

Basle fair party

Objekttyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): **- (1923)**

Heft 95

PDF erstellt am: **28.04.2024**

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SWISS CLUB "SCHWEIZERBUND."

The Annual Dinner of the "Schweizerbund" took place last Friday, March 23rd, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1, M. Henri Martin, Counsellor of Legation and Commercial Attaché, being in the Chair.

A large company of members and friends sat down to an excellent dinner, served in the large hall of the club, which was specially decorated for the occasion. The loyal toast having been duly honoured, Mr. F. Riederer rose to propose the prosperity of the "Schweizerbund," of which he is the devoted president. He read a letter from the Swiss Minister, expressing sincere regret at not being able, on account of indisposition, to preside over the gathering, as promised. Mr. Riederer traced in a few words the history of the club, the feature of which was the active support and constructive interest, displayed at all times by the members; he would on this occasion refer only to Mr. Isler, their steward, whose capable management was, under present conditions, a great asset.

Mr. F. Burgin, the secretary, had charge of the toast of "The Guests." He extended a hearty welcome to M. Henri Martin, who was accompanied by Mr. Sterchi, the Chancellor of our Legation. The many delegates, sent by the other societies, were ample proof of the intimate relations and good fellowship that existed in the Swiss Colony; he greeted Messrs. Colomb and Audemars (Secours Mutuels), Messrs. Rueff and Senn (City Swiss Club), Messrs. Notari and Biucchi (Unione Ticinese), Messrs. Indermauer and Emmenegger (Union Helvétique), Mr. Jean Baer and Dr. Lang (Nouv. Soc. Helvétique), Mr. and Mrs. Manzoni (Swiss Choral Society), Mr. Lüthi (Gymn. Soc. 'Schweizerbund'); he missed the presence of the President of the Swiss Mercantile Society, who, on account of the sudden illness of Mrs. De Brunner, was detained at the last moment.—Mr. Jean Baer returned thanks on behalf of the visitors.

"La Patrie" was then proposed by M. Henri Martin, who expressed disappointment on being called upon to make a speech, whilst he really anticipated reposing in comfort and enjoying an oration from his distinguished chief. When a previous speaker mentioned 1879 as having witnessed the foundation of their club, it struck him as a lucky omen, as he also was born in that year. M. Martin dwelt upon the present economic conditions in Switzerland and said that we depended in a very large measure upon the traditional friendship and goodwill of England.

To suitably deputize for Mr. F. Isler, whose ladies' toasts are as famous as the tombs of the Pharaohs, would require as many years' practice as the latter are ancient, but Mr. Delaloye acquitted himself of the unheeded task with appropriate spirit and sentiment, with the help of a batch of telegrams which were pouring in from the distant hero in Tunbridge Wells.

The last toast, also proposed by Mr. Delaloye, was to draw the attention of the audience to the founders and honorary members of the club, of whom the following were present: Messrs. Schwarz (the oldest member), Wetter, Dürlewanger, Bernhardt, Bruschweiler, Theo. Nanzler and Riederer.—Mr. Dürlewanger, in his reply, touched a somewhat melancholy note by saying that, although the old flag was still here and kept flying, he saw every year fewer of that small band coming to these festive gatherings.

The enjoyment of the speeches was enhanced by various entertainments, in fact, the speakers themselves contributed greatly to the entertainment by indulging in the recital of proverbial Scotch yarns. The Swiss Choral Society gave a few songs, which, needless to say, were much applauded; Mr. Pestou, the previous conductor, gave an exhibition of his wonderful *basso profundo*, and declamations by Mr. James kept everybody rocking with laughter. Both the dinner and concert were well arranged and expeditiously despatched, with the result that, although the company sat down to dinner fully an hour after the advertised time, the ball commenced sufficiently early to allow those who *must* catch their last train plenty of time for dancing.

BASLE FAIR PARTY.

We are pleased to state that the arrangements for above are now complete; additional accommodation has had to be provided on account of the large number of applications, and we cannot deal with any further bookings beyond those that reach us by first post on Tuesday morning.

Several articles, dealing with Financial and Commercial News, the lecture given by Dr. P. de Wolff, and the demonstration by Mr. Jaques Dalcroze have unavoidably been held over.

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CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont informés que

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aura lieu le MARDI 10 AVRIL, au Restaurant GATTI, et sera précédée d'un souper familial à 6.45 h. (sh. 5/6 par couvert).

Cet avis tient lieu de convocation. Tous ceux désirant y participer sont invités à s'annoncer en temps utile au Trésorier, M. G. Dimier, 46, Cannon Street, E.C.4. (Téléphone: Central 1321).

Ordre du Jour.

Procès-verbal. Rapport des Vérificateurs des Comptes.
Admissions. Election du Comité.
Démissions. Divers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

(The figure in parentheses denotes the number of the issue on which the subscription expires.)

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EGLISE SUISSE, 79, Endell St., W.C.2.

Dimanche, 1er Avril (Jour de Pâques), 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme. (Ste. Cène.) 6.30.—Pfr. U. Wildbolz. (Abendmahl.)
Lundi, 2 Avril.—Promenade à Colley Hill. Rendez-vous: Charing Cross Stn. (S.E. & C.R.) 10.40 a.m.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, April 7th, at 7 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Banquet and Ball at Midland Hotel, St. Pancras, N.1.

Tuesday, April 10th, at 6.45.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual General Meeting, preceded by a Supper, at Gatti's Restaurant.

Friday, April 13th, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE: Lecture by the Rev. R. Hoffmann-de Visme on "Le Major Davel," at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

Saturday, April 14th, at 11 a.m.—Basle Fair Party leaves Victoria Station for Switzerland.

Saturday, April 14th, at 7.30.—UNION HELVETIA: Grand Benefit Concert in Aid of London Hospitals at Wigmore Hall (tickets 3s. and 5s.).

Thursday, April 19th.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Banquet and Ball at Gatti's Restaurant, Strand, W.C.

Friday, May 4th, at 8 p.m.—UNION HELVETIA: Annual Dinner and Ball.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, P. F. BOHRINGER, by THE FREDERICK PRINTING CO. LTD., at 21, GARLICK HILL, LONDON, E.C.4.