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CITY SWISS CLUB

Sous la présidence de Mr. Adrien Rueff, le City Swiss Club a tenu son assemblée mensuelle chez Gatti's, en date du 2 oct. Elle fut, comme de coutume précédée d'un souper, et Mr. Senn, Président du comité d'"Entertainment" a eu l'heureuse idée d'agrémenter la soirée en demandant à Mr. Dick, pianiste, de bien vouloir jouer quelques morceaux de son répertoire, et en invitant Mr. Reed, entertainer, qui a beaucoup animer l'Assemblée en disant quelques histoires tour à tour drôles et sentimentales. Cette innovation cachait un piège, car Mr. Senn profita de l'enthousiasme général pour proposer au Club de voter un crédit de £20 et de mettre cette somme à la disposition de son Comité, ce qui lui permettrait d'agrémenter à l'avance nos réunions, par des productions diverses. Cette proposition a été immédiatement secondée par le trésorier Mr. G. Dimier, qui fit ressortir la nécessité de rendre nos assemblées plus attractives et de s'assurer ainsi la participation régulière des jeunes membres du Club, dont l'abstention remarquable est due en grande partie à la monotone de nos séances. Le crédit demandé a été voté à l'unanimité par l'Assemblée, qui passa ensuite à la discussion du banquet annuel. Ce dernier aura lieu cette année à l'Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, et le Club doit garantir une participation minimale de 250 personnes. Le Comité espère donc que les membres prendront à cœur de seconder ses efforts, et que la principale fonction sociale du Club sera cette année un succès, en même temps qu'un record en ce qui concerne la participation.

Après la clôture de la séance, le chansonnier du Club fit sa réapparition, et la soirée se termina par des chants patriotiques et autres.

LA NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE.

A Protest regarding the last "Meeting."

It is rather a sad business for a member of a so-called Propaganda Committee to give publicity to the shameful indifference of a very large part of the members of the N.S.H., and especially of its Council members.

The Council arranged the first meeting of this season for last Friday, requesting the Secretary to deliver a lecture about "La littérature contemporaine de la Suisse française et de la Suisse italienne," and evidently thought that their duty was amply fulfilled. As usual, the invitations were sent to all the members, and the lecture was advertised in *The Swiss Observer* in good time.

Well, the lecture was eventually delivered, and "all" those who attended it were very satisfied with Dr. Lang's beautiful exposé. For my part, I would heartily thank Dr. Lang for all the trouble he had taken to give us in a competent and clear manner such a delightful lecture which I thoroughly enjoyed, although it would have been even of more interest for our Welches who were conspicuous by their absence. In thanking the lecturer, I assume a task which, after all, should be entirely the business of a Council member; but it seems to me that these latter have very strange ideas about civility (to say the least of it).

Before explaining this unfortunately, only too true remark, I would like to dwell for a moment on another fact. As far as I remember, the N.S.H. has about 400 to 500 members, of whom about 2 per cent. were present. Yes, just seven members out of the whole lot found it worth while to be in their places at the first ordinary meeting, besides three friends and a (formerly) prospective member. Yes, counting as exactly as it can be done, we were eleven altogether, and in my opinion it is very regrettable to think that a lecture (which was as good as any other ever given by the N.S.H. and much better than a lot of them) should only attract such a small number of members: seven out of five hundred! Is the average intellectual horizon of our members (who, by the way, should form a sort of an élite) really so narrow that they are not interested in a lecture which, in itself, should be an enjoyment at least for every Swiss who has had some education? Some years ago similar subjects attracted quite a considerable number of members to Steinway Hall; the lectures are given in the same way now, except that we did not sing: "Lasst hören aus alter Zeit," and without flattering Dr. Lang, none else could have given a more interesting lecture on the subject in question. Every Kegelklub will be in a position to boast that any meeting is attended by 50% of its members, while the N.S.H., which tries to group all citizens who do care for the welfare of their country, and to keep them in contact with the various movements at home, should be able to live and be satisfied with an attendance at its meetings of 1½-2% of its members! This fact cries for some drastic measures and perhaps necessi-

tates some reconstruction of the Society, at any rate, it should occupy every member who is aware of the loss which the disappearance of the London group of the N.S.H. would mean to the Colony. Unfortunately, I do not think that I am looking too much on the black side of things when I say that, if matters are allowed to go on like that, the complete disintegration of the Society is only a question of a very short time. — One word to our Welches: The lecture was intended for them specially, but not one of our French-speaking friends turned up. Dr. Lang certainly did not talk about things he was not very well acquainted with; are we to assume then that our Welch members are even more materialistic than the rest? I hope not.

But in my eyes the worst lesson of this meeting was that everybody realised that the larger part of our Council (I do not want to include those few who are working for the Society every day, as, for example, the President and the Treasurer) is as indifferent as it can possibly be. Is it not a matter of mere civility towards the lecturer that at least some of the twenty-six members of the Council should be present? Is it not the Council which requests the Secretary to deliver lectures? Why do they consent to lectures which evidently do not interest them or which (in the other alternative) are beyond their average intellectual horizon? But even allowing for all this, I think that our Council members—who are all of a mature age—should really know that it is a lack of the most elementary tact to leave the lecturer alone with his audience and the audience alone with the lecturer. If they are not more interested in the Society, I would advise them, for their own benefit, to decline election to its Council.

At any rate, I should like to hear at the next meeting of the Council what they intend to do to avoid a recurrence of such an exceedingly small attendance at subsequent lectures and the complete absence of members of the Council.

THEO. H. WEBER.

6, Golders Green Crescent, N.W. 11.

SWISS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB.

(L.B.F.A. Senior "B" Division.)

SWISS BANK 1st XI (3) v. BANQUE BELGE (4).

The Bank opened their first League match against the Banque Belge on their ground, and had the misfortune of losing by the odd goal in seven.

Territorially there was not a great lot in it, the Bank, perhaps, had more shots at Banque Belge's goal than were directed at Higgins' charge, but the forwards were disappointing at times.

The game started at a very hot pace, and Banque Belge were two goals up in the first ten minutes. Here something seemed to be wrong with the Bank's defence and Kurz, who had been playing centre-half, dropped back to his old position at left back, Way coming up.

The Bank players did not close down because of this reverse, and after a very excellent forward movement the "Doctor" made a very excellent shot from the goalie's clearance, scoring an almost impossible goal. The Bank were now playing well together and backed up by the halves. Quaife scored the equalising goal. Interval: 2-2.

On resumption the pace continued despite the heat, and shortly Gourbache put the Swiss ahead, following a centre from Schwendener. The lead was maintained until about seven minutes from time, when the Belgian forwards kept harassing the Bank's defence, who stood up to their work manfully, but the goal came, and not many minutes had gone before the Belgians had scored again, a fairly simple shot which Higgins should have saved, and this gave them the victory.

Rufer played a grand game. Gourbache started well, but afterwards fell away. Shaw, despite a slight injury, got in several good centres, but frequently hung to the ball too long. Quaife, who played his first game this season, was a good right winger, strong in running and centring. Schwendener wants to watch his position.

The half-backs were good, Way and Steiner being rather more prominent than Bornand, who seemed rather fagged towards the end of the game.

Herzog was strong in tackling and kicking, and Kurz got through a lot of useful work. Higgins was perhaps unlucky with the goals. I prefer to see him again before giving an opinion.

Next week's match versus the Anglo-South American S.P.Y.

SWISS BANK 2nd XI.

On Saturday last, the 29th September the Swiss Bank 2nd XI met Derrick Wanderers 2nd XI on their ground. The Bank lost to the tune of 6 goals to nil, but this result was by no means representative of the game, as the Bank caused its opponents many anxious moments, and, with better fortune, would undoubtedly have found the net on more than one occasion. The game was fast and clean, and chief honours must go to the Bank's defence. Hochuli in goal playing a splendid game and Peter and Zurlinden, the full backs, and Dixon and Bonjour in the half-back line putting in strenuous work and saving the situation time after time against the Wanderers' nippy forward line. The Bank's forwards did not shine, lacking cohesion and initiative, which accounts for the fact that there was no successful reply to the Wanderers' scoring shots.

Next week the Bank 2nd XI will be at home to the London Assurance.

ONLOOKER.

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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY

Saturday, November 3rd, at 6.30.

CINDERELLA DANCE

at the

MIDLAND HOTEL, St. Pancras, N.

Price of Ticket, 7/6 (including Cold Supper). To be obtained at 24 Queen Victoria St., E.C., or from Members of the Committee.

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

Dimanche, 7 Oct., 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.
6.30.—Herr Walter Gerber, V.D.M.

Choeur Mixte: Dimanche, 17 Oct., à 4.30.

BAPTÉMES.

Roger Marcel SORDET, né le 23 Avril 1923, fils de Louis Jules et d'Ida Lucie née Chiocca, de Yverdon (Vaud)—le 30 Sept. 1923.

Stephanie Jacqueline DUBS, née le 29 Août 1923, fille de Jacques et de Sophie Marie née Gessmann, d'Albisrieden (Zurich)—le 30 Sept. 1923.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Friday, Oct. 12th, at 8 p.m.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Lecture by S. Alderton, Esq., J.P., entitled: "The Guildhall, and some changes I have seen in London in the last 60 years."

Saturday, Oct. 13th, at 3 p.m.—LONDON SWISS RIFLE CLUB: Preliminary Meeting at No. 1, Gerrard Place, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1.

Tuesday, Oct. 16, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Informal Gathering. Dr. Paul Lang: "Some Aspects of Modern Swiss Literature" at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1 (2nd floor).

Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7.30—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Council Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W. (restricted to members).

Saturday, Oct. 27th, at 6.30.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Cinderella Dance at Gatti's Restaurant, Strand, W.C.

Wednesday, Oct. 31, at 8.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Charity Concert with the assistance of the Swiss Institute, Swiss Choral Society and the Swiss Church Choir, at Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Saturday, Nov. 3rd, at 6.30.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance at Midland Hotel (see adv.).

LONDON SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

A preliminary meeting to discuss the formation of above will be held on Saturday next, October 13, at 3 p.m., on the first floor of No. 1, Gerrard Place (Shaftesbury Avenue, W.) by courtesy of the club committee of the Union Helvétique. Those who have already sent in applications are requested to attend; this invitation is also extended to any Swiss who may be interested in the formation of this patriotic association.

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