

News from the Colony

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY

CITY SWISS CLUB

The Annual General Meeting of the City Swiss Club was held at the Dorchester Hotel on Tuesday, 30th April, and was preceded by dinner.

In opening the meeting, the President, Mr. Th. von Speyr, welcomed the members. After having approved the minutes of the last meeting, the President gave a résumé of the activities of the Club during the past financial year. He reported that five members passed away during the last twelve months (W. Deutsch, F. Zogg, E. A. Gisiger, A. Renou, R. Dupraz). Four resignations were received, and eleven new members were enrolled. The accounts, presented by the Treasurer, showing a deficit of £56 0s. 6d. (1962: £134 18s. 6d.) were accepted.

Mr. von Speyr mentioned that the Annual Banquet and Ball, which was held on 18th November at the Dorchester Hotel, under the presidency of the Swiss Ambassador, accompanied by Madame Daeniker, was a great success, over 250 members and friends being present; among the official guests was the Rt. Hon. Lord Balniel, M.P. A similar success, he said, was registered with the *Dîner de Noël*, which took place on 12th December at the Dorchester Hotel, with an attendance of 150 members and friends. Four card playing evenings were held during the year, each of which was preceded by an excellent dinner. The President thanked H.E. the Swiss Ambassador and the members of the Embassy for the continued interest they are taking in the affairs of the Club. Thanks were also expressed to Mr. G. A. Ronus, Manager of the Dorchester Hotel, for his always generous hospitality extended to the members. Mr. von Speyr voiced his appreciation to his colleagues on the committee for their helpful collaboration.

Concluding his report the President asked the members to pay a silent tribute to the memory of the late Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, former Ambassador in Washington and former Minister in London, and for six years Honorary President of the Club.

The Presidential report was accepted with acclamation.

The accounts of the Club House Fund were presented by Mr. E. H. Burnier, Trustee and Treasurer, who gave particulars of some of the new investments. He mentioned that the total assets of this Fund amount to £5,853 12s. 0d. These accounts were duly passed.

The elections for the new committee followed under the presidency *pro tem* of Mr. Carlo Chapuis, a former President of the Club, and Honorary Member, who, on behalf of the members, thanked the outgoing committee for the services they had rendered. After the voting slips were counted, Mr. Chapuis declared that the following were elected: President, M. A. Keller; Vice-President, A. Kunz; Secretary, H. Jauslin; Assistant Secretary, L. F. Jobin; Treasurer, A. J. Mattlé; Assistant Treasurer, G. A. Ronus; Librarian, J. P. Christen.

The new President then took the Chair, amidst acclamation. He thanked the president *pro tem* for having so ably conducted the meeting, and the members for having entrusted him with the leadership of the Club for the next twelve months. He announced various items which will take place in the future, such as the traditional Dinner Dance at Great Fosters, Egham, Surrey, on 5th July,

expressing the hope that members will support this outing, which had proved such a success in the past. He mentioned the Fête Suisse (8th May), asking the members to book seats as early as possible.

Close of the meeting, 9 p.m.

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MONTHLY MEETING

The monthly meeting was held at the Dorchester Hotel, on Tuesday, 21st May. Mr. M. A. Keller was in the Chair, and there were about thirty members present, amongst them Monsieur H. Gallusser of the Swiss Embassy. Four new members were elected. The President referred to an article which appeared in the daily press concerning the Swiss Centre, which will be erected in the West End, expressing the hope that some accommodation for Swiss Societies will be available.

The following Trustees for the Club House Fund of the City Swiss Club were then proposed and duly elected: R. J. Keller, Chairman; E. H. Burnier, Treasurer; A. Stauffer. Mr. A. Stauffer was confirmed as Press Reporter of the Club. It was announced that no Monthly Meetings will be held until September.

Close of the meeting, 9 p.m.

*Press Reporter,
City Swiss Club.*

A CITY SWISS CLUB OUTING

The Committee of the City Swiss Club is arranging another Informal Dinner Dance on Friday, 5th July 1963, at "Great Fosters", Egham, Surrey.

This will be the fourth time that members will have met at this renowned and historic place set in such beautiful surroundings. Weather permitting, cocktails will be served in the Gardens at 7.30 p.m., followed by dinner at 8 p.m. Dancing to a five-member band will begin soon after 9 o'clock and will end at midnight.

Each of the three previous Dinner Dances held at "Great Fosters" was a great success, well over a hundred members attending, and the Committee hopes that a still bigger attendance will be registered. The Dinner Dance of the City Swiss Club is the high-light of the Club's social season, and an enjoyable evening in congenial company is assured — and please note: There will be no speeches!

*Press Reporter,
City Swiss Club.*

A DEPARTURE

Friends of the Swiss Hostel for Girls in London will be sorry to hear that Miss Claire Hagenbuch, the Assistant Warden, who has been in charge of the housekeeping side of the establishment, is returning to Switzerland on 15th June. She has carried out her work most efficiently and capably ever since the opening of the Hostel in January 1957. She is taking up a responsible post with the Swiss Institute for Housewifery in Zurich.

We wish her every success in her career, and health and happiness in the future. She will be sadly missed by many, but by none more than the Warden, Miss R. Preiswerk, whom we wish another capable assistant in her responsible duties as head of this Home which she runs so expertly and successfully.



M. A. KELLER, President, City Swiss Club

On the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of the City Swiss Club Mr. M. A. Keller was elected President for 1963/64 in succession to Mr. Th. von Speyr.

The new President was appointed Swissair's Sales Manager for the United Kingdom and Ireland in 1956. On the departure of the then General Manager, Mr. Willy Wyler, for a new appointment with Swissair in Geneva, Mr. Keller took over the post of General Manager.

He began his career in a private banking concern in Zurich and joined Swissair in Geneva in 1946. Two years later he was promoted to the position of Regional Manager for Belgium in Brussels, and from 1951 to 1954 he was Regional Manager in Düsseldorf. Mr. Keller was then appointed Assistant Manager — Agency and Interlines Sales — at Swissair's Head Office in Zurich, and came to London as Sales Manager in July 1956.

At thirty-nine Mr. Keller is one of the youngest Presidents of the City Swiss Club. He has held the post of Vice-President since 1961. He is married and has two sons aged five and nine. Among his hobbies are gardening and making aeroplanes for his boys.

We express to him our best wishes for success during his year of office. ST.

CITY SWISS CLUB

Will Members please note that
NO MONTHLY MEETINGS
will be held until September.

NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE

London Group

An unfortunately not too well attended Meeting of the Society was addressed on 23rd May by the distinguished Swiss Industrialist, Dr. F. Hummler. The speaker, who in his capacity as Swiss Delegate for Labour Problems has unique opportunities for investigating the many problems arising for Switzerland in consequence of the continuing Hochkonjunktur, gave a masterly exposé of the efforts (alas, only partially successful, so far) made by the Authorities, Industry, Finance and Labour Organisations, to combat the effects of the two main evils: inflation and Ueberfremdung. Mention was made of the latest governmental decisions dealing with foreign workers, the financial and fiscal policies tending to curb excessive undesirable expansion and restricting the granting of credits by the Banks for certain purposes. The speaker stressed, however, the practical difficulties in the enforcement of such measures, inasmuch as both the Public Authorities and the financially independent Industries were not affected by the Banks' restrictions.

With regard to the large contingent of foreign workers in Switzerland, Dr. Hummler emphasized the need to tackle the problem not only from a legalistic but also from a human angle. He also outlined the short- and long-term policies envisaged for the continued rationalisation and modernisation of Swiss economic life within the framework of international trade. An interesting point made by the speaker was that it might be considered advantageous, even necessary, for some of the older industrial nations, such as Switzerland, to abandon certain industrial production for the benefit of less developed countries in need of markets and capable of producing less scientific and unsophisticated labour processes. The older and highly geared producer countries should thus be encouraged to establish new markets and techniques, based on the highest-quality scientific and economic research.

This highly stimulating address produced a most interesting discussion which left the audience in no doubt about the outstanding knowledge of the Lecturer and of the Federal Authorities' wisdom and good fortune in obtaining Dr. Hummler's services for the very important office held by him.

On behalf of the Embassy, Monsieur de Stoutz thanked the speaker for the services rendered by him to Switzerland and his consummate exposé of the evening.

Before closing the meeting, the acting President, Mr. Schneebeli, reminded members of the forthcoming Auslandschweizertag on 16th/18th August at St. Moritz. The Society then expressed their thanks and good wishes to Miss Hagenbuch, of the Swiss Hostel for Girls, who is about to undertake new duties in Switzerland. Our small gift and the sentiments expressed by members should leave no doubts in Miss Hagenbuch's mind about the esteem in which this most successful and charming host of our meetings is held by everybody. Our warmest wishes go to the Warden, Miss Preiswerk, in her endeavours to obtain a replacement.

W.R.