

# The continental

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**JOHN JENNY †**

Our twentieth "Landsgemeinde" was saddened by the death, a few days earlier, at the age of 91, of our old friend, John Jenny, Honorary President of the Yorkshire Swiss Club. His last message to us, written in his beautiful calligraphy, was read when his native Canton, Glarus, 1352, was remembered in the brief history of the foundation of the Swiss Confederation: "... I wish my present circumstances would allow me to be with you at the Landsgemeinde, but although this is not possible I shall, nevertheless, be with you in spirit and I wish you all an enjoyable gathering at Hardcastle Crags and many more to follow. With fraternal greetings."

He was certainly in spirit with all those who had shared his love for Switzerland and co-operated in the activities of the Bradford Swiss Club of which he had been a devoted president before it became part of the Yorkshire Swiss Club. In order to keep our connections with Bradford friends and facilitate the attendance of John Jenny, every year the Swiss films sent to us from our Secretariat in Berne, were shown in Bradford, at a well attended meeting organised by his son-in-law, Mr. J. M. Lowe, 14 Ivy Road, Moorhead, Shipley, Yorkshire.

Last year, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, the Swiss Observer of 24th March gave an account of John Jenny's remarkable business career in Bucarest, Paris and then Bradford. It also quoted the following recollections: "Accepting an appointment in Bradford through a local firm we represented in Rumania, I arrived in England on Whit Monday 1901. Of course, no passport was then required, but what further surprised me was that there were no Customs to face, and I gained the impression of arriving in a free country indeed! But stranger still, I appeared to be practically the only passenger on the afternoon train from Newhaven to London where, again, I was staggered by the comparatively quiet streets after the bustle of Paris. I was unaware that my arrival coincided with a general holiday!"

John Jenny remained clear minded and active to the end, enjoying the family life of one of his daughters, Mrs. Lowe, never complaining and insisting to walk to the hairdresser rather than be taken by car.

We wish to convey to his two daughters and their husbands, as well as to his five grand-children, our warm sympathy and the expression of our appreciation for such a long and fruitful life. We are pleased to know that they will keep in close and friendly connection with our Swiss community.

*J.P.I.*

#### **TWO ANNIVERSARIES — TWO BIRTHDAYS**

On 16th July, Mr. and Mrs. Werner Pellet of 30 Cheyne Walk, Hendon, N.W.4, will be celebrating their Golden Wedding. On 27th July, Mr. and Mrs. Fernand Delaloye of 15 Bartholomew Villas, N.W.5, will be looking back on 55 years of married life.

To both couples we extend congratulations and sincere wishes for many more years of happiness and good health.

Mr. Jules Zimmermann will be 78 on 21st July and Monsieur H. B. de Fischer (Berne), former Swiss Ambassador in London, will have his 67th birthday on 22nd July. We wish the two friends and any other readers whose birthdays will fall within the next fortnight, memorable days and many happy returns of them.

#### **SWISS GALA EVENING**

**27th July — Burford Bridge**

There will be a special Swiss evening at the Burford Bridge Hotel near Dorking in Surrey. Catering will be provided in conjunction with the Swiss Centre Restaurants, and the programme will include entertainment by the Giess Yodelling Trio and the Unione Ticinese Choir. There will be an Alphorn blowing competition. Full details, reservations and tickets may be had direct from the Manager of Burford Bridge Hotel (Tel: Dorking 4561).

#### **THE CONTINENTAL**

**Congratulations on a Jubilee**

At 63/65 Commercial Road in Portsmouth, there is a "Free House and Restaurant", well known for decades, the Continental. In the spring of 1893, two brothers made their way from London to Portsmouth to open a Restaurant. They had come from Switzerland a few years previously, members of a very ancient family first mentioned in 1395. Quite a number of their Ticinesi compatriots had found fame and fortune in London, one of the Gatti family Sir John, even became Mayor of Westminster.

The two Albertolli brothers carried on two businesses independently, and both flourished right through two wars. Mr. Bart Albertolli, the elder of the two brothers, died in 1950, but his son and family, Bart junior, carry on the tradition at the Continental.

This year, the firm celebrate the 75th anniversary in business, sixty years at the above address. Today, the Albertollis are amongst the few families of Ticinese origin who still flourish in the catering business. We wish them continued success and wellbeing for the future.

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