

J.P. Gallo †

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LANDSGEMEINDE

The Editor has been put in a quandary: Should the report on the 21st "Landsgemeinde" of the Swiss in the Midlands and the North, combined this year with the Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom, be put in this issue without pictures, or should she wait until she could illustrate it? She has decided that it was such a wonderful event that a couple of pictures would enhance the memory. With such a happy day, it does not really matter whether it is reported a fortnight sooner or later. So look out for the next issue, and in the meantime we hope the photos will arrive to compensate you for your patience.

PERSONAL

It is with deep regret that we announce the death a few weeks ago of Dr. Charles J. C. Macquarie, of Birch Croft, Beacon Lane, Heswall, Cheshire. He died at the age of 87, and we extend our sincere sympathy to his widow, Mrs. Lisa Macquarie, *née* Meyer, in her sad bereavement.

* * *

One of our readers, Mr. E. Ruchti, Central Secretary for Education and Training of the Swiss Mercantile Society in Switzerland, took part in a study group meeting at the Further Education Staff Meeting at Blagdon near Bristol from 21st to 23rd June. He read a well-received paper on commercial training in Switzerland. The address was doubly

interesting seeing that the vocational training system known in Switzerland, which enables the apprentice to enjoy combined practical and school training in commerce and trade, is unknown in the U.K.

J. P. GALLO †

We announced the death of Mr. J. P. Gallo in our issue of 13th June. The following obituary has been sent to us.

If Switzerland has given many sons to the service of other countries, in varying fields, it is certainly true of the *Hôtellerie*. Jacques Pascal Gallo, who died at San Vittore, Grisons, on 29th April, after an association with London for 53 years, is such an example.

Born in Sta. Maria/Calanca (GR) in 1892, he served an apprenticeship in Milan, Algiers, and at the Sauvage at Meiringen. He then came to London in 1913, and held successive posts at the Savoy, Carlton, Berkeley, Ritz, Café Royal, and the famous Pagani's restaurant until its closure just before the last war. In the 1930s he completed various winter seasons at the Palace and Kulm at St. Moritz. Manager of the Hotel Schweizerhof & Post in Bellinzona just after the war, he returned to the Coq d'Or Restaurant in Piccadilly, where, as *Chef Sommelier*, he specialised in wines until retirement in 1966.

As a founder member and first Chairman of the "Guild of Sommeliers" of Great Britain (which M.

André Simon termed: "the best thing which has happened during the last 15 years in England since the War and its legacy of catastrophic wine duties"), he promoted interest in the history, production and serving of wines.

Among distinguished customers, he could include the four sons of King George V, members of the Royal Houses of Luxembourg, Sweden and Holland, General de Gaulle and the French Government in exile, Sir Anthony Eden and members of the wartime Cabinet, Toscanini, Barbirolli, Charles Laughton, Sir Lawrence Olivier.

Although devoted to the English way of life, Jacques Pascal Gallo was above all a strong patriot, steeped in Swiss history, and returning without fail every year to his native Rhaetian alps, to which he ultimately retired. In the London colony, in younger days, he had been Secretary of the Swiss Gymnastic Society and twice President of the Union Helvetia.

He leaves a wife at San Vittore; a son (Assistant Master at Norwich School) and a daughter, *ballerina* at the Municipal Theatre in Lucerne.

CITY SWISS CLUB

Will Members please note that
NO MONTHLY MEETINGS
will be held until 23rd September

Swiss National Day Celebration and Gala Dance

Thursday, 1 AUGUST, at 18.30

(Doors open at 17.45)

WIMBLEDON TOWN HALL, WIMBLEDON

Next door to Wimbledon Station

PROGRAMME

The programme, as usual, includes items of a patriotic nature.

The main address will be given by
H.E. The Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur René Keller.

Two colour sound films will be shown.

The members of the **Corale Ticinese** will give a performance of their traditional Ticinesi songs.

The well-known entertainer **Urs Böschenstein** of Radio Zurich will delight the audience with popular Swiss folk songs.

DANCING

REFRESHMENTS

LICENSED BAR

TICKETS at 5/- available at the door.

SEE YOU AT WIMBLEDON ON 1 AUGUST