

Birthday greetings...

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By now the majority of us were quite ready for a rest and again Mr. Banderet, evidently a master of organisation and timing, led us to the works canteen for refreshments. Sitting at individual tables, decorated with the little flags of our Country, we were served excellent and varied food coupled with what was evidently one of the white wines of Switzerland by a very friendly and efficient staff belonging to this establishment, who would have done honour to the famous restaurants in some of our cities.

Towards the end of the evening, our President, Dr. Jaggi, with some appropriate and very moving words, expressed our thanks to our hosts, in particular to Mr. Banderet and his wife who to the very end gave this whole visit a warm and friendly touch. Thanks were also extended to Dr. Laing and Dr. Bolliger, and members of the staff, who all looked after us so well. We were also very happy to see our Consul Brunner and his son amongst us, but we regretted very much the absence of Madame Brunner who was not able to join us, being in Switzerland due to the death of her father. Our thoughts and our deepest sympathy go out to her and her family.

So has come to an end one of the most successful and interesting efforts of our Club, and our host and committee deserve our compliments. We left in a most friendly spirit, with our best wishes for a continuing brilliant future for The Clayton Aniline Company Limited, good health and prosperity to all who work there.

E. Berner.

VISIT OF SWISS AMBASSADOR TO THE S.M.S. COLLEGE

The Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur René Keller, accompanied by Vice-Consul Th. P. Dudli, paid a visit to the College of the Swiss Mercantile Society on Tuesday, 5th November.

After having been received at Swiss House by the Society's President, Mr. A. Jaccard, and the Principal of the College, Mr. C. Slade, M.A., the guests went round some of the classes to see the students at work.

In the presence of the teaching staff and members of the Education Committee, the Principal then formally introduced the Ambassador to the senior students who were assembled in the lecture room.

Extending a cordial welcome to the Ambassador, who had recently accepted the Honorary Presidency of the Swiss Mercantile Society, Mr. Jaccard expressed thanks to him for the keen interest he was showing in the Society and its educational activities.

The President regretted the present state of the premises due to the extensive repairs begun during the summer holidays, but not as yet completed. Whilst the College enjoyed the patronage of the Confederation through an annual subsidy towards the running expenses, for which the Society were truly grateful, Mr. Jaccard pointed out that the building was the sole concern of the S.M.S. which did its best within the limits of the resources available. Even if the accommodation and amenities at Swiss House could hardly be termed sumptuous, he felt that the students were receiving good value for their money, as the Society's efforts were concentrated on giving as good tuition as any other school of a similar type.

In addressing the students, the Ambassador stated that he was impressed by what he had seen and heard. He said, however, that he was not quite a newcomer to Swiss House, having been there before during a previous spell in London as Secretary of Legation in the Economic Section.

Recalling his earlier student days in this country, the Ambassador stated that he had himself been toying with the idea of attending the S.M.S. College prior to the second world war, but that his professional education had taken him elsewhere. Having seen the teachers and classes at work, he envied the students for starting life under such promising auspices by being able to experience at first-hand the remarkable tuition offered at the College.

The Ambassador emphasised that the Swiss official representatives here and the persons responsible for running the College had always worked hand in hand as they had a great mutual interest in having as many young people as possible well trained in English. In a world of fierce competition only the best was good enough and here at the College they were really getting the very best.

Before the Ambassador left Swiss House, members of the Education Committee and the Teaching Staff were introduced to him at a reception held in the Members' Room.

W.B.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we announce the death on November of Mr. Léon Jaeggi, sen., of 26 Woodville Road, Golders Green, N.W.11. An obituary notice will appear in our next issue.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS . . .

. . . to Mr. A. Dreux, Basle (29th November), Mrs. Claire Renz (3rd December), Mr. H. H. Baumann (81 on 6th December), Mr. M. Ehrsam (72 on 14th December), Mr. J. L. Guggenheim (89 on 15th December) and Mrs. Emily Delaloye (81 on 15th December).

We have just heard that Mr. O Gasser was 82 on 4th November.

Many happy returns to these as well as any other readers whose birthdays will fall within the next three weeks!

MISS SELMA VAZ DIAS IN AMERICAN PLAY

Mrs. H. W. Egli, actress Miss Selma Vaz Dias, will play the leading part in a 50-minute play by the American Playwright Rochelle Owens who will come to England for the première on 26th November. The play is called "Homo" and is rather stark and outspoken, possibly somewhat crude, but well worth seeing. It will run daily (except Mondays) as the Ambiance Theatre, 1, Queensway, Bayswater at 1.15 p.m. There are two performances on Saturdays and Sundays (1.15 and 2.15 p.m.).

"SWISS OBSERVER" PUBLICATION DATES

The "Swiss Observer" is published every second and fourth Friday of the month. Our next issue will be our DOUBLE CHRISTMAS NUMBER and appear on 13th December. We shall be glad to receive all articles and reports not later than Monday, 2nd December. Short news items only can be accepted after that date. For the Christmas Greetings, Monday, 25th November is closing date.

Our next issue but one will be published on Friday, 10th January. All contributions should be to hand by New Year's Eve.