

# Schweizerbund

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a welcome break and a real booster for the Annual General Meeting of the *Swiss Club Manchester*, which started punctually at 20.15 hours and proved eventually to be one of the busiest in the history of the Club.

The President Mr. B. Simon brought the apologies of the Ambassador, the Consul and Dr. Bolliger, absent abroad, and welcomed Mr. Abegglen, Vice Consul in London, the President of the Swiss Relief Society and Mrs. M. Serra who regardless of her 90 years wanted to be of the party.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted after which the President informed the members that the "Lady Section" had made a successful start, and what about the men? He was somewhat disappointed with the activities of the young ones, as things were not working out as he had hoped. The only young compatriot at our meeting, Mr. Alexander Kubli, contributed later on quite substantially to the general discussion covering his particular topic. He complained that as far as he knew the young did not want to be separated from the main body, but that they could put their heads together and submit proposals to the club and he believed that reasonable financial support for any healthy effort would be forthcoming. He also stressed the point that older members should mix more freely and more often with the younger ones and of course also vice-versa: in stating this he spoke evidently to the already converted. Some of the trouble may lie in the fact that the club does not have any more a home or proper meeting place, as it used to have, and that on the more general functions during the year there is just not sufficient time to get to know each other better. Furthermore I remember that private homes were quite often open to our young passing visitors. On the whole it was quite a refreshing and constructive intermezzo.

A resolution was then put forward to the effect to amend Rule 10 in such a way as to create an additional office of "Immediate Past President" for a period of one year and of two additional Vice Presidents who will act if and when required beside the "First Vice President". The decision to create the office of an "Immediate Past President" was both timely and desirable and most certainly a vindication for all those Presidents who in the past, after long years of devoted and successful service, were dropped and all they got, sometimes, was a stone without inscription.

After the presentation of the Annual Report by the Club's Secretary and the safe keeping of the Inventory, Mr. K. Messmer was invited to take the chair for the election of the new

Committee and no controversial points being raised this was done in a most expeditious and satisfactory way, and for this Mr. Messmer was warmly thanked. The new President as foreseen is Dr. H. R. Bolliger, the representative of the Swiss in the North at the A.S.K., Mr. B. Simon continuing for another 12 months as the Immediate Past President. A particularly happy move was the appointment of Mr. P. A. Senn as "First Vice President", a continuity of name, because his father, the late Mr. Gustav Senn, the Centenary President, is still very much alive in the memory of a great many members. The Hon. Treasurer, in the person of Mrs. Martha Themans was re-elected and the remainder of the new committee will be designated later on in the usual way. Under the Budget proposals nothing special emerged. Mrs. M. Themans was complimented for the excellent results and she assured the members that the club shall carry on as before. The annual subscription stays at £2 for the gentlemen and £1 for the ladies: what about "equal rights, equal duties"?

Dealing with point 8, any other business, Vice Consul Mr. Abegglen brushed again very shortly on the problem of age, sex and other segregations within a club, of the little interest generally shown by the young Swiss for the established clubs abroad, all factors which may well account for our ills. This problem does not only confront Swiss clubs abroad for well over 20 years but exists even in Switzerland in their "Saenger-Verbande", their "Turner-Vereine" and in many other organisations and activities. In our particular case, on this very evening, although the meeting had been amply circularised, only one of the young compatriots, as mentioned before turned up, a most laudable exception but which unfortunately proves once more the case.

The President then gave information on some activities of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the U.K. in London, its general meeting on Friday, 30th April, 1971, the difficulties encountered with a possible realisation of their plan for a "Forum" in the Swiss Centre; some move by the Swiss Churches in London is foreseen. He also appealed for greater support for the *Ausland-Schweizer-Tage*, this year in Brunnen and next year, a very important one, in Berne.

There has never been lack of points for discussion, but time has evidently gone on and it was with some regret that everybody had to leave, but quite happy to have passed some interesting and invigorating hours in a truly congenial company.

(E. Berner)

## THE SCHWEIZERBUND

The Schweizerbund held its AGM at the beginning of May. It was a very informal AGM in which its President, Mr. V. Berti, and its Auditor, Mr. E. P. G. Gruhn, were unanimously re-elected. Mr. Berti took the opportunity to inform members of the outcome of the meeting of the Federation of Swiss Societies, and in particular, to disclose the new idea of a centre to replace the almost defunct Forum. Dinner took place after a short reception in the cosy party room of the Orpheus Luncheon Club. Mr. Gluck took very good care of us and offered us an excellent and cheap meal. As usual, Schweizerbund after dinner activities consist of community singing. When our President had warmly and affectionately welcomed us all, we got started. It began with a few classics such as "Là Haut sur La Montagne" and "Fa mal i pe" for which Mr. Jürg Schmid had brought SNTO booklets. However, we were not to use them much. Under the vigorous leadership of Mr. Fernand Delaloye, we set out on an entirely different repertoire, which ranged from the musicals of the thirties to "Roulez Tambours". It was indeed a hilarious and spontaneous sing-song which ended with everybody in a vibrant and exuberant mood.

(PMB)

## THE INSTITUTE OF SWISS TRADE PROMOTION

Readers may have been surprised at not receiving any more "supplements" from the Institute of Swiss Trade Promotion with their *Swiss Observers*. The first supplement was sent out just over a year ago and received the blessing of an Ambassadorial message. It was a quarterly publication and the *Swiss Observer* contained a second supplement three months later. However, this was the last time that we were to treat our readers with a (non-coloured) supplement as the Swiss Economic Council decided on grounds of economy to stop distributing the quarterly publication of the Institute of Swiss Trade Promotion through the *Swiss Observer*. Now

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ALSO FIRST CLASS MEAT

the Institute of Swiss Trade Promotion is to close down. This independent effort at setting up a Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain was defeated by adverse economic developments. We hope to give a more detailed account of the fate of the Institute in a forthcoming issue.

#### JACQUES MULLER



It is with deep regret that we have to announce the passing away of *Mr. Jacques Muller*, of 71 Hill Rise, Rickmansworth and also Ladbroke Garden Hotel, 28-31 Ladbroke Gardens, W.11 on 30th April after a long illness. He was well known to the Swiss Community in this country. His cremation took place at Breakspeare Crematorium, Ruislip, on Thursday, 6th May. We wish to express our heartfelt sympathy to his family.

#### PERSONAL

*Times* readers who chanced to peruse the Marriage Column in the issue of 23rd December, 1970 will have learnt of the marriage of *Mr. Robert J. Keller* of Chemin Chateau Sec 17, 1009 Pully, Lausanne and *Mrs. Mary Griffiths*, of 7 Sunning House, Sunningdale, Berks. *Mr. Keller* is known to all the London Swiss as the former representative in England of the Swiss Credit Bank. He was until last year the Chairman of the Council of the

*Swiss Observer*. He is now retired in Pully. We should like to extend to him and *Mrs. Keller* our warmest congratulations and good wishes.

#### IN MEMORIAM



Robert Lehner, FHCI, FCFA  
St. Gall, 12th August, 1892  
Goring-by-Sea, 22nd April, 1967.

#### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

On 16th June, *Mr. and Mrs. A. Schmid* (Glendower fame) will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary. *Mr. C. H. Willi* will be 88 on 22nd June, he is still a globe-trotter, and we do not know where he is at the moment—his Swiss address is Corbeyrier. On 24th of the month, *Mr. E. Kuebler* (Winterthur) will be 84 and *Mr. L. S. R. Asch* 63. *Mr. M. Schneider* (Basle) will be 66 on 26th, and on 27th, *Mr. P. Bucher* will be 71. On 2nd July, *Mr. Jakob Vogel* will celebrate his 90th birthday. *Prof. J. Inebnit* will be 81 on 5th July. On 7th July, *Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Brunner* will have been married 54 years and *Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Haberstich* 49 years.

Many happy returns and best wishes to all readers whose birthdays fall within the next month.

#### SWISS CULTURAL EVENTS

20th May to 27th June, Hayward Gallery, South Bank. *Ferdinand Hodler* (1853-1918) and *Arnold Böcklin* (1827-1902), paintings and drawings.

Wednesday, 2nd June. Royal Festival Hall, 8 p.m. The oboist *Heinz Holliger* plays the solo part in his own *Siebengesang* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and the BBC Women's Chorus under *Pierre Boulez* (first performance in this country).

Friday, 4th June. Queen Elizabeth Hall, 5.55 p.m. *Heinz Holliger* plays *Attila Bozay's* Tetelpar (for oboe and piano).

Tuesday, 22nd June. Queen Elizabeth Hall, 7.45 p.m. Organ recital by *Lionel Rogg* (Bach programme).

Monday, 12th July. Royal Festival Hall, 8 p.m. Concert by the *Berne Choir*, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and distinguished soloists, conducted by *Frnacois Pan-tillon* (Beethoven: Mass in C—*Sutermeister*: Missa da Requiem).

16th, 20th, 22nd, 24th, 26th, 28th July, 1st, 3rd August. Glyndebourne Festival Opera. The tenor *Hugues Cuénod* a soloist in *La Calisto*.

24th July to 7th August. Kettles Yard Gallery, Cambridge. Paintings by *Cuno Amiet* (1868-1961) and *Giovanni Giacometti* (1868-1933).

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