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SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION

GRUEMPELSCHIESSEN " DINNER

There are several reasons why the annual "Grümpelschiessen" dinners of the Swiss Rifle Association are invariably such an outstanding success.

Firstly, it is an occasion when the valiant efforts of its members find their due reward after the "battles" on the shooting range at Bisley are over. Secondly, it is a happy reunion between active members, and members who do not shoot any more, but who put their fingers — instead of on the trigger — into their pockets, thus enabling the Association to carry on a sport which takes foremost place in our country. Thirdly, and not the least reason, is that on these occasions the company partakes of a meal which reminds one of the good old times, when the menus ran to several courses.

This year's "Grümpelschiessen" dinner took place on Friday, 30th November, at the Glendower Hotel, Glendower Place, S.W.7, the headquarters of the Association, the Swiss Ambassador, Dr. Armin Daeniker, being in the Chair, in the capacity of Honorary President of the Swiss Rifle Association. His Excellency is also an active member and a good shot.

Before dinner, at which seventy-five members and guests participated, cocktails were served, during which time one was given an opportunity to look at the "Gabentisch", on which was displayed a marvellous variety of goods. Apart from substantial cash prizes, cigars, cigarettes, chocolates, etc., there were innumerable bottles of Champagne, Whisky, Gin, Kirsch, Sherry and Port to be seen, which proves that the Swiss subscribe to the saying, "a little of what you fancy does you good sometimes".

When the signal was given that dinner was served, the company was ushered into the pleasant dining room. The Association's banner, which on so many occasions has been proudly carried in the *cortèges* of the various Federal Shooting Competitions in Switzerland, was placed immediately behind the presidential chair, and the top table looked almost like the shop window of a jeweller's establishment. There were many silver cups and plates and other trophies which the Association or its members have won in hard fought competitions in this country and abroad.

The artistically designed menu card presented the view of a Grisons village surrounded by high peaks, no doubt as a compliment to several members of the Association who have successfully climbed some of our country's highest mountains.

To make the mouths of all those who were not present water, I herewith give the contents of the menu:

CONSOMMÉ DIABLOTIN, FILET DE MACQUERAUX MEUNIÈRE, CHOUCROÛTE GARNIE À LA BERNOISE, POMMES PERSILLÉES, CONTREFILET DE BŒUF RÔTI, SAUCE RAIFORT, HARICOTS VERTS AU BEURRE, COUPE GLACÉE AU FRUITS, FROMAGES, CAFÉ.

Towards the end of the dinner the Toasts to H.M. the Queen and Switzerland were proposed by Mr. J. C. Wetter, Vice-President, and duly honoured. The speeches which followed were — as usual on these occasions — short and to the point. The Swiss Ambassador in voicing his pleasure at once again being able to preside at this gathering handed over to the president, on behalf of the exhibition authorities, the Charter of the Swiss National Exhibition, which will take place in 1964 at Lausanne. He also mentioned that the Lord Mayor of the City of London

will, on the occasion of the British Week in Zurich, pay an official visit to that town and drive through its streets in the famous Lord Mayor's coach. The Ambassador paid a warm tribute to the work of the Association, and amidst great applause presented to Mr. Alfred Schmid, president of the Swiss Rifle Association, the Veterans' Cup, which he had won with a fine score. (This beautiful silver cup was presented some time ago by the Ambassador.) The Challenge Cup for 1962 was presented by His Excellency to Mr. Marcel Bucherer. He congratulated both recipients on the outstanding results they had achieved.

The next address was given by the popular president of the Association, Mr. Alfred Schmid, who thanked the Swiss Ambassador for having again taken the Chair, and for the continued interest he is taking in the activities of the Swiss Rifle Association. He said that a very interesting and fruitful year for the Society had come to its close, and that some remarkable results were obtained. The president especially congratulated Mr. Marcel Bucherer and Mr. Peter Fischer on the brilliant scores made in a competition in which a very large number of competitors in Switzerland and abroad had taken part, Mr. Fischer scoring 78 points of a possible 80, and Mr. Bucherer scoring 58 points of a possible 60. In conclusion, the president extended a cordial welcome to Monsieur Jean de Stoutz, 1st Counsellor of Embassy, to Colonel Werner Koch, Military and Air Attaché at the Embassy, to whom he voiced his pleasure at seeing him once again at his former post, to Dr. Hugo Rast, the representative of the Surrey Rifle Association, and Mr. A. Stauffer, the newly appointed Press Reporter of the S.R.A. and former editor of the "Swiss Observer".

The presentation of the prizes then took place under the able direction of Mr. F. Magnin, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The top prizes, announced with almost monotonous regularity, went to Messrs. Peter Fischer, Marcel Bucherer and Joseph Hess. Various members also received medals, and presentations were made to non-shooting members. His Excellency the Swiss Ambassador was presented with a substantial hamper, which will, no doubt, be a welcome addition to his Christmas fare.

The Press Reporter gathered during the evening some interesting news items as to the future developments which will take place before long. A pistol section, within the frame of the Association, will shortly come into being under the leadership of Mr. J. Wetter, jun. He heard also that the world famous rifle shot, Monsieur M. Revilliod of Budé, who has won many International Competitions, is the father of Monsieur J. Revilliod, Press Counsellor at the Swiss Embassy in London.

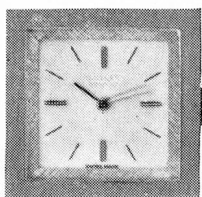
Before the evening came to its conclusion, Mr. J. C. Wetter, Vice-President, thanked the family Schmid for the very generous and excellent fare provided, and the efficient service, and Mr. F. Magnin for the long and faithful services he has rendered, and is still rendering, to the Swiss Rifle Association.

Another enjoyable evening in the pleasant company of the Colony's "sharp shooters" thus came to its close, an evening full of mirth, good companionship and good cheer; and everyone left the hospitable precincts of the Glendower Hotel loaded with prizes, bottles and happy memories.

A. STAUFFER,
Press Reporter, S.R.A.

Results

Dr. Daeniker's Senior Cup: Alfred Schmid, President, 149 points; Joseph Hess, 148. *Challenge Cup*: Marcel Bucherer, 311; Joseph Hess, 304. *Major Talbot Smith's Cup*: Marcel Bucherer, 53; Werner Trauffer, 50. *Grümpelschiessen*: Marcel Bucherer, 58; Joseph Hess, 53. *Handicap*: Peter Fischer, 56; Felix Ansermoz, 53. *Lausanne for Swiss abroad*: Marcel Bucherer, 70; Peter Fischer, 69; Felix Ansermoz, 66. *Zürich competition*: Marcel Bucherer, 53; Peter Fischer, 53. *St. Gallen competition*: Marcel Bucherer, 90; Peter Fischer, 88. *Feld-schiessen*: Peter Fischer, 88; Joseph Hess, 81; Marcel Bucherer, 78. *Obligatorische Uebungen*: Marcel Bucherer, 117; Peter Fischer, 116; Rolf Zürcher, 106. *Schweizerische Schützenverein*: Joseph Hess, 85; Marcel Bucherer, 85; Peter Fischer, 85.



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