

Unione Ticinese

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UNIONE TICINESE

Sunday, 6th May, saw many banners and flags in the vicinity of Park Lane, but not all were followed by marchers. One flag, which was installed in the Dorchester Hotel, simply proclaimed the foundation of the Unione Ticinese in 1874 and the fact that yet another Tea Dance was in progress. This flag, presented on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Unione Ticinese, has looked down upon most of the Tea Dances which have been held every year since they were started during the war.

Flanked by the Swiss and British flags, the banner made a very picturesque setting above the Top Table, which was graced by the presence of Mr. Roche and Mr. and Mrs. Ribì. In short speech of welcome, the President, Mr. Peter Jacomelli, thanked all those present for attending, and commended to all two forthcoming functions that are being organised on behalf of Swiss charities.

The cabaret presented Jimmy Mitchell, who rendered several well-known ballads in a very pleasant manner, and Harry Benet, a ventriloquist, who captivated the audience with his bottle, and the thunderous applause given to both artists was an indication of the merit of their performances. It was at this point that an old friend usually appeared in the Cabaret, but, alas, on this occasion the Corale could not appear! No one seemed to remember when such an absence had last occurred, and many expressed regret and the hope that the difficulties besetting the Corale are only of a temporary nature and will soon be solved.

Following the cabaret came the serious part of the evening, as young and not so young tried to keep pace with Harry Vardon's Orchestra and its selection of dances both old and new. Over the years, Harry has become an old campaigner at these Dances, and their success has been due, in no small measure, to his great capacity for pleasing all dancers. He has introduced many new dances, and this year it was the turn of the "Twist". And doubts one may have had as to the popularity of this new "exercise" were rapidly dispelled by the avalanche of customers that rushed to the dance floor before even the introductory notes were over. Except for a brief interval, during which the raffle prizes were distributed and thanks given to the donors — among them Miss C. Polti and the Misses Rosi — dancing continued until 11 p.m., when everyone left the stately ballroom of the Dorchester for the cool and refreshing air of Park Lane, and so home for a well-earned rest.

DeM.

**"SCHWEIZERBUND" (SWISS CLUB)
"Gemütlicher Abend"**

A few months ago when a meeting of the "Schweizerbund" (Swiss Club) was held at 74 Charlotte Street, W.1, everyone present thought that this would be the last one, as the premises which the Club had occupied for so long had to be given up. It was a very dismal meeting, compared some members with a funeral.

They were all wrong, we are glad to say. This Club, founded in 1879, and which has had its ups and downs, has been resurrected, with a "Gemütlicher Abend" at the Glendower Hotel, Glendower Place, S.W.7, on Friday, 11th May.

About thirty members attended, enjoying an excellent dinner and good company. Mr. V. Berti, the president, briefly greeted the company, and voiced his pleasure at

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seeing a number of ladies and gentlemen from the Embassy.

The dinner was followed by the showing of two films, by courtesy of the Swiss National Tourist Office, which were for the first time shown in this country. These lovely films — Pilgrimage to Solitude (on the history and culture of the Ticino), and Wonderful Switzerland (Valais and Lake of Geneva regions) — were greatly enjoyed.

We hope that this first attempt to bring the "Schweizerbund" into the picture again will not be the last; it was a promising beginning, indeed a homely and friendly evening.

**200 YEARS SWISS CHURCH IN LONDON
SUNDAY, 27th MAY 1962**

- 11 a.m. EGLISE SUISSE, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, Service in German and French followed by Holy Communion.
3 p.m. VICTORIA HALL, Bloomsbury Square, W.C.1, Bicentenary Celebration, till 5.15 p.m., in English, French and German.

From the programme:

Welcome, by Mr. Béguin; *L'Eglise en Suisse aujourd'hui*, by Mr. D'Espine; *The significance of the Swiss Church for the life of the Colony today*, by Monsieur Daeniker; *Kirchen der Schweiz und Schweizerkirchen im Ausland*, by Mr. Döbeli; *The significance of the foreign Churches on British soil*, by the Bishop of Fulham; *Greetings by various guests*.

Day-nursery from 10.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Endell Street, close by the Eglise Suisse.

CITY SWISS CLUB

The attention of the members of the City Swiss Club, and their friends, is directed to a lecture by Lord Balniel on "A Current Political Subject", on Friday, 1st June, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1 (Park Suite). It is hoped that many of the members and their friends will be present.

Press Reporter,
City Swiss Club.

OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will be published on Friday, 15th June 1962. We take this opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscription: Mrs. T. Tanner, L. L. Portman, Mrs. M. Jurgens, B. O. Cogliatti, M. Wiesendanger, A. E. Banderet, P. Conrad.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Messrs. J. B. Reynier Limited wish to announce that a new duty paid list has been compiled and will be issued very shortly. The new prices operate from Monday, 21st May.