

Opening of the "Swiss Fortnight" by the Swiss Ambassador

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OPENING OF THE "SWISS FORTNIGHT" BY THE SWISS AMBASSADOR

Swiss fortnight in Britain was officially opened on the 5th of October by the Swiss Ambassador, Dr. A. Daeniker — not to a sound of trumpets but to the merriest of music played by Swiss musicians in Swiss dress.

"The Times" wrote:—

"It may seem surprising that it should be thought necessary to tell the British about Swiss ways and goods for, as the Ambassador said, Anglo-Swiss spiritual, cultural, commercial and even military relations have lasted a long time. But this, as the guests at the reception were reminded, is a competitive commercial age, and so goods and names already well known here, with some perhaps not so well known, are to be brought specially to British attention.

"M. Daeniker thanked the British Government, the London County Council and other local authorities, and the many commercial firms and private persons, Swiss and British, who have helped to put Switzerland thus on show. Among them are many of the 17,000 Swiss who live in Britain and who welcome this demonstration from their native land."

* * * RECEPTION

The Swiss Ambassador and Madame Daeniker, gave a Reception to members of the Swiss Colony on Saturday, 10th of October at the Park Lane House, W.1, on the occasion of the "Swiss Fortnight".

SWISS CLUB, DUNFERMLINE.

Saturday the 12th of September 1959 will long be remembered by the Compatriots of the North. Every member and many of our friends turned out to meet our Ambassador and Madame Daeniker, at a Dinner given in their honour in the gaily decorated Canteen of Messrs. Dunfermline Silk Mills Ltd.

Preceding this official function our Consul, Mr. Ernst Hofstetter, of Balloch, invited the members of the Committee with their Ladies to a Cocktail Party at the Brucefield Hotel, where we were given the opportunity to talk freely with His Excellency and Madame Daeniker.

During the Dinner, Mr. Frick proposed the Toast to "The Queen" and to "Our Homeland". He said, "We assure our guests that the Swiss in Dunfermline feel very greatly honoured to have our Ambassador and Madame Daeniker with them at this unique gathering. To enable you to make this personal contact with your compatriots in this northern outpost, you decided to cut short your holiday. We all appreciate your decision very much and now feel that you will not allow us to be the 'forgotten few'".

In his reply, the Ambassador thanked the President for the very warm reception accorded to Madame Daeniker and himself. He went on to encourage us to uphold the Swiss traditions and the comradeship which he felt was of a very high standard in our small Club. In a most interesting and informative talk His Excellency went on to explain to us the many different calls that are being made upon his offices by the 13,000 registered Swiss living in Great Britain. The Ambassador further explained to us the services that are at our disposal should any of us require his help or advice.

Monsieur Daeniker gave us the promise that Madame Daeniker and himself will come back to us in Scotland on another occasion. The Ambassador's address was greeted with sincere and long applause. Consul Hofstetter proposed a vote of thanks to His Excellency and Madame Daeniker and the Swiss Club on behalf of the guests. The Committee feels that Consul Hofstetter himself deserves a very hearty vote of thanks.

On behalf of the members we also give our warm thanks to all those who helped to organize the evening, especially to our President, Mr. Frick, Mr. Robert Weiss and to the Canteen Manageress, Miss Hunter who prepared such a delightful dinner.

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