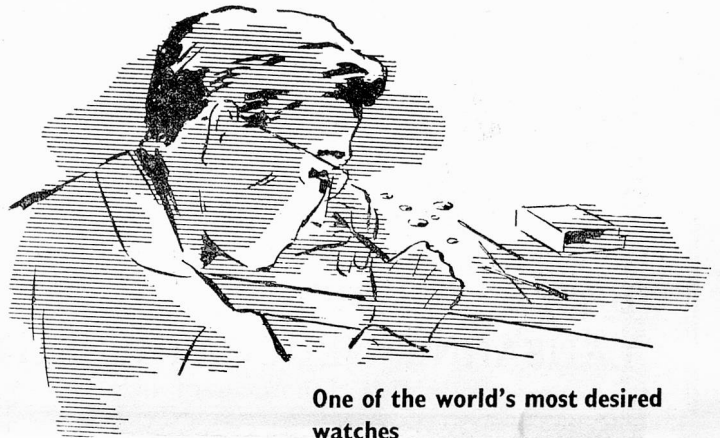
Centuries — apart from cricket — are rare, and therefore the committee of this Club is making a special appeal to its members to attend this unique birthday party, which can also be considered an important mile-stone in the history of the London Swiss Colony.

We gather from the circular sent out recently that a galaxy of eminent personalities will honour the Club with their presence. The principal guest from our home country will be Mr. Paul Burgdorfer, President of the National Council, as a worthy representative of the Federal Parliament.

For those “whose dancing years are over”, we hear a cabaret turn will be provided, there will be a tombola with attractive prizes and a “surprise” for the ladies.

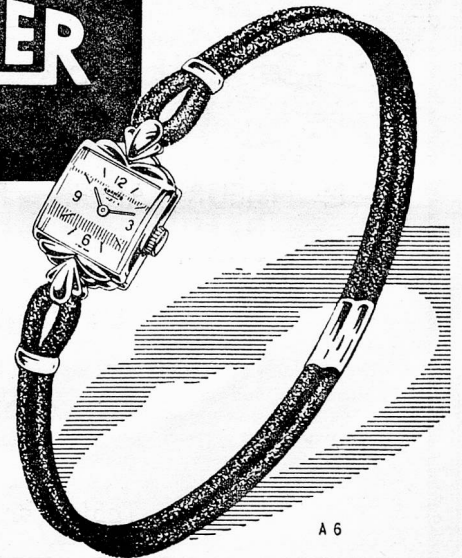
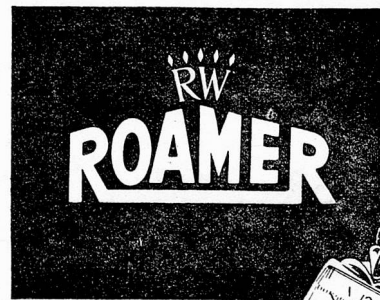
The various speakers, who are to address the festive gathering, have been asked to be “short and sweet”, thus everything points to the fact that this 100th birthday party will be a memorable and enjoyable one.

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