

Swiss Catholics in London

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SWISS CATHOLICS IN LONDON

The Annual General Meeting for the year 1964 was held on Sunday, 2nd May 1965, at Westminster Ballroom, Stratton Ground, London S.W.1. After opening prayers, the Chairman, Mr. O. Grob, extended a warm welcome to those present.

The Chairman stated in his report that the year 1964 can be recorded as one of steady progress in the activity of the Swiss Catholic Community, in which both permanent and temporary Swiss residents in the Colony took an active part.

Mr. Grob was pleased to report that His Eminence Cardinal John Heenan, Archbishop of Westminster had intimated that he would be very pleased to meet our new Ambassador, His Excellency Monsieur Béat de Fischer, Madame de Fischer and the Members of our Committee in a private Audience at Archbishop's House, Westminster, S.W.1, on Tuesday, 28th April 1964. His Excellency the Ambassador kindly consented to introduce us to His Eminence.

After the Audience we had the honour and pleasure to entertain Monsieur and Madame de Fischer for luncheon at the Montana Hotel, 67 Gloucester Road, S.W.7.

We wish to thank the Editor of the "Swiss Observer" Mrs. Mariann Meier, and the publishers for accepting our appeals and reports on our social activities during the year.

The Chaplain, the Rev. Father Joseph Scherer, said in his report that 1964 was a year without extraordinary events. We regularly held our Sunday Evening Service for the Swiss viz. Holy Mass and Sermon in German and French with a steady attendance of 120 to 170 people.

Frequently assistance was given to our compatriots in their temporal and spiritual needs.

All the newcomers whose addresses we get, receive from us a letter of welcome, information about our place, our services, about their nearest church, etc., and the Programme of our Swiss Catholic Youth Club. The Reply Cards Service is very helpful. About 350 to 400 of them pour in every year. Thanks to the readiness of the Swiss Embassy, Welfare Organisation and some Swiss Employment Agencies in this country and in Switzerland, which distribute these cards, bring us in contact with many young compatriots and help us to help them and to build up a really reliable register.

We run our Swiss Catholic Youth Club after our Sunday Evening Service and thanks to Mr. and Mrs. MacGuigan we have a splendid venue at the Westminster Ball Room at 30 Stratton Ground, S.W.1, only a few steps from St. Ann's Church.

Each Sunday a good number of our young Swiss gather there for Dances, Conferences, Films, and Slides, Merry Evenings with Songs and Plays, and Celebrations of Swiss Events such as 1st August, Kilbi-Kermess, St. Nicolas Day, Christmas Celebration in the Swiss Way.

Dances which are held on alternate Sundays, were attended by 150 to 200 people, other functions showed an attendance of 80 to 100. Occasionally the participants were more than 300 (St. Nicolas) and 220 (1st August). As in the past we organised excursions to Oxford, Canterbury, the Isle of Wight, Windsor Castle, Hampton Court, and a Country Surprise walk, which were attended by 60 to 130 people. We paid the usual visits to places of interest: The Tower of London (twice), Westminster Abbey (four times), The Houses of Parliament in Session (twice), the latter with about 90 people each time.

CITY SWISS CLUB

DINNER DANCE

FRIDAY, 2nd JULY 1965

at

"GREAT FOSTERS," EGHAM, SURREY

COCKTAILS in the Garden at 7.30 p.m.

DINNER in the TITHE BARN at 8 p.m. · DANCING until 1 a.m.

DRESS INFORMAL

TICKETS at £2 - 5s. per person are available from

L. F. Jobin, 236-240 Pentonville Road, London, N.1

Great efforts were made during the last year to open the "Swiss Youth Corner", a place for our young people where they can meet on their days off and on weekend evenings. We had great hopes to realise our wish, but were let down. Nevertheless we shall continue to look for other accommodation.

Father Scherer expressed his gratitude to the Hierarchies of Westminster, Southwark and Brentwood, and particularly to His Eminence Cardinal John Heenan, Archbishop of Westminster, and his Curia and also to their Excellencies the Swiss Bishops, especially their Dean, Mgr. Angelo Jelmini, Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Lugano; Mgr. Franciscus von Streng, Bishop of Basle and Lugano; the Sekretariat für Auslandseelsorge; The Right Rev. Mgr. K. Boxler, Chairman, and the Right Rev. Mgr. D. J. Bannwart, Honorary Treasurer.

We are greatly indebted to His Excellency the Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur Béat de Fischer and Madame de Fischer; Mr. M. Heimo, First Counsellor of the Embassy; Mr. E. Tosio, Consul, Mr. F. Burgunder, Vice-Consul, and all the Staff of the Embassy for their continuous kind support given to our work. We wish to thank them most sincerely.

Finally, Father Scherer thanked the Members of the Committee of Swiss Catholics in London and its Chairman, Mr. O. Grob, for their most valuable co-operation to our cause, not forgetting the friends of the Swiss Catholic Youth Club: Messrs E. Bonvin, E. Kaufeler, G. Bartholdi, L. W. Krucker, and last but not least Miss L. Huber.

The Chairman and the Chaplain were thanked for their reports.

The Finance Report showed that 52 Donors subscribed £224.14.0 during the year; together with the Church Collections and the Profit of the Christmas Draw the total income for 1964 amounted to £659.18.11, whilst the expenses were £735.15.11, resulting in a deficit of £75.17.0 for the year. A steady decline in the yearly donations for the work of the Chaplain must be recorded; for the year 1963 we received from 66 Donors an amount of £347.11.0, in 1962 from 93 Donors £281.9.4.

As all the retiring members of the Committee had offered themselves for re-election the meeting elected them unanimously for the ensuing year. Furthermore, Mr. M. Schneebeli and Mr. L. F. Ackermann were proposed as Committee members and duly elected.

The final composition of the Committee for 1965 is as follows:

Chaplain: The Reverend Father Joseph Scherer; Chairman: Mr. O. Grob; Vice-Chairman: Mr. E. Bonvin; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. E. Frey; Hon. Secretary: Mr. E. P. Siegfried; Members: Miss C. Affentranger, Miss L. Bonetti, Mrs. O. Grob, Mrs. F. McKenna, Messrs. L. F. Ackermann, G. Bartholdi, J. J. Boos, K.S.G., E. R. Cottet, F. De Maria, E. Eha, C. Gallo, R. E. Gut, M. Heimo, P. Jacomelli, E. Kaeufeler, L. W. Krucker, M. Schneebeli, R. Schweizer, K.C.S.S. and R. Voegtli.

The Ladies Committee consists of Mrs. E. Bonvin, Chairman; Miss C. Affentranger, Miss L. Bonetti, Mrs. C. T. O. Clarke, Mrs. G. Gallo, Mrs. O. Grob, Mrs. H. Heimo, Mrs. E. Kaeufeler and Mrs. F. McKenna.

It was decided to hold again a Christmas Draw in 1965, instead of a Bazaar.

Finally the Chaplain thanked Mr. Grob for conducting the Meeting, which was followed by the Easter Service at St. Ann's Church and a social gathering afterwards in the Westminster Ballroom.

E.S.

SWISS CHURCH

SERVICES EN FRANÇAIS: à l'Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, tous les *dimanches* à 11h00 et 19h00. L'Eglise est ouverte le dimanche: pour le lunch l'après-midi et le soir; le *jeudi*: dès 15h00 et le soir.

PASTEUR: F. Jacot, 7 Park View Road, London N.3. Telephone: FIN 5281.

SERVICES IN GERMAN: At St. Mary Woolnoth Church, Lombard Street, Bank, E.C.3, every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

PFARRER: M. Dietler, 1, Womersley Road, N.8. Telephone: MOU 6018.

SWISS CATHOLIC MISSION

CHURCH and SERVICE: St. ANN's Catholic Church, Abbey Orchard Street (off Victoria Street), S.W.1.

SUNDAYS: Holy Masses at 8, 9 and 11 a.m. with sermon in English. At 6 p.m. with sermon in German and French.

HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION: Holy Masses at 7.30 and 9 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.

WEEKDAYS: Holy Mass at 7.30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS in German, French and Italian:

EVERY SUNDAY 1 hour before Evening Mass.

EVERY SATURDAY from 11 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m.

Every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month from 3 to 6 p.m.

Every second and fourth Thursday of the month from 3 to 6 p.m.

At any other time by appointment.

CHAPLAIN: Rev. Joseph Scherer, St. Ann's Church, Abbey Orchard Street, S.W.1. Tel.: ABBey 2895.

WELFARE OFFICE FOR SWISS GIRLS IN GREAT BRITAIN

(For Information, Advice or Help)

11 Belsize Grove, London N.W.3.

(Nearest Underground Station: Belsize Park)

RECEPTION HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday
2 p.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment.

drink delicious
OVALTINE
the world's
best nightcap

