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## NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE.

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

read at the 6th Annual Meeting of the LONDON GROUP on  
17th of February, 1922.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—The Council having decided in March last that English should be the official language of the Group for all communications to the Members, I am abiding by this rule in presenting to you this, the sixth, Annual Report of the Group.

For financial and other reasons, which will be frequently referred to in the course of this report, the policy of the Group for the year 1921 has been of necessity one of retrenchment in many directions. I cannot, therefore, present to you a glowing picture of unbounded activities, but, on the other hand, taking everything into consideration, I think you will admit that we have come, if not brilliantly, at least creditably, out of a very trying year, which began with the prospective loss of our trusted and experienced Secretary, Dr. Latt, and a deficit of nearly £1,000 in our Treasury.

However, you know that 'where there's a will there's a way,' and, as true patriotism never gives the lie to this old dictum, a way has been found leading to results which we need not be ashamed of.

But let us come to facts:—

**MEMBERSHIP.**—Here I would like to point out that by mistake the number of members in the last yearly report was indicated to be 678 instead of 578 in February, 1921. On January 15th, 1921, we had 541 members, and in January this year 545.

In spite of many young Swiss having left this country on account of the trade depression, you see that we managed not only to maintain our membership, but even to increase it slightly. By means of the Propaganda Committee we hope to increase it still further.

**COMMITTEE.**—The Committee met ten times, and, as in the past, has been almost daily dealing with important correspondence and exchange of views on the numerous subjects which constantly require its attention.

**COUNCIL.**—The Council met ten times, too, and among the many questions which were dealt with I will quote the following:—Nomination of Secretary to succeed Dr. Latt; Reorganisation of all the Sub-Committees; Programme of activities for 1921; Collaboration with the Swiss Legation; Discussion with Mr. R. de Traz on the question of the vote of Swiss abroad in matters of National importance; Work of the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger; Reports of the various Sub-Committees; Finances; Visits of the Secretary to other Groups in England; Anglo-Swiss Review; Swiss Passports; Naturalisation and Nationalisation of Foreigners in Switzerland; Representation of the Group at the Soirée Parlementaire in Berne; Service of information on Swiss matters for the English Press; Question of the Navigation on the Rhine; Communication from the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger; Informal Dinner of the Group; Report from Dr. Latt on the Soirée Parlementaire in Berne; Communications of the Secretary; Letters from the President of the Central Committee in Berne, from de Traz, Martz, Steuri, Schurch; Correspondence concerning the "Echo Suisse"; Representation of the Group at the Auslandschweizertag in Bâle; Formation of a Group in U.S.A.; Contributions of the Secretary to English publications; Scheme for providing English Schoolmasters with a list of English books on Swiss matters; Reception of new Delegates of the Swiss Societies in London, etc., etc.

Here I would like to remind our members that they can be present at the meetings of the Council and have the right to take part in the deliberations, but the members of the Council alone can vote. I am sorry to say that a few members only have availed themselves of this privilege on very rare occasions. This is much to be regretted, as the Council at all times welcomes suggestions and criticisms on the part of our members.

## LIBRARY, BOOKS FOR SALE, PAPERS AND REVIEWS.

**Library.**—The Library has increased by 120–130 books. It now contains 713 volumes. One of our members, Mr. E. Steiger, helped towards this increase by sending us his whole library when leaving the country. An alphabetical catalogue was typed in the spring and a copy of it sent to each member of the Press Committee. Others are kept in stock for consultation by members wishing to use the library. It could, however, be better frequented. During the year about sixty books have been asked for by twenty different people. The books are, of course, of invaluable help to the Secretary for various references.

**Books for Sale.**—There have been no books sold worth mentioning during this year, in spite of a price-list which the Secretary has had drawn up and which has been offered several times to applicants post free through the columns of "The Swiss Observer." We have still over three hundred books and pamphlets for sale.

**Papers and Reviews.**—During this last year we have received regularly about forty Swiss, American, French and English Reviews and Papers. Only part of these are, however, subscribed to by us, many of them being sent gratuitously. Some are given to us by members who subscribe to them. From 1922 onwards we shall only have to pay for four dailies and eight reviews and weeklies; all the other will be complimentary.

In connection with the above, thanks have to be rendered for gracious gifts sent by:—

Mr. J. Baer,	Office Suisse du Tourisme.
Mr. A. Baume,	Mr. Pfaendler,
Mr. G. Dimier,	Polyglot Printing Co.,
Mr. A. Duruz,	Mr. W. Preiswerk,
"Echo Suisse,"	Secrétariat des Suisses à
Mr. J. Emmenegger,	l'Etranger,
Mr. C. Kiefer,	Mr. A. Steiger,
League of Nations,	Mr. A. F. Suter,
Secrétariat,	Swiss Bank Corporation,
Mr. H. Martin,	"Swiss Observer,"
"Mercure Suisse,"	Mr. P. Walser.

**SECRETARIAT.**—The new Secretary started work definitely on May 1st, after having had a month's probation, from the middle of March to the middle of April. The first day he was definitely appointed he was informed that the second assistant, Miss Gordon, had to be dispensed with owing to the recommendation of the Budget Committee. He has therefore had personally to do a good deal of work which formerly was not done by the Secretary himself, in spite of the untiring efforts of Miss Crawford, whose assistance has been really admirable. This accounts for the fact that the more intellectual activity of the Secretariat has been in the past year somewhat reduced if compared with former years, especially with regard to research work concerning Anglo-Swiss relations. Since October he has, however, been assisted for a few hours weekly by Miss Muller, but it must be said that this does not yet meet the case, and the Secretary would be greatly helped if he could have another assistant regularly for half-a-day every day.

**Propaganda work by means of Circulars, etc.**—Owing to the lack of money, there is not very much to be mentioned in this connection this year. We have, however,

distributed a number of copies of the Swiss Tourist Almanac "Summer 1921" and the Swiss Tourist Almanac "Winter 1921-22," which were transmitted by the Office Suisse du Tourisme and Mr. A. Duruz. We have also sent out about one hundred copies of an article, "Certain Considerations on a Lateral Canal as a means of Navigation," to English newspapers and Chambers of Commerce, a number of which have reprinted it. Most of the propaganda we did formerly on behalf of the Office Suisse du Tourisme is now done directly from Switzerland. No credit was granted for printing lectures, and none were therefore sent to members. A special scheme is, however, now being prepared by the Secretariat, one which promises to be efficient without costing very much. The Secretary intends to draw up a list of all the reliable books on Swiss topics which are available in English. He proposes to send them out, together with a special circular outlining the activity and resources of our Secretariat, to the Headmasters of the English Secondary Schools, with a view to assisting English teachers likely to give special lessons on Switzerland.

*Correspondence and Visits:*—It is difficult to judge the amount of correspondence done by the Secretariat, but we can roughly estimate an average of ten letters daily, not counting monthly reports, reports to "The Swiss Observer" and the Groups abroad, and the well-nigh 600 invitation slips sent out, together with the bulletins, to our members for our monthly meetings. A great number of visitors call on the Secretary; they are partly students, partly young business people; many of them are Swiss, some of them English. A few times the Secretary had an opportunity of assisting English people who wanted to give lectures on Switzerland. He had even to advise some as to how to fill up their Income Tax form for land they owned in Switzerland. Other times he has been asked about universities in Switzerland, which requests he was happily in a position to answer. Many of the Swiss enquire about suitable boarding houses. Others visit him in order to use the room to read the newspapers, and others finally discuss the very interesting subject of how to get employment, which unfortunately cannot always result satisfactorily in these days.

*Lectures printed:*—One of the lectures given by the Secretary, "Some Modern Swiss Writers," has been published in the "Anglo-Swiss Review" in the following numbers, 6, 7, 9 of the second volume, that is to say, October, November of 1921, and January of 1922. He hopes to be able to arrange for the publication of his last lecture on education.

*Journalistic activity of the Secretary:*—The Secretary paid several visits to Fleet Street and made special endeavours with the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger for establishing a service of direct cables in case of important events occurring in Switzerland which would be suitable for forwarding to the English Press with a commentary. He also endeavoured to bring Swiss press photographers into touch with English illustrated papers. In one instance he succeeded so far by direct communication. He is also still in touch with the press service of the Foreign Office and introduced Mr. de Traz there when he was here. The Secretary has had in several instances an opportunity of revising erroneous statements which appeared in the English papers about Switzerland. He arranged for the Second Congress for Women's Interests, held in Berne, to be dealt with by an English Review. He sent an article on the composer, Hans Huber, to several musical papers, two of which printed it. Since September he has written regularly each month to the "Anglo-Swiss Review" on the activity

of the Swiss Colony in London. His December article took the form of a year's retrospect. He has written monthly to "The Swiss Observer" on the activity of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique. He provided a Swiss School Review with suitable English articles. In this connection it may also be mentioned that he has been asked to write the article on Switzerland for the English Political Year-book, the "Annual Register," for 1921.

I think, Ladies and Gentlemen, you will agree that our new Secretary's achievements under such trying circumstances as those described above do him great credit. Many a man undertaking such work under such conditions might have been tempted either to give up the job, or to lose his head or his temper. Dr. Lang did neither; he has stuck doggedly to his work, adapted himself to circumstances, and smilingly kept going on.

I should like here to repeat a statement made by the Budget Committee at one of the Council's meetings:—

"Our task in reducing expenses in order to put  
"the finances of the Group on a sound footing,  
"has been greatly facilitated by the wholehearted  
"way in which Dr. Lang co-operated with us in  
"exercising the strictest economy."

To these accomplishments Dr. Lang has added that of a first-class lecturer, as those of you will testify who came to his most interesting lectures.

In fact, the Group has once more the right man in the right place at the helm at the Secretariat, and in this respect we can look to the future with fullest confidence.

#### COMPOSITION AND WORK OF OUR DIFFERENT COMMITTEES.

*The Propaganda Committee:*—(Members: Mr. Mairé, Dr. Schwegler, Mr. Weber, and Mr. F. Zimmermann, president.) This Committee was formed in the autumn and has compiled nearly 1,000 new addresses of Swiss living in London and is busy preparing an extensive scheme for approaching new people, with a view to their becoming members. A special appeal, drawn up in the three national languages, will be sent out. Several other suggestions have also been elaborated by this Committee.

*The Rhine Commission:*—(Members: Mr. H. Martin, Mr. A. Palliser, Mr. Sommer, Mr. P. de Wolff, and Mr. J. Baer, president.) The Rhine Commission has no longer had an opportunity of doing extensive work, as the question has reached a stage when direct propaganda is no longer of any use. There was, however, one sitting of this Commission, during which important information was given to the members. We are, of course, still kept informed on the state of affairs, partly by the documents which we get from the Legation and which are of great use, and partly by the monthly bulletin "Des Canaux! des Bateaux!" to which we are subscribers.

*The Club House Committee:*—(Delegates: Mr. G. Dimier, Mr. A. Secrétan, Mr. G. Wüthrich, and Mr. Ritter, reporter.) This Committee has sent out an extensive enquiry containing thirty-four questions to all the Swiss Societies in London, with a view to getting information as to their exact wishes, should the Swiss Colony erect a Club House. All the answers have now come in, and it is expected that a meeting of the delegates will take place shortly in order to prepare the next steps.

*The Swiss Sports Delegation:*—(Members: Mr. E. Beck, Mr. E. Bloch, Mr. F. Golay, and Mr. J. Plattner.) This Delegation, together with delegates from other Swiss Societies, organised an excellent afternoon of Sports at the Herne Hill Athletic Grounds on May 29th.

*The Financial Committee:*—(Members: Mr. G. Wüthrich and Mr. Suter.) This Committee has done its best to wipe



out the deficit which threatened the life of our Society at the beginning of last year and to secure new contributions, and deserves our very hearty thanks.

*The Budget Commission:*—(Members: Mr. Gamper, Mr. H. Joss, and Mr. Suter, president.) The most arduous task of all was allotted to this Committee, which was founded last spring. It had to find ways and means to cut down the Budget, which originally forecast a deficit of £1,000. Following the economy measures proposed by this Committee, the Budget for the current year was ruthlessly cut down, the result of which you will see by the Balance Sheet.

*The Art Commission:*—(Members: Mr. T. Ritter, Mr. T. Schaerer, Dr. Weibel, Mr. G. Wüthrich, and Dr. Paravicini, Swiss Minister, president; reporter: Mr. F. Beyli.) This Committee has considered at many sittings the question of a first-class Swiss Art Exhibition to be held in London. The negotiations to undertake it in collaboration with the Office Suisse du Tourisme broke down in spring, and since then the Committee has continued its work on its own account. A Commissioner was found in Switzerland in Professor Paul Ganz, Basle, and steps were taken to secure the rooms of the Royal Academy for an exhibition in the autumn of 1922. The Council of the Royal Academy has, however, declined to lend it for this date, and the Committee is now on the look out for another suitable gallery.

*The Press Committee:*—(Members: Mr. Jaccard, Miss Perrier, Miss Reutiner, Dr. Schwegler, Dr. Weibel, Dr. Zehnder, and Dr. Lang, reporter.) This Committee was constituted in April at the suggestion of Mr. Beyli, with a view to helping the Secretary in his journalistic work. It has had, however, no second opportunity of meeting, as the questions likely to be submitted to it were not ripe at the end of last year. The Secretary was, however, in constant touch with all of its members and received assistance from some of them when he tried to interest the English Press in the centenary of Amiel. All the members of the group were asked to help this Committee by putting at its disposal a list of books likely to be of use to them, and a number of them answered the enquiry. The Secretary would be grateful if he were always put into touch with any Swiss journalists living in this country, so that in case of a National Swiss Propaganda Scheme he would know where to address himself. The Committee will be of special value in preparing the British public for the first exhibition of Swiss Art ever held in this country, if the Art Commission succeeds with their scheme in 1922.

*The Entr'Aide Committee:*—(Members: Messrs. C. Bertschinger, E. C. Boissonnas, E. Buser, R. Fiaux, C. Kiefer, P. Preisig, Theo. Ritter, J. Pfaendler, H. Roost, chairman, and J. Hausermann, reporter.) This Committee is also quite a young creation. It was founded in spring, 1921, with a view to helping young Swiss coming over to this country. It has drawn up a list of suitable professional and language schools in London, which has been sent out to all the Swiss Institutions in London likely to be asked for information on such a subject. It also arranged for an enquiry being made amongst the members of the Group as to reliable boarding houses in London. This has enabled the Secretary to compile a list and to answer enquiries made by young Swiss people in search of suitable lodgings.

*The Entertainment Committee:*—(Members: Mr. Despond, and Mr. Kiefer, president.) This Committee has excellently prepared the first informal dinner which we held on November 11th at the "Swiss Club." It is now preparing for a soirée concert, which will be held at the end of March or early in April, and which it is hoped will meet with general approval.

#### GATHERINGS OF THE GROUP AND EVENTS IN WHICH IT TOOK PART.

February 18th.—Annual Meeting.

March 17th.—Lecture, Mr. Robert de Traz, "Le Rôle des Petites Nations" (East London College).

March 18th.—Lecture, Mr. Robert de Traz, "Les Activités du Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger" (Group).

May 20th.—Lecture, Dr. Paul Lang, "The Zones of Savoy."

June 17th.—Lecture, Dr. Paul Lang, with the assistance of Mrs. T. Lunghi and Mr. C. Haldimann, "Some Modern Swiss Writers."

June 23rd.—Soirée annuelle suisse.

June 27th.—Reception of Messrs. A. Georg and John Syz at the Hotel Victoria by the Swiss Commission in London for the Study of Economic and Commercial Questions.

July 28th.—First of August Celebration under the auspices of the Swiss Institute.

September 23rd.—Lecture, Dr. Paul Lang, "Social Reforms of Recent Date in Switzerland; Achievements and Schemes."

October 21st.—Rev. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, "Causerie sur Henri Fréd. Amiel."

November 11th.—Informal Dinner at the "Swiss Club."

November 16th.—Lecture, Professor E. Borel, "The Problem of Naturalisation and Nationalisation in Switzerland—Its Actual State and Solution."

January 20th.—Lecture, Dr. Paul Lang, "Modern Tendencies in Swiss Education and Instruction."

*Lectures:*—During the past year we had great pleasure in welcoming Mr. Robert de Traz, the First Secretary of the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger, and hearing him talk about the great developments which have been made by this secrétariat. This was, unfortunately, the only lecturer from abroad we could afford, as, since the new Secretary began his duties, ruthless economy has been the watchword. Consequently the credit for lecturers from abroad was wiped out for the remainder of the year. We had, however, the great advantage of hearing Professor E. Borel lecturing, who is now more or less settled in this country in his capacity as the President of the Mixed Arbitral Tribunals. His lecture drew the largest audience we have had since Professor Bovet spoke to us, but, at the same time, one wished it might have been larger. The Rev. R. Hoffmann-de Visme was kind enough to bring nearer to us on the centenary of H. R. Amiel the life and the psychology of this interesting compatriot, who is such a European celebrity that the "Times Literary Supplement" devoted its leading article to him in his birthday week. Dr. Latt's farewell lecture on "Some Swiss Adventurers in Great Britain" had, unfortunately, to be abandoned owing to the railway strike menacing to impede his departure for the Auslandschweizertag at Basle, which compelled him to leave earlier than expected. The remaining lectures: "The Zones of Savoy," "Some Modern Swiss Writers," "Social Reforms of Recent Date in Switzerland," "Modern Tendencies in Swiss Education and Instruction" were given by the new Secretary. It is to be hoped that more members will assist him in this task in 1922.

*Lectures other than to the Group:*—Mr. Robert de Traz lectured with great success on "Le Rôle des Petites Nations" at East London College, that famous scholar, Sir Sydney Lee, taking the chair, and Mrs. Perry, a Swiss lady, head of the French Literature Department of this College, addressing him in a very enthusiastic manner. The Secretary repeated his lecture on "Social Reforms" to the Bradford Group, and the one on "Some Modern Swiss Writers" to the Group in Manchester, and he had a good talk on things Swiss with the remnant of the Trent Valley Group. He also spoke in German to the Swiss Y.M.C.A. on "Karl Stamm—Ein Dichterschicksal." He provided the Bradford Group, too, with documentation for a material discussion on the Vorarlberg question. Our members, Mr. Dimier, the Rev. Hoffmann-de Visme and Mr. Renou, spoke to different Swiss audiences.

# OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER GROUPS, SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTES.

Groups:—We are in constant touch with the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger and a number of the Groups abroad, but in particular with those in England, to which the Secretary will henceforth pay regular visits twice a year. During the past year we have had on several occasions to congratulate new Groups on their foundation. From a number of them we receive printed bulletins and newspapers regularly, and have even had printed reports from the Groups of Morocco and Alexandria. They all get monthly circulars from us, which give them a clear idea of what we are doing. We are glad to say that we are sometimes visited by members of other Groups who bring us greetings from home. We are especially watching the endeavours which are being made in the United States, with a view to founding Groups there of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, and have more than once helped the efforts of the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger in this direction.

Our relations with the other Swiss Societies in London are of the best. We are often invited by them to attend their meetings and dinners, and we are always glad to see them as often as we can. Mutual relations are now far easier since "The Swiss Observer" came into being, last year as a fortnightly, and this year as a weekly, because it records all the events of importance which occur in the Swiss Colony in London. Since autumn of last year our Secretary has also written a monthly letter regularly to the "Anglo-Swiss Review" "With the Swiss in London," in which he has a good opportunity to convey news of our doings to our friends in Switzerland. Our Council, of course, acts as a kind of parliament, as on its board are represented all the members of the Swiss Societies in London, including the Benjamin amongst them, which came into existence last year, the Choral Society. Our feelings towards this society are particularly friendly, as it embellished in so agreeable a way the informal dinner which we had in November.

We are also in touch with a number of other Societies which foster aims similar to ours. These include the "Heimatschutz," "La Société d'Utilité Publique," "Pro Juventute," "L'Association pour la Navigation Intérieure"; they all have our Group on their membership list. We have also during this last year taken up relations with the "Union Centrale des Associations Patronales Suisses," which we have helped in their researches concerning the unemployment question. We have, too, on numerous occasions been called upon to collaborate with the Swiss Legation. We had an opportunity to encourage the appeal made by the Swiss Writers' Association for their fund in aid of Swiss writers in need.

This concludes the statement of our activities for 1921.

Looking at it superficially and taking into consideration the compulsory retrenchment due to our financial position, we need not be ashamed of the results obtained. Good work has been produced within our limitations; at the same time, I cannot help thinking that, in some respects, even better work could have been produced. I will explain what I mean:—

At the end of my last year's report I sounded a note of warning about the danger for our Society of placing material questions too much in the foreground to the great detriment of our ideal. Since then, the economic situation of the world has grown from bad to worse. The trade depression has increased everywhere; the struggle for life is harder than ever; all classes of society are affected in different degrees by the crisis which exists everywhere and in Switzerland perhaps more keenly than anywhere else. As a result of this state of affairs one can see a certain lassitude creeping up in many quarters, a spirit which is deadly to all ideals. It can only be fought, and must be fought tooth and nail by the stout-hearted ones, and it behoves us, members of the N.S.H., to carefully watch lest it should be tempted to penetrate our midst.

Have we been careful enough to keep it out of the London Group? Are we sure that it has not come already very near our doorstep? Is it not that spirit that keeps so many of our members away from our lectures, however eminent the lecturers, however varied the subject treated? Do all our members realise that their moral support is needed by the Society besides the 5s. a year which they pay to the Treasurer? If they all did, I cannot help thinking that we would have to-day much more cause to feel proud of our achievements in 1921, and I would once more beseech you, members of the Group, to give the Council you are going to elect the benefit of your whole-hearted support during the present year.

I know full well that, under the circumstances which I have just described, it will need a real effort on the part of most of us; but without hesitation I call upon you to make

that effort. You would not be a member of the N.S.H. if you did not love that dear little Country of ours, the most beautiful Country in the world, which ought to be the happiest in the world, but is not! There is no true love where the spirit of sacrifice, of self-denial is absent, and you cannot serve your Country if you are not prepared to give her some of your best.

The N.S.H. Ideal is to do that which no political party can do, that is to further everything that will be useful not to a party, or a group of individuals, or a canton only, but to the whole of Switzerland.

A true member of the N.S.H. should, therefore, be prepared at all times to respond to such an ideal, and, if anyone joins our Group in the hope of deriving personal advantages from his association with us, I am afraid he will be disappointed. It seems more necessary than ever for the Group to work in the spirit which has established its reputation. You know, that, thanks to the N.S.H., all the Swiss Colonies abroad have now the means of remaining closely in touch with the Mother Country. The London Group was the pioneer of this movement for gathering all the Swiss abroad to the fold.

Originally, the idea for this movement was started by our friend, G. de Reynold; but the London Group has been the first to work in that direction and to help the formation of several new Groups abroad. Since then, the movement has taken a great impulse after the formation of the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger under the able leadership of our friend, de Traz. It is growing still; new Groups are constantly formed, and the day is not far distant when the whole of the Fourth Switzerland, as it has been called, will be formed into a great Federation.

In Switzerland itself it is now being recognised that the expatriated Swiss have been too long neglected or left to their own devices. The N.S.H. has enlightened official and public opinion to such an extent that the movement is gaining support day by day. Some of the most enthusiastic, able and energetic members of our Society have made it their business to find the funds necessary for the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger, so far with an almost unhopd-for measure of success.

Members of the London Group, it is our duty more than ever to increase our efforts in order to respond to this fine support! Mayhap some of you, in listening to this piece of advice, think: "It is all very well to talk like that, but what can I do? I am hard hit by the present crisis, crushed by taxation, my outlook is very gloomy, I have nothing but worries, and in fact I am often on the fringe of despair! Again, what can I do?"

I will tell you what you can do. You must think that your Country's troubles and sorrows must pass before yours, and that she needs all the moral, intellectual and material support of her children. Having looked at the question from this point of view, you will then find many ways of doing something for your Country. Suppose, for instance, that instead of sitting in your armchair of an evening brooding over your troubles, suppose you give your name and address to our Secretary in case he has any work in which he needs your help. Or you are fond of reading, perhaps, and you come across some information in a review or a book which, if conveyed to Switzerland, might prove useful to one of our Institutions—send it to our Secretary. You know a compatriot who is not a member of the N.S.H.—try and induce him to join our Group. You have received an invitation to one of our lectures and are wondering whether you shall go or not—do not hesitate, your presence is one of the ways in which you can give the Committee and the Council your moral support, come to the lecture.

Needless to multiply examples of this kind. If I have quoted a few, it was only to indicate how members can show their attachment to a Society whose only aim is to serve our Country. I leave it to your patriotism to find other ways; but, speaking from experience, I can safely say that the more earnestly you try to find them, the more easily you will be able to shake off your own troubles. In fact, you will soon recognise that the satisfaction of doing something for your Country acts as a wonderful tonic. It braces you up. It makes you fit to tackle anything that comes your way. Members of the London Group, let us all take a good dose of that tonic! Believe me it is the only antidote against the poison to which I have alluded and which is called "lassitude."

Because of the present circumstances, the task before us is greater than ever. We must therefore strain every nerve to accomplish it, and our combined efforts are a necessity.

The future life of our Group is in the hands not of the Committee or the Council alone, but of every single one of our members. Do not let us forget this. Our motto henceforth must be: "Up and doing—pro Helvetica dignitate ac securitate."

J. BAER, President.