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A MUSICAL SOIRÉE FAMILIALE NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE

The London Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique had the great pleasure of a most delightful Chamber Concert on the occasion of its traditional Pre-Christmas Dinner and Soirée familiale on the 12th of December at the Swiss Hostel for Girls. Miss Christine Bühler of Huttwil, near Langenthal, Berne, final class student at the Royal Academy of Music, enriched the pleasant evening by a violin recital, to the accompaniment of Mr. Christopher Johns, most worthy of the occasion. It comprised a Mozart sonata in E minor, four Arabesques by Martinu and Händel's violin sonata X. Both performers proved themselves fully equal to their beautifully balanced programme. Miss Bühler's warm and self-assured playing of her virtucoso parts gave her compatriots much pleasure and the feeling of witnessing the start of a great artistic career. *E.*

NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE

London Group

Thursday, 30th January, 1969, at 7.45 p.m.

Swiss Hostel for Girls

9 Belsize Grove, N.W.3.

ANNUAL FILM SHOW

1. Selection of News Reels 1968 (in German) — by courtesy of the Auslandschweizerwerk.
2. "Cantilena Helvetica", a Condor Film with music only.
3. "We present: Bernese Oberland", music only (by courtesy of the Swiss National Tourist Office).
4. "The Swiss Year", a Seiler Film, commentary in English.

All Swiss and their friends are welcome.

BIRTHDAYS

We announce with pleasure the following birthdays: Mr. E. Luterbacher will be 82 on 26th January and Mr. A. Schmid of the Norfolk Court Hotel will reach the same age on 1st February. Mr. A. Bleiker who spends part of the year in Spain, will be 72 on 12th February, whilst on the same day, Mr. Eugen Weber, who at present is in South Africa, but normally lives in California, will be 73. To them and any other readers whose birthdays will fall within the next few weeks, we send best wishes for many happy returns of the day.

ANOTHER FAREWELL

17th February 1964 marked the arrival of Consul G. Brunner in Manchester. Not quite five years later, he has just left in order to take up new duties as Head of the Swiss Consular Mission in Salisbury, Rhodesia. The Manchester Swiss community lost able members and devoted friends when the Consul and Madame Brunner left. But not only in Manchester, also in many other parts of Great Britain, within his Consular District and without, Monsieur Brunner was much respected and admired. In his last consular bulletin, he said that he was sorry to leave and that he was grateful for all the confidence shown him in the course of his stay.

Gustav Albert Brunner has his home at Zufikon/Aargau. He joined the services of the Swiss Confederation in May 1934 (Swiss Federal Railways). In 1938, he became a member of the Swiss National Tourist Office in Amsterdam, but he had to return to Switzerland at the outbreak of the war. He joined the Federal Political Department and served with the Swiss Consulates and Embassies in Stuttgart, Madrid and Milan. When, after a further period in Berne, he was appointed to Quito in Ecuador, in November 1960, he was promoted to the rank of Consul.

Our very best wishes accompany Monsieur and Madame Brunner to Rhodesia and we hope that their stay will be as happy and successful as in this country.

NEW BABIES

We have great pleasure in announcing the arrival of a granddaughter to Consul-General and Madame Enrico Tosio, in Karachi, and of a fifth grandchild (third grandson), to Consul and Madame Ernest Ribl, in Casablanca. Congratulations to the proud parents and grandparents!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to thank the following subscribers for sending donations in addition to their subscriptions, for taking out or renewing gift subscriptions for friends or old-age pensioners or for adding a gift to the price of the Christmas Greetings:

Mrs. G. M. T. Ficker, Miss O. Meuwly, Vice-Consul P. Bringolf (Athens) and Messrs. A. P. Berti, A. Boog, E. Burgaezzi, J. P. Christen, B. O. Cogliatti, W. Forster (St. Gall), F. Gut (Affoltern/Albis), B. P. Halder, H. Jeanmaire, R. Pfenninger (Meilen, Zurich), W. Renz, E. Schaerer, J. Stingelin.

We are most grateful for their kind and welcome support. In this connection, we should like to mention that several Christmas letters arrived from old-age pensioners who benefit from the Editor's anonymous gift subscription scheme. The recipients are not aware of the identity of the kind donors, and they asked us to pass on their gratitude and appreciation.

"SWISS OBSERVER" PUBLICATION DATES

The "Swiss Observer" is published every second and fourth Friday of the month. Our next issue will appear on 14th February. We shall be glad to receive all articles and reports by Tuesday, 4th February. Short news items only can be accepted after that date.

Our next issue but one will be published on Friday, 28th February. All contributions for that number should be to hand not later than Tuesday, 18th February.