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LA NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
on Wednesday, 17th October, 1923,
at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

1. The Treasurer regrets having to report no admissions. He deplores the death of Mr. Albert Ehinger, and announced 13 resignations, leaving the membership at 388. 87 members are still outstanding with their 1923 subscription and are hereby reminded kindly to assist the Treasurer in his work with their remittances. The Council decided to strike off the list of membership 34 members who have failed to pay, after repeated applications, their 1922 subscriptions; the total present membership is therefore 354.

2. The President read a letter from the President of the Manchester Group, who reported to us that this Group had been dissolved. On the other hand, we had a letter from the newly formed Group at Innsbruck.

3. Some information was given on the *Annual Meeting* of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, which took place on October 13th and 14th at Chexbres. Dr. Kraft had read a report by the Swiss Minister in Rome, Georges Wagnière on the "Représentation extérieure de la Suisse," and Dr. Oeri had reported on the possibility of a Swiss foreign policy. A resolution concerning the *Zones Question* and condemning the French decision very strongly was adopted. Dr. A. Kraft, the second secretary of the Auslandschweizer Secretariat, having resigned, a successor was nominated in his place in the person of Mr. Pierre Wyss of Neuveville. The S.S.E. will be transferred to Fribourg by November 1st.

4. Mr. Spelterini, the balloon pilot, having, through the Legation, approached the N.S.H. with the intention of giving a lecture in London, the Committee replied that they would be glad to help him morally, but that we were not in a position to assist him financially in this venture, either directly or indirectly.

5. Dr. Daeniker, a member of the Council, has resigned owing to his departure to the Continent.

6. Messrs. Bloch, Golay and Kiefer were appointed delegates of the N.S.H. to the Swiss Sports Committee for 1924.

7. It was announced that the Treasurer and the Secretary had started on a financial campaign, with a view to securing the maintenance of the Secretariat in 1924, and that the Committee would report to the Council on December 19th, when the necessary decisions with regard to the future of the Group and the Secretariat, which the departure of the present secretary involves, will be taken.

8. The article by Mr. Theo. Weber in *The Swiss Observer* of October 6th was discussed, and it was decided to arrange lectures in future on a different basis.

9. The report of the Concert Committee was read, and an oral report by the President of the Entertainment Committee, concerning the forthcoming Dinner on November 13th, was heard and approved.

10. It was agreed that the January lecture should be held in conjunction with the Swiss Mercantile Society on a medical subject. The President of the Swiss Mercantile Society will start the necessary preparations.

11. The Secretary made a few communications relating to his propaganda work: (a) The Sub-Committee to the League of Nations Union watches the development of the Zones question, and intends, at the opportune moment, to take the matter up in connection with the League of Nations Union; (b) A review on the Helvetic Bibliography has appeared in the Bernese paper, the *Bund*, giving great credit to the London Group for this work; (c) A "Bibliographie sur l'histoire littéraire de la Suisse Romande" has been compiled by the Secretary. *Copies are at the disposal of members*; (d) The two informal gatherings of September and October were very satisfactorily attended. The November Informal Gathering (26th November) will take the form of a gratis concert of modern Swiss music. The following artists have kindly consented to execute compositions by modern Swiss composers: Margaret Woodhouse, George Woodhouse, Violet Clifford Austin and Ronald Chamberlain. A grand piano will be put at our disposal. The concert is particularly intended to introduce contemporary Swiss music to English music lovers and critics. *All music lovers, British or Swiss, are cordially invited*. No special invitation will be sent out; but a note will appear in *The Swiss Observer*; (e) The Echo Suisse reported that the Committee of the National Council which deals with the *Military Tax Law* has declared itself in favour of the abolition of the passage which states that papers of identification can be withheld from those who are in arrears with their tax. It is hoped that the

National Council will adopt the same view when debating on the Bill. There is a slight hope that the *Matriculation Tax* will be reduced by the beginning of 1924, but one may have to wait longer; (f) A letter from the Swiss Minister contained the passage: "I am afraid the plan for a Swiss Art Exhibition will not materialise, as the authorities are not in a position to assist us"; (g) The Secretary has continued his endeavours to find publishers for translations of Swiss books in different directions. He is also taking special steps to propagate the knowledge of Hodler in this country; (h) The "Guide" for young Swiss, which the Entr'Aide Committee has compiled, was distributed. *Copies are at the disposal of members*.

Dr. PAUL LANG, *Secretary*.

FOR THE SWISS POOR.

If you attend the Grand Charity Concert on October 31st in Caxton Hall, the patronage of which has kindly been accepted by the Swiss Minister, you will not only enjoy yourself immensely—you won't believe how much, but come and see—you will at the same time help a very worthy institution. The *Swiss Benevolent Society*, towards which the whole proceeds of the evening will go without any deduction—a magnanimous donor having defrayed all the expenses—does most useful work in this Colony of ours, and the rank and file can now and then well afford to take stock of it. No less than £344 16s. were spent in 1922 on old-age pensions for aged fellow-countrymen, and the casual relief amounted in this year to over £1,100. Think of the magnitude of distress and desolation hidden behind these cold figures! I feel sure that you, too, will make up your mind to help our destitute and old compatriots, by buying as many tickets as you can. If you can come to listen to the fine productions of the three participating societies—the Choral Society, the Swiss Church Choir, the Swiss Institute Orchestra, and the first-class vocal and instrumental soloists who have offered themselves for the good cause—all the better. If you can't come, buy your tickets all the same and gain inner satisfaction from this good deed! Tickets, at 5s., 3s., and 2s., are obtainable from the *Swiss Observer* and the Secretariat of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1, also, of course, on October 31st at Caxton Hall. *The doors will be opened at 7.30*. The programme will be gone through without "encores" being granted. Start: 8 p.m. sharp. P. L.

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UNION HELVETIA CLUB, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

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Wednesday, October 31st, 1923,
from 7.30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Special Band. Swiss Wines and Lager Beer.

Admission Free. All Members cordially invited.
THE CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE.

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.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine Assemblée Mensuelle

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

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. Georges Diniér 46, Cannon Street, E.C. 4. (Téléphone: Central 1821).

Ordre du Jour.

Procès-verbal. Admissions. Divers.

ÉGLISE SUISSE, 79, Endell St., W.C.2.

Dimanche, 28 Oct., 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6.30.—Herr H. Urner, V.D.M.

Dimanche, 11 Nov.—Arnestice Day. Le service commencera à 10.45.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

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.).

Saturday, Nov. 3rd, at 9 p.m.—SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY: Annual General Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.

Friday, Nov. 9th, at 8.30 p.m.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Lecture by J. Wells-Thatcher, Esq., on "Some Ancient Classical Fables."

Tuesday, Nov. 13th, at 7.30.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Dinner at Paganis, 42, Gt. Portland Street, W.1.

Thursday, Nov. 15, at 7.30.—SWISS BANK CLUB: Dance at Regal Rooms, Regent Street, W.

Wednesday, Nov. 21, at 7.30.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Council Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.

Monday, Nov. 26, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Chamber Music Concert at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 7.30.—ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH MEMBERS OF THE SWISS ALPINE CLUB: Annual Dinner at Gatti's Restaurant, Strand, W.C.

Friday, Nov. 30th, at 6.30.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual Banquet and Ball at Victoria Hotel, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

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