

News from the colony

Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): - **(1962)**

Heft 1418

PDF erstellt am: **27.06.2024**

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY

After the summer recess, the Society held its first monthly meeting, which was well attended, at Swiss House, on Wednesday, 12th September.

A proposal by the Council, moved by the Chairman, Mr. R. Chappuis, that Consul E. Ribi, who had recently been transferred to Zagreb, be elected a Corresponding Member of the Society, in recognition of the keen interest he had taken in its activities during his stay in London, was adopted unanimously with acclamation.

Reporting on the activities of the College, Mr. A. Jaccard, Chairman of the Education Committee, was pleased to state that the autumn term had started on 10th September with a record attendance of over 260 students.

At the June external examinations of Cambridge University, our students had again obtained satisfactory results. Out of 72 candidates, 47 had been awarded the Lower Certificate in English, whilst 13 candidates had been successful in the examination for the Certificate of Proficiency in English out of 22 students who had sat. These results were again well above the average for the London Open Centre and the ever increasing number of Candidates testified to the popularity of these examinations.

Following the official proceedings, members, as has now long become customary at our September meetings, indulged in holiday reminiscences. Our former President, Mr. O. Grob, opened the show with excellent colour slides of our family outing to Bodiam Castle, Rye and Winchelsea in June. This was followed by a colour film in which many of those present at the outing saw themselves, probably for the first time, moving about on the screen. Some nature studies, taken with a telescopic lens, concluded this very enjoyable film. Mr. G. Hediger, a member of the Education Committee, followed with another excellent colour film, which included scenes from the Society's outings to Cambridge and Luton Hoo, as well as a trip by car up the picturesque Rhine Valley, through the Black Forest and across Eastern Switzerland to Italy. Finally, Mr. C. L. Coulet treated us to a fine selection of colour slides of a winter holiday at Les Diablerets, replete with helicopter service and the amenities of a well-appointed chalet. A cordial vote of thanks by the Chairman, to all who had contributed towards a most pleasant evening, was warmly supported by all present.

W.B.

A NEW ARRIVAL AND A DEPARTURE

The Federal Military Department in conjunction with the Political Department has appointed General Staff Colonel Werner Koch as Military and Air Attaché at the Embassies in London and The Hague in succession to Colonel Mosimann, who will be leaving London at the end of October. An appreciation of Colonel Mosimann's services during his stay in Great Britain and a welcome to Colonel Koch, who held this post already a few years ago, will appear in the next issue.

A DEPARTURE

After 53 years of residence in Manchester, Mr. Ernst Kuebler is returning to Switzerland with his wife.

He was born in Winterthur in 1887 and after having received schooling and training there he qualified as a technical chemist at the Cantonal Technical College. He held several short appointments in Switzerland. He came to Great Britain in 1909 and took employment with the West Indies Chemical Works Ltd. of Jamaica and Manchester. Two years later he took over the technical department and acted as consultant, which meant much travelling in Europe. In 1920, Mr. Kuebler spent some time in the USA and six months at one of the company's factories in Jamaica in order to gain first-hand knowledge of the manufacture of natural dyestuffs. Intermittently, for several years he worked in Jamaica and Manchester and on his final return to England he retired in 1953.

Mr. Kuebler was president of the Swiss Club Manchester for thirteen years and later president of the Manchester Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique until it was merged with the Swiss Club.

In 1958 he was elected President of the Swiss Relief Society Manchester, of which he had been a committee member for some years. He can boast of 52 years of membership of the Swiss Club Manchester, which made him an Honorary Member in 1950.

In May 1960, Mr. Kuebler became Chairman of the Presidents' Assembly of the Swiss Societies in Great Britain, an office which he held with distinction.

Unfortunately, his health has recently not been everything it should, but we hope that it will improve once the upheaval of the move has subsided and he has been able to settle down in Winterthur. He has done a great deal for the Swiss Colony, and all our best wishes for many years of well-being and contentment accompany him and Mrs. Kuebler on their return to Switzerland.

Mariann.

A RECEPTION

The Swiss Ambassador and Madame Daeniker gave a reception at the Embassy on Tuesday, 2nd October, to meet delegations of the Organising Committee of the Swiss National Exhibition 1964 and of the Tourist Office of the Lake of Geneva Region.

LUNCH-HOUR CONCERT

Miss Ruth Huggenberg will be giving a lunch-hour recital of piano music at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, W.1, on Tuesday, 16th October, from 1.5 p.m. to 2 p.m. She will play the 32 Variations in C Minor by Beethoven, Le Catoroc from Sernia by John Ireland and the Sonata Op. 5 in F Minor by Brahms.