

# Visit to S.M.S. College of the S.K.V. delegation

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## VISIT TO S.M.S. COLLEGE OF THE S.K.V. DELEGATION.

On Monday, 15th September, the delegation of the S.K.V., which was in London to join in the celebrations of the London Section's 70th Anniversary, visited the College of the Swiss Mercantile Society in Fitzroy Square. The visitors were welcomed by the President, Members of the Council and Education Committee and the Principal of the College. Several classes were seen so that the visitors were given an idea of the work being done at the College.

Then the whole party met the assembled students. The Principal, Mr. Slade, welcomed the members of the delegation and their wives and said how pleased he was to have such distinguished visitors honour the College with their presence and he then asked Mr. A. Meier-Ragg, Generalsekretär des S.K.V. to address the meeting. In his speech Mr. Meier-Ragg said that he brought greetings from the Central Committee and referred to the 70th Anniversary of the S.M.S. He said that they were proud of the London Section — the largest and most active of the foreign sections, and especially of its College which was serving a very useful purpose in aiding the Swiss economy through its teaching of English to Swiss students. Mr. Meier-Ragg stressed the good services rendered to their home country by the Swiss abroad. He urged the students to make the most of their stay in this country and told them that they were lucky to have such a means of learning English. He was pleased that he still remembered his own English which he had learnt 35 years ago, but sincerely regretted that he was not a former student of the S.M.S. College. The College was fortunate in having such an excellent teaching staff and, therefore, it was possible for students to learn all aspects of the language. If the students did not make the most of their opportunities it would be their own fault. Mr. Meier-Ragg concluded that many students were making a financial sacrifice in being over in this country but, in due course, they would, through their knowledge of the English language, be richly rewarded for their efforts.

M. Losey, Secrétaire romand S.S.E.C., was then invited by Mr. Slade to speak. M. Losey began by saying how glad he was to be here with the delegation, and mentioned his two previous visits in 1938 and 1948. He was proud to have been elected an honorary member of the London Section at the 70th Anniversary celebration. M. Losey remarked how glad he was to see a good number of French-speaking students at the College and he hoped that, in due course, when they were in business, they would tell their colleagues about the College so that the number of French-speaking students would increase. Through his work and political activities M. Losey came in contact with leading personalities in business and political circles and he had heard a great deal of praise about the College.

Mr. A. Jaccard, Chairman of the Education Committee then rose to thank Mr. Meier-Ragg and M. Losey for their kind remarks. He then spoke of the Education Committee's task in running the College and told the students that the College as a building did not, perhaps, compare very favourably with some school buildings some of the students had left recently. Things were different here and students should not be too hasty in criticising. In due course they would appreciate and realise the reason for these differences. Mr. Jaccard then said that though the building was not as good as they would like it to be, there was no question about the excellency of the ability of the teaching staff who he thanked for their efforts and work.

At the conclusion of the meeting the visitors, hosts and teaching staff went to the Members' Room where refreshments were served.

K.D.

### PERSONAL.

We extend our deep sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. W. Flory, of "Argovie", Manor Drive, 23 Oakdale, Southgate N.14, on the passing away of Mr. Flory's mother in Wohlen, at the age of 91.



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