

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1922)
Heft: 67

Rubrik: Social and personal

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SWISS CENTRAL CLUB HOUSE.

The following report has been sent to the Presidents of the Swiss Societies for their consideration.

Dear Compatriots,—You will remember that in 1920, on the invitation of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, the various Swiss Societies and Institutions in London appointed delegates to a Commission which was to consider the question of a scheme for the creation of the SWISS CENTRAL CLUB HOUSE IN LONDON, and eventually study the ways and means to set the scheme on a practical working basis.

The delegates met on two occasions to exchange their views. At the first meeting on December 4th, 1920, it was decided to ask each Society and Institution to fill up a questionnaire to be drawn up for that purpose by a smaller Committee, as this, in the opinion of the delegates present, was considered the best method to get to know the views and intentions as well as financial capacities of the various bodies constituting our Colony.

At the second meeting on June 30th, 1922, the delegates were acquainted with the contents of the replies received in the meantime from all the Swiss Societies and Institutions in London, the report of the smaller Committee being followed by a further exchange of views, in the course of which the representatives of the Swiss Protestant Church of Endell Street and the Foyer Suisse announced that they withdrew from the aforesaid Commission, as they could not see their way clear to adhere to the scheme which the majority of the other delegates had in view. The latter, however, agreed that the idea of the scheme should not be abandoned, and appointed a new Committee with instructions to elaborate further proposals to be submitted to the remaining Swiss Societies and Institutions.

The undersigned, therefore, availing themselves of the authority given them, have pleasure in submitting the following to your consideration:—

“There being a genuine desire for a Central Swiss Club House for the purpose of providing a neutral home in London where the activities of our Colony could be concentrated, and so many Societies and Institutions having to find accommodation at heavy cost, the conviction grew that by concentrating under one roof not only would considerable expense be saved, but the various activities would meet with greater success than hitherto.

The circumstances in London may be somewhat different from what they are in other towns abroad in which Swiss Colonies possess already a General Club House, but the realisation of such a scheme is nevertheless possible in our Colony, and a start should be made at once by placing the whole matter in the hands of an experienced and influential Committee representing the various interests.

We appeal to the Societies and Institutions mentioned below to kindly consider this question at their earliest convenience and inform the Provisional Committee, Central Swiss Club House, whether they agree in principle to interest themselves in a scheme for a licensed Central Swiss Club House, and if so, to nominate two Delegates each to a new Commission which will be convened as soon as possible to decide on the best means of attaining this aim.

A plan will be submitted to the new Commission contemplating the collaboration of the whole Colony, the Swiss Business Community in England and in Switzerland and possibly even official bureaux.

The Central Swiss Club House would be constituted in such a way as to make it a comfortable, pleasant and sociable centre for its members whilst maintaining a standard of dignity worthy of our national traditions.

The undersigned trust that the Societies and Institutions to which this letter is addressed will take it in the spirit in which it is written, the sole object being the promotion of the interests of the Colony.”

With patriotic greetings,

GEORGES DIMIER.

THEO. RITTER.

A. L. DESPOND.

E. WERNER.

ROB. DUPRAZ.

G. WUTHRICH.

J. EMMENEGGER.

London, 12th September, 1922.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. Arthur Baume, one of the oldest members of the Swiss Colony and President of the French Hospital, who, his numerous friends will be pleased to hear, has completely recovered from his recent illness, is leaving England at the end of this month for a prolonged stay at Hôtel Monney, Montreux.

* * *

Mr. B. Wilmot Allistone has, for reasons of health, gone to Switzerland and is staying at La Bruyère, Château D'Oex.

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