

The "Landsgemeinde" of the Swiss in the north of England

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY



ALFRED STAUFFER 75

On 25th June, Alfred Stauffer of 48a Putney Hill, S.W.15, will celebrate his seventy-fifth birthday. It will be no exaggeration to say that his name is more widely known in the Swiss Colony in Great Britain than that of any other Swiss resident in this country. Ever since he came to England on 1st August 1912 he has been active in the Colony one way and another. Outstanding services, however, he rendered as Editor of the "Swiss Observer" for thirty-two years. At this moment when the S.O. is 45 years old, it is doubly fitting to remember what Fred Stauffer has done for the Colony's paper. All of us who have been his friends and countless readers in this country and abroad are happy that Fred is able to celebrate his birthday in good health, and we send him and his dear wife the very best wishes for health and continued well-being for many more years to come.

DO NOT FORGET

The Fête Suisse will take place

TO-NIGHT (12th June)

aboard M.V. "Royal Sovereign"

Departure from Tower Pier 6.30 p.m. sharp.

NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY

We wish to congratulate Monsieur Marcel Heimo, Counsellor in charge of economic affairs at the Swiss Embassy, on being appointed first Counsellor of Embassy in succession to Monsieur de Stoutz who has taken up his new post in Tel Aviv as Ambassador to Israel.

Monsieur Marcel Heimo is an M.A. of Clark University, Worcester (Mass.), and a Doctor of Economic Sciences of the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. After working for two years in the Research and Studies Department of the Swiss National Bank in Zurich, he was engaged as an economist in the Federal Finance Administration. He entered the Political Department in 1947 and was posted to London and Brussels successively, and then to Paris, where he was a member of the Swiss Delegation to the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation from 1954 to 1961. In February 1961 he came to London as Counsellor in charge of Economic Affairs.

We wish him success in his new task.

* * *

We have been informed that Monsieur Francis Magnin, *Consul Adjoint*, is retiring at the end of May. He will be replaced by Monsieur Robert Zellweger who has been transferred from Jeddah in Saudi Arabia. His rank will be that of Vice-Consul. We welcome him and wish him success in his new post.

To our old friend Monsieur Magnin we extend best wishes for many years of happy retirement.

THE "LANDSGEMEINDE" OF THE SWISS IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

This year's "Landsgemeinde" will be held on Sunday, 21st June. As usual, it will be organised by the Manchester Swiss Club in conjunction with the Yorkshire Swiss Club, and Swiss from all parts of the Midlands and the North are expected. Needless to say, compatriots from the South are invited to join. Those who have been to this traditional gathering in the past know that a very pleasant and memorable day will await them. It is hoped that the Swiss Ambassador and Madame de Fischer will be present.

The participants will meet in the Memorial Park at Hebden Bridge at 10.30 a.m. The walk to Hardcastle Craggs will take about one hour, leading through attractive woods along a picturesque river. There will be a picnic lunch on the Hardcastle Craggs Meadow (now owned by the Boy Scouts Movement). At 2 p.m. Prof. J. P. Inebnit will conduct the traditional "Landsgemeinde" ceremony with its brief excursion into Swiss history. This ceremony is doubly impressive due to the great similarity the Meadow has to the Rütli on the Lake of Lucerne. Later in the afternoon the party will walk back to Hebden Bridge where a high tea will be served at the Civic Hall. It is hoped that, as in former years, the Chairman of the Rural District Council of Hepton and the Chairman of the Hebden Royd District Council will be amongst the guests. The return to Manchester will be at about 7 p.m.

Those wishing to participate should apply immediately to the Hon. Secretary of the Swiss Club Manchester, Mrs. H. Monney, 327 Wellington Road North, Heaton Chapel, Stockport, Cheshire.