

47th federal shooting competition at Bienne

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THE CITY SWISS CLUB IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

At one of the recent meetings of the City Swiss Club the wish was expressed that the ladies should be given an opportunity of taking part in the social life of the Club to a greater extent than hitherto.

The committee promptly acted upon this suggestion and arranged a "Thé Dansant", which took place on Saturday, 5th July, at "The Compleat Angler" in Marlow (Berks).

When two years ago the Club organised a family river trip — in a specially hired steamer — from Windsor to Marlow, the latter place was the terminus. This charming little village on the Thames so pleased everyone that it was decided that a future outing should take place there.

Although the weather conditions were not altogether pleasing — the sun stubbornly refusing to make an appearance — the attendance reached nearly a hundred, which can be considered satisfactory. If the weather was dull, the same could hardly be said about this "Thé Dansant". The gay colours of the ladies' summer frocks made up for the missing sun.

The pleasant dining room at "The Compleat Angler" was on this occasion transformed into a ball-room, a large Swiss flag which was exhibited adding colour to the lavish flower decorations.

When the dance band started with a Viennese waltz there was almost a rush to "take the floor". Apart from the younger generation, many of the older couples gave proof that their "dancing years" were by no means over. Waltzes were followed in quick succession by one-steps and two-steps, and even by a rather exhausting Swiss "Laendler".

To allow the revellers to recover from their exertion an interval was introduced during which, instead of tea, a full-course cold dinner was served, and it would perhaps have been more appropriate to call it a "Dinner Dance". As the Club most generously contributed to the expenses it would be ungrateful to grumble. Special arrangements had been made with the licensing authorities for supplying alcoholic beverages. This, no doubt, added to the "Stimmung", and dancing was resumed with new vigour until 6.30 p.m.

This very successful outing, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, brought back many pleasant memories of pre-war dinners and dances held at Nuthall's, Kingston-on-Thames, and at the Brent Bridge Hotel events, which in those days were a popular feature in the social life of the City Swiss Club.

In concluding this report I wish, on behalf of all those who took part, to congratulate the committee for having organised this "Thé Dansant", especially the energetic Hon. Secretary, Mr. Th. von Speyr, for having seen that everything went without a hitch; it was a most successful and pleasant afternoon.

ST.

47th FEDERAL SHOOTING COMPETITION AT BIENNE. 2nd to 21st July 1958.

A few days ago the 47th Federal Shooting Competition (Tir Fédéral) came to its close. 2,850 rifle clubs with 67,000 marksmen took part. 400 targets were at the disposal of the competitors.

On the "Official Day" (8th July), Dr. Th. Hohenstein, President of the Swiss Confederation, welcomed the shooting fraternity in a patriotic address. A special train from Berne conveyed all the members of the Federal Council, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the Federal Chambers and of the Army to Bienne.

We are delighted to report that the London Swiss Rifle Association, who competed with an *équipe* of twelve men in the "Concours d'honneur" for the Swiss from abroad, were placed second with an average of 49,666 points, receiving a laurel wreath with golden acorns. Fourteen Societies with 133 marksmen took part in this competition. Five members of the S.R.A. won a distinction in the team competition, namely Messrs. W. Rüeger, Willy Fischer, Peter Odermatt, J. C. Wetter, and Joseph Hess. Mr. Hess also obtained a distinction in an individual competition.

Three members of the Swiss Rifle Association won the St. Martin's Challenge Cup offered by the "Schweizerischen Kurzwellendienst" Berne, the organisers of a "Radio Weltschützenfest" for Swiss nationals all over the world. They are: Marcel Bucherer, Peter Fischer, and Robert Strebler. 40 Swiss Colonies with 700 marksmen competed.

On Monday, 7th July, a trip on the Lake of Bienne was arranged for the Swiss competitors from abroad, and a banquet was given in their honour at the "Bären" in Twann-Douanne.

We extend heartiest congratulations to the Swiss Rifle Association on their remarkable success.

"STADTTURNVEREIN" BERNE v. SHAFTESBURY HARRIERS.

The Athletic Meeting between the "Stadtturnverein" Berne and the Shaftesbury Harriers took place on Monday, 14th July, at the Paddington Recreation Ground, Randolph Avenue, W.9.

Amongst a considerable number of spectators who attended the sports meeting were the Swiss Ambassador and Madame Daeniker, His Worship the Mayor of Paddington, and Consul E. Ribi and Madame Ribi.

Shortly before the start of the programme, Mr. A. Bosshard, President of the "Stadtturnverein", Mr. H. J. Aston, President of the Shaftesbury Harriers, and the respective team managers, Messrs. R. Bosshard and P. Woodsmith, with other officials, were introduced to the Ambassador and the Mayor of Paddington. Madame Daeniker was presented with a bouquet.

After the presentation the two teams lined up in front of the principal guests whilst the two national anthems were played.