

Swiss Rifle Association

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SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION

"GRUEMPELSCHIESSEN"

The "Grümpelschiessen" of the Swiss Rifle Association took place at Bisley on Sunday, October 4th in the presence of Colonel Th. Mosimann, Military and Air Attaché at the Swiss Embassy.

To mark the end of the 1959 shooting season, a match was arranged between two teams, consisting of eight members each, from the Surrey Rifle Association and the Swiss Rifle Association.

On many occasions I have been asked what the term "Grümpelschiessen" really means, especially as our English friends seem to have been puzzled by this name. On seeking some information from my shooting friends, I gather that the name originates in Switzerland, where annually prize competitions are held, for which the participants are invited to provide small gifts of not much value (hence "Grümpel") for the winners, very much like some people send "any old rubbish" to a jumble sale.

The respective teams shot series of six rounds, alternately with Swiss and British rifles on both Swiss and British targets, a total of 24 shots each.

As a further attraction there was present at Bisley, Mr. August Hollenstein, the well-known cross-bow (Armbrust) and "Weltmeisterschütz", who came from Switzerland in connection with the "Swiss Fortnight", and who took part in the match between the Swiss and British teams.

It was a beautiful autumn day, when we drove through the lovely Surrey hills to our destination. On our arrival shooting, under very good conditions, was already in full swing. In the course of the morning, Mr. Hollenstein gave a cross-bow demonstration, which was witnessed — apart from his compatriots — by a number of high ranking British officers. This champion is a remarkable marksman, shot after shot went in or near the centre of the target.

A halt in the shooting was called at noon, when the Surrey Rifle Association offered an apéritif to the members of the Swiss Rifle Association. After lunch shooting was resumed, and a start was made with the match of the two teams. The result of this competition was later on declared to be as follows: Surrey Rifle Association 903 points, Swiss Rifle Association 873 points. The highest single result of the day was attained by Mr. Hollenstein, who scored 159 points, and runner up was Mr. D. F. Cantlay, of the Surrey Rifle Association, with 158 points.

In the evening a dinner was held in honour of Mr. A. Hollenstein at the Glendower Hotel — the headquarters of the Swiss Rifle Association — during which Mr. A. Schmid, President, expressed his pleasure at welcoming this eminent marksman to London.

The next function of the Swiss Rifle Association will be the "Grümpelschiessen" dinner at the Glendower Hotel in November, which is one of the most popular events in the Colony.

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SWISS CHURCH IN LONDON.

The LUNCH-HOUR MEETINGS at St. Mary Woolnoth on Fridays from 12.20 to 12.50 p.m. have been resumed at the beginning of October, and a cordial invitation is again extended to all those who work in or near the City. The addresses are in German on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Friday of the month and in French on the 2nd and 4th. Details are available from leaflets obtainable in the Churches and from the "Forthcoming Events" column of the Swiss Observer.

It has at long last been possible to find a permanent successor to the Rev. Hans Spoerri as minister of the German-speaking congregation at St. Mary Woolnoth. The Rev. PETER WIPF, at present in Luchsingen, Ct. Glarus, has accepted the call of our Consistoire and is expected to arrive in London at the beginning of November. The Service of Installation will take place at St. Mary Woolnoth on 15th November, at 11 a.m. We extend our best wishes to Mr. Wipf for many years of successful and blessed ministry in London and welcome him and Mrs. Wipf and their children in our midst. They will live at the Manse in Womersley Road, which has been re-decorated and modernised while it was unoccupied.

For the last six months the Rev. Karl Huber has acted as minister to this congregation and he has now returned to Switzerland.

The Consistoire has also been looking for a new Pasteur at Endell Street, to take the place of the Rev. Claude Reverdin, who after 12 years in London has decided to return to Geneva in the near future. His successor, Rev. PHILIPPE NICOLE, has been in charge of the French-speaking church at Schaffhausen for the last few years, and according to his present plans he will arrive in London in January, 1960, for a brief period preparatory to the actual taking up of his ministry in the Spring. Mr. Reverdin will probably leave London before then, the Swiss Church and the Swiss Colony will be very sorry to see him and his family go.

M.

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NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE

(London Group)

OPEN MEETING

Tuesday, November 17th, 1959 at 7.45 p.m.

at the Swiss Hostel for Girls,
9, Belsize Grove, N.W.3.

Mr. GOTTFRIED J. KELLER, London
Correspondent of the "Basler Nachrichten",
will address Members and their friends on:

THE POWER OF PUBLIC OPINION

(Discussion to follow)

BUFFET SERVICE

with coffee or tea, 3/6d. inclusive, from 6.30 p.m. onwards.

Will Members and friends intending to be present please
inform the Warden of the Hostel on Tuesday, November
17th, between 11 a.m. and noon. (Tel. PRImrose 6856)