## Johannes Sohm †

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# NEWS FROM THE COLONY

### **ADOLF STEINER †**

We announce with deep regret the death of Mr. Adolf Steiner of 60, The Drive, Ilford, who died suddenly but peacefully at the age of 82, on 14th August. He was a signature holder of the Swiss Bank Corporation from which post he retired early in the war. In his younger days he was a prominent person in Swiss circles in London, and for half a century he was a devoted member of the Consistoire of the Swiss Church in London.

He was not given to seeking the public eye, but he was a fine and very gifted man whose quiet and unassuming personality will be remembered by many. We extend our sincere sympathy to his daughter and two sons.

### SWISS CLUB — MANCHESTER

On 10th September about forty members met at the Circolo Italiano. A most interesting, absorbing evening followed when our President, Mr. Berner, entertained us with a slide show featuring Accrington, an important industrial town in Lancashire. The slides were compiled for the Rotary Club of Accrington with contributions from Mr. Berner and another member of the Swiss Club, our old friend Mr. Hanna. We were shown a most comprehensive picture of how this Lancashire town has developed from a small country village to its industrial importance of the present time. Apart from the industrial aspect we were also shown pictures of surrounding churches, schools and hospitals and the truly beautiful countryside around Accrington. It is interesting to learn that these excellently produced slides have travelled extensively. They have been shown in the United States of America and have recently returned from Norway where they entertained the members of a Rotary Club.

### SWITZERLAND REPRESENTED AT INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN LONDON

The Sixth International Congress of Psychotherapy was held in London from 24th to 29th August. About thirty-five of the participants came from Switzerland.

At the Inaugural Ceremony, our compatriot, Professor Dr. Medard Boss, President of the International Federation of Medical Psychotherapy, welcomed delegates and invited the President of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association to preside over the Congress.

Dr. H. K. Fierz, the Secretary-General of the International Federation for Medical Psychotherapy, presided over one of the special sections of the Congress. Another of our compatriots, Professor G. Benedetti, contributed a paper on the topic "Recent Advances in Psychology and Psychotherapy in Relation to the Individual Adult". Participants in the discussions on papers read at the plenary sessions included Professor Boss and Dr. H. Städeli.

The Swiss *Chargé d'Affaires ad interim* and Madame Marcel Heimo gave a cocktail reception at their home to the Swiss delegation, some of the British delegates and a few members of the Swiss community in London.



#### **JOHANNES SOHM †**

We announce with deep regret the death of Mr. Johannes Sohm of 4 Gainsborough Avenue, Oldham, Lancs., who died unexpectedly whilst on holiday in Switzerland. With him the Swiss Club Manchester lost an active and loyal member, and many have lost a good friend.

Johannes Sohm was born in Basle on 2nd February 1900, one of four brothers. He went to school in his native town and was then apprenticed to the bakers' and confectioners' trade ("Konditor"). After gathering knowledge and experience in his trade in several parts of Switzerland, he decided to travel and came to England at the age of twenty. He settled in Birmingham where he met his future wife, Miss Alice Louisa Brampton. They were married in 1924 and had two children, a daughter Edna who died when three years old and a son now married and resident in Canada.

After living successively in Harrogate and Newcastle, the young couple settled in Southport, Lancs., where Mr. Sohm became manager of Sissons Bakery.

In 1944, the family moved to Oldham where he opened his own shop, specialising in continental type pastries and cakes. Mr. Sohm was a member of the Oldham Master Bakers' Association and a Past President.

Throughout his long life in England, he never forgot his native land which he dearly loved. He was active in the Swiss Clubs of Liverpool and Manchester. In recent years, since 1958, he was the latter Club's Honorary Treasurer. He loved nothing better than to invite young Swiss to his Oldham home where "Fondue, Jass und Schwyzerdütsch" were the order of the day.

Apart from his wide circle of friends, Mr. Sohm was well liked in his adopted Lancashire. Many tributes have been paid to his old-world manners and kindness, somewhat unusual in this day and age.

Many are the friends who will miss him sadly, and we shall treasure his memory. We extend our sincere sympathy to his family in their bereavement.