

# Swiss Mercantile Society : students' Christmas banquet and ball

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## TEN YEARS.

A brief summary of the more important happenings in the Swiss Colony reported in our columns during the period 1920—1930.

(Continued.)

Issue No. 242 (March 20th, 1926).

Monsieur P. Hilfiker appointed Chancellor of the Swiss Legation.

Issue No. 243 (March 27th, 1926).

Swiss Club (Schweizerbund): Annual Dinner and Ball at 74, Charlotte Street. In the Chair: Mr. J. Tresch. Principal guest: Monsieur de Bourg, First Secretary at the Swiss Legation.

Issue No. 244 (April 3rd, 1926).

Unione Ticinese: Annual Banquet and Ball at the Restaurant Monaco. In the Chair: Mr. W. Notari. Principal guest: Monsieur de Bourg, First Secretary at the Swiss Legation.

Issue No. 246 (April 17th, 1926).

Swiss Y.M.C.A.: General Meeting under the Presidency of Mr. J. Scheuemeier.

Issue No. 248 (May 1st, 1926).

Société de Secours Mutuels: Annual Dinner at 74, Charlotte Street. In the Chair: Mr. Colomb. Principal guest: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Death of Mr. Charles Fuog, member of City Swiss Club.

Issue No. 249 (May 8th, 1926).

Swiss Choral Society: Annual Concert at Mortimer Hall.

Issue No. 253 (June 5th, 1926).

Swiss Sports at Herne Hill.

Issue No. 256 (June 26th, 1926).

57ème Fête Suisse at Caxton Hall. Death of Mr. William Rappard, member of City Swiss Club.

Issue No. 257 (July 3rd, 1926).

Piano Recital by Mme. J. Wihl at Wigmore Hall.

Issue No. 259 (July 17th, 1926).

Recital by Miss Violette Browne at Wigmore Hall.

Issue No. 270 (October 30th, 1926).

Swiss Yodler Concert at Wigmore Hall.

Issue No. 275 (December 4th, 1926).

City Swiss Club: Annual Banquet and Ball at Hotel Victoria. In the Chair: Mr. G. Marchand, President. Principal guest: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Issue No. 280 (January 8th, 1927).

The United Grand Lodge granted the Swiss Freemasons, resident in London, a warrant to meet and hold a lodge under the title "Helvetica Lodge No. 4894."

Issue No. 281 (January 15th, 1927).

Mr. Theophile Schaefer, Swiss architect, won the 1st prize for his design in the Ideal Houses Competition, arranged by the *Daily Mail*.

Monsieur Clément Rezzonico appointed Secretary of Legation.

Issue No. 283 (January 29th, 1927).

Swiss Club, Liverpool: Farewell Dinner to Mr. A. J. Fontannaz, Swiss Consul at Liverpool.

Issue No. 284 (February 5th, 1927).

Resignation of Mr. X. Castelli as Managing Director of the Swiss Bank Corporation, London Office.

Issue No. 285 (February 12th, 1927).

Swiss Mercantile Society: Annual Banquet and Ball at Midland Grand Hotel. In the Chair: Mr. Stahelin. Principal guest: Monsieur J. Borsinger, First Secretary of Legation.

Issue No. 287 (February 26th, 1927).

Death of Mr. G. Ch. Agnet, C.B.E., President of the Board of Directors of the Nestlé and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. Member of City Swiss Club and "Commission Suisse."

Issue No. 288 (March 5th, 1927).

Swiss Choral Society: Annual Banquet and Ball at the First Avenue Hotel. In the Chair: Mr. J. Manzoni. Principal guest: Monsieur de Bourg, First Secretary of Legation.

Issue No. 290 (March 19th, 1927).

Recital by Miss Violette Brown at Wigmore Hall.

Conference by Dr. E. Schwegler at 1, Gerrard Place, on "Bernhard Moser."

Unione Ticinese: Annual Banquet and Ball. In the Chair: Mr. W. Notari. Principal guest: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Issue No. 291 (March 26th, 1927).

A.O.F.B., Swiss Vat: Dinner and Concert at "Swiss Hotel," Old Compton Street. In the Chair: Mr. A. Wyss.

Issue No. 293 (April 9th, 1927).

Reception to the Swiss Colony by the Swiss Minister and Mme. Paravicini at 21, Bryanston Square, W.1.

Issue No. 301 (June 4th, 1927).

Swiss Sports at Herne Hill.

Issue No. 306 (July 9th, 1927).

City Swiss Club: Dinner in honour of Messrs. M. A. Reinhard and W. Siegenthaler of the Rowing Club "Reuss," Lucerne. In the Chair: Monsieur L. Jobin, President.

Issue No. 310 (September 3rd, 1927).

Death of Mr. Giuseppe Cusi, member of Unione Ticinese.

Issue No. 320 (November 12th, 1927).

Union Helvetia: Annual Dinner. In the Chair: Mr. P. Lehrian. Principal guest: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister, and Mr. P. Hilfiker, Chancellor of the Legation.

Issue No. 333 (February 11th, 1928).

Nouvelle Société Helvétique: General Meeting of the London Group. Election of Mr. A. F. Suter as President.

Swiss Mercantile Society: Lecture by Nat. Councillor Ph. Schmid-Rudin. Annual Banquet and Ball at the Midland Grand Hotel. In the Chair: Mr. A. C. Stahelin. Principal guests: Monsieur G. H. L. Micheli, First Secretary of Legation and Nat. Councillor Schmid-Rudin.

Issue No. 336 (March 3rd, 1928).

Swiss Choral Society: Annual Banquet and Ball. In the Chair: Mr. J. Manzoni. Principal guest: Monsieur W. C. de Bourg, First Secretary of Legation.

Swiss Gymnastic Society: Display at Union Helvetia Club.

Issue No. 339 (March 24th, 1928).

Swiss Club (Schweizerbund): Annual Dinner at 74, Charlotte Street. In the Chair: Mr. J. Tresch. Principal guest: Monsieur de Bourg, First Secretary of Legation.

Unione Ticinese: Annual Banquet and Ball at Restaurant Monaco. In the Chair: Mr. W. Notari. Principal guest: Monsieur Borsinger, First Secretary of Legation.

Issue No. 343 (April 21st, 1928).

Union Helvetia Club: "Olde Friends' Evening." In the Chair: Mr. G. De Brunner.

Issue No. 344 (April 28th, 1928).

Swiss Choral Society: Annual Concert at Mortimer Hall.

Issue No. 347 (May 19th, 1928).

Unofficial visit of Monsieur Schulthess, President of the Swiss Confederation.

Issue No. 348 (May 26th, 1928).

Concert of Jodelklub "Edelweiss" at Queen's Hall.

Foyer Suisse: Annual Meeting. In the Chair: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.

Issue No. 350 (June 9th, 1928).

Swiss Sports at Herne Hill.

Issue No. 351 (June 16th, 1928).

A.O.F.B., Swiss Vat: Annual Summer Outing.

(To be continued.)

## UNE PERLE.

La Feuille des Avis officiels du Canton de Vaud, comme toute littérature administrative, n'est point chose très folâtre à l'ordinaire. Cependant il ne s'en faudrait pas de beaucoup qu'elle le devint en persévérant dans la publication d'annonces de ce genre-ci:

"Suisse allemand, 23 ans, sachant traire, cherche place auprès de 10-15 vaches, où il aurait occasion d'apprendre le français. Personne de confiance. Entrée de suite ou à convenir. Place à l'année et bon traitement désirés, etc."

On exagère peut-être dans cette annonce le mérite des vaches vandoises. N'empêche! cela fait rudement plaisir de savoir qu'en Suisse allemande nos ruminants ont si bonne réputation!


## CITY SWISS CLUB.

PLEASE RESERVE  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17th  
for the

FIRST CINDERELLA DANCE  
at the  
MAY FAIR HOTEL, Berkeley Square, W.1.

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## SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. STUDENTS' CHRISTMAS BANQUET AND BALL.

The College of the Swiss Mercantile Society held its Annual Christmas Banquet and Ball at the First Avenue Hotel, Holborn, on December 19th. This day may be rightly recorded as a red-letter day in the annals of the College and will live in the memories of those present. The Christmas Banquet is the occasion when the whole of the Education Department unites to wind up the year, full of activity and hard work, to rejoice and to celebrate. This year it has again been a fine gathering, well over 200 in number. Mr. M. Paschoud, President of the Swiss Mercantile Society, was in the chair, and as guests were invited the Secretary to the Swiss Legation, Mr. C. Rezzonico, a staunch supporter of the College, the Members of the Education Committee and honorary officials of the S.M.S., the teaching and office staffs. The large hall of the hotel in which the dinner was served was gaily decorated and, as fitting for the occasion, Christmas tree, holly and mistletoe were not missing. The dinner came well up to the reputation of Mr. Indermair's kitchen and gourmands (not to use the less refined sounding English equivalent "gorgers") and gourmets were able to suit their palates. The customary Christmas pudding no doubt proved a pleasant novelty to many of the students.

After the toasts had been offered to H.M. the King, proposed by Mr. Paschoud, and to Switzerland, proposed by Mr. Rezzonico, the arrival of Santa Claus was announced by telegram. The latter had hardly been read, when the well-known figure was among the guests to catch them unaware. Roaring laughter and tumultuous applause followed the distribution of his eccentric but appropriate presents. Woe to him who had shown any weaknesses in the course of the year. Santa Claus's eagle eye did not miss them and his gifts were chosen accordingly. However the appearance of Santa Claus added much to the merriment and success of the evening.

Hereupon the chairman called upon Mr. Rezzonico who in a bright speech proposed the Toast to Switzerland. He referred to every student coming here as a Commercial Representative of Switzerland and it behoved every Swiss when going abroad to take every advantage in order to increase the trade of his country.

The speech was received with hearty applause and was followed immediately by a speech of Mr. Mettler, one of the students, who had attended the College for four months. Mr. Mettler, in proposing the toast to the Swiss Mercantile Society, lauded the efforts of the S.M.S. and eulogised the work of the members of the various Committees, mentioning in particular Mr. M. Paschoud, as President of the Swiss Mercantile Society, Mr. A. C. Stahelin, as Chairman of the Education Committee and Mr. W. L. Kruecker, as Chairman of the House Committee.

In reply to the toast proposed by Mr. Mettler, Mr. Paschoud emphasised the point that every student should show his thanks to the S.M.S. by becoming an active member of the S.K.V. wherever he may be. Another way of expressing thanks for what they have received, the Students could recommend their friends and acquaintances to take full advantage of the Education offered by the London section of the S.M.S. Both speeches were received with acclamation.

Mr. A. C. Stahelin, Chairman of the Education Committee, then proposed the toast to the College and the Teaching staff. He compared the present educational work of the S.M.S. with what existed when he first came to London. The Staff of the College is without exaggeration second to none and Swiss Students coming to London could not do better than by joining the College as a Student. Mr. A. Levy, Principal, in replying to the toast of Mr. Stahelin thanked the Chairman of the Education Committee on behalf of his colleagues for the kind words, which he considered a great compliment to the teaching staff, and also thanked the students for the cordial manner in which they received the toast. Mr. Levy said that the good work of the College staff was due to the kind guidance and invaluable work of the Education Committee. He urged the students to make the most of their stay in London which afforded them a singular opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of the English language. Referring to Mr. Rezzonico's speech and the latter's reference to the students being Swiss Commercial representatives, the Principal said that each student joined the Diplomatic Service on leaving Swiss territory, for a nation is judged by the words and deeds of every individual of the nation. Mr. Levy concluded his speech by interpreting the mystic letters "S.M.S." as "Stahelin means Success."

In conclusion of the official programme Mr. Paschoud read a telegram conveying best wishes from Mr. W. Deutsch, late Chairman of the Education Committee, who was unfortunately prevented from being present on account of illness. A letter was also received from two former students expressing similar greetings. The party now adjourned into the ante-room for the hall to be cleared for the social part. A few couples could not withstand the strains of a concertina and thus started dancing. A "Schnitzelbank" provided

much fun. A singular opportunity for students! Dancing followed in the flashlights, it was a merry-go-round and many a student must have wished the mistletoe custom to be transferred to Switzerland. A balloon dance and spot dances added to the merriment. As a novel introduction the dancing was varied by a play entitled "The Bishop's Candlesticks," an incident from "Les Misérables," which was very successfully acted by the students. The excellent English as well as the splendid acting, speak highly of the dramatic talents of the students as well as of Mrs. Paull, a member of the teaching staff, who supervised the play. The actors received great applause. Dancing went on till two o'clock which came too soon for the untiring dancers and brought to end a memorable evening. W.B.

#### SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

A very happy little gathering took place at the Swiss Hotel, 53, Old Compton Street, W.1, on Thursday, 18th December, when about 40 members and friends sat down to a "Blut & Leberwurst" dinner. Although the menu sounded quite unpretentious in comparison to the many elaborate ones which were dished up at the various recent Swiss dinners, the simple but excellent fare was none the less greatly enjoyed by all those present.

Mr. F. Conrad, the vivacious President of the Society, welcomed the company with a few words to which Mr. A. Stahelin, late President of the Swiss Mercantile Society, replied. The speeches took exactly seven minutes, a fact well worth emphasising in view of the wave of oratorical efforts which nearly swamped the patient listeners at recent Swiss festivities. The host, Mr. A. Wyss, who is a honorary member of the Swiss Choral Society, made a witty speech in replying to a vote of thanks for looking so well after the culinary welfare of the company.

The choir delighted their friends and guests with a few songs, admirably rendered, and tales, some good and some less good, were told. Solos, duets and quartets followed each other in rapid succession and all too soon the parting hour struck. To all who had the pleasure of attending this informal gathering, it will remain a genial evening spent amongst happy company.

#### Recette pour faire un bon soulier.

Il faut d'après un dicton normand, prendre le gosier d'un bedeau et la langue d'une femme. Car le premier ne prend pas l'eau et l'autre ne s'use jamais.

#### RUSSIAN SONG LEARNED BY 'PHONE

Sophie Wyss, our compatriot with what the *Daily Telegraph* has described as a "delightful, full and supple voice," surprised us by including a Russian song in her Christmas Eve broadcast from the National station which she called "Children's Christmas Songs from Moscow to Bordeaux." Many Swiss singers can easily give a programme, as she did, in German, French, English and even Italian, but Russian is naturally more unusual. Miss Wyss learned the song, Rimski-Korsakow's "Angel" from the Russian wife of Arnold Haskell, the well-known ballet impresario, who engaged her in the summer to sing in his production with Karsavina, the great dancer. Miss Wyss set out for a rehearsal with her Russian mentor, but fog held her up, and made the meeting impossible. So she rang up Mrs. Haskell on the telephone and went over the whole of it like that!

#### PERSONAL.

We deeply regret to inform our readers of the sudden death of M. A. P. Rosselet-Droux, a very popular member of the Swiss colony. An obituary notice will appear in our next issue.

The many friends of Mr. John Gerber, Hon. Secretary of the Swiss Choral Society, will be sympathising with him in his bereavement, Mr. Gerber's father having died at Brugg.

**Madame A. P. ROSSELET-DROUX et Mademoiselle ALICE THOMAS** ont la douleur de faire part à leurs amis et connaissances de la grande perte qu'elles viennent d'éprouver en la personne de Monsieur

#### Armand Paul Rosselet-Droux

leur cher mari et beau-frère, décédé subitement dans sa quarante et unième année.

Le service religieux aura lieu à l'Eglise suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, à une heure précise, dimanche 4 janvier.

Les funérailles ayant lieu à Chatelleraut, Vienne, France, on est prié de ne pas envoyer de fleurs.

Londres, 4, Patten Road, le 31 Déc. 1930. Wandsworth Common, S.W.18.

#### Home News—(Continued)

##### APPENZEL.

At the general Meeting of the Société du Chemin de Fer du Saentis the shareholders decided by 225 votes against 47 to discontinue the scheme of building the line from Wasserauen to the top of the Saentis. The amount for completion, amounting to 25,000 francs, could not be raised and the project, therefore, had to be abandoned. N.Z.

A party of skiers were overwhelmed by an avalanche on Saturday last in the neighbourhood of the Saentis. The party, consisting of seven Swiss, had set out and were about 7,000 feet up when the avalanche descended on them. They were completely buried, but four managed to struggle out and their calls for help were heard by other groups of skiers who worked feverishly to save the two men and the woman buried under the snow. But when reached they were dead. The names of the dead are: Miss Rosa Zubler from Krummenau, Messrs. G. Peter and G. Herter, both from Wülflingen. C.N.

##### VALAIS.

The funeral took place on the 19th of December of M. Remy Berra, manager of the branch of the cantonal bank at Monthey, who was foully murdered. Apart from a great part of the population of Monthey, high officials of the cantonal bank and superior army officers, amongst them Colonel Grosseclin, Division commander, followed the coffin. The murdered man held the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the army. The murderer, who, as reported in our last issue, was arrested, still refuses to divulge the name of his accomplice. T.G.

##### CHUR.

The doyen of the Swiss Episcopate, Mgr. Georgius Schmid von Grunneck, Bishop of Chur, last week celebrated his eightieth birthday in youthful spirits, on which occasion he received hearty congratulations from all parts and classes of catholic Switzerland. V.

##### LE LOCLE.

National Councillor Dr. H. Perret met with a grave accident when skating on the Lac des Brenets. His fall was so serious that he had to be removed to hospital in an unconscious condition. N.Z.

##### VEVEY.

The vintage of the town of Vevey—63,000 litres—was sold last Saturday. The prices varied between 83 and 96 centimes. N.Z.Z.

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Wine and Cigar Importer.

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Clos du Mont Valais	47/-	Johannisberg de Sion	48/-
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Red Neuchâtel	49/-	Valais Pendant Sierre	44/-
Dezaley	48/-	Dole Red Valais Sierre	48/-

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REAL BRISSAGOS "POLUS" ... 30/- per 100  
" TOSCANIS " ... 15/- per 100 bouts

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ALL ORDERS EXECUTED IMMEDIATELY.

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#### CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

#### L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu le MARDI 6 JANVIER au Restaurant  
PAGANI, 42, Gt. Portland Street, W.1 et sera  
précédée d'un souper à 7 h. (prix 5/-).

#### ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal. Démonstrations.  
Admissions. Soirées dansantes.  
Divers.

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard St. E.C.2 (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 9595).

#### FOYER SUISSE, 15, Upper Bedford Pl., W.C.1

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1931.  
at 4 o'clock.

#### New Year's Address

ARRANGED BY MISS L. M. SELIGER.

AT

FOYER SUISSE

Every Swiss Girl Welcome.

Tea Provided.

#### Divine Services.

#### EGLISE SUISSE (1762),

(Langue française.)

79, Endell Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.

(Near New Oxford Street)

Dimanche 4. Janvier 11 h.—Psaume 91. M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6.30 h.—M. Pradervand.

7.30 h.—Répétition du Chœur.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6. (Téléphone: Archway 1798).—Heure de réception à l'église: Mercredi de 10.30—12 h.

#### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 4. Januar 1931.

11 Uhr vormittags: Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

#### DANKSAGUNG.

Die Kirchenpflege und der Pfarrer der Schweizerkirche möchten hiermit allen Landsleuten herzlich danken, die während des vergangenen Jahres und zur Weihnachtszeit so treulich geholfen haben und bitten herzlich darum, dem gemeinsamen Werk die Treue auch im neuen Jahre zu wahren. Mit herzlichsten Wünschen zum neuen Jahr:

Die Kirchenpflege und Pfarrer C. Th. Hahn.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, January 3rd, at 7 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Annual Fancy Dress Ball at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, N.W.

Tuesday, January 6th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting at Pagani's Restaurant, 42, Great Portland Street, W.1.

Saturday, January 17th.—CITY SWISS CLUB: First Cinderella at the May Fair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.

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