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CITY SWISS CLUB

Précédée d'un souper familial, l'Assemblée mensuelle du 6 Mars, avait attiré une quarantaine de membres et invités.

En l'absence de Mr. R. de Cintra, le Vice-Président, Mr. A. Rueff, occupait la chaire et après avoir souhaité la bienvenue aux visiteurs, ouvrit la Séance officielle à 8 heures 15.

Le procès verbal de la séance précédente est lu et adopté.

Deux candidats, l'un comme membre actif et l'autre comme membre passif, sont acceptés à l'unanimité. Il n'y a pas de démission à enregistrer.

Le Trésorier est autorisé à verser le montant de la souscription annuelle du Club, de cinq guinées à l'Hôpital Français ainsi que celle de même somme au Fonds de Secours.

Sur la proposition de Mr. P. F. Boehringer, le Secrétaire est chargé d'écrire à notre collègue, le Dr. K. Eckenstein, qui est gravement malade, pour lui exprimer, tous nos meilleurs vœux de prompt guérison et de bonne convalescence.

Le Vice-Président lit ensuite la correspondance et passe à l'organisation de notre Banquet annuel. Il donne lecture de plusieurs propositions qui sont faites par le Cecil Hotel, le Prince's Restaurant, le Trocadero Restaurant, le Great Central Hotel et l'Hôtel Victoria, qui tour à tour sont étudiées et discutées. Il est finalement résolu de tenir notre Banquet annuel et Bal, le 30 Novembre à l'Hôtel Victoria.

Sur l'invitation de Mr. Geilinger, Mr. G. Dimier, nous donne quelques détails des vacances qu'il vient de passer en Suisse et des nouvelles des amis qu'il y a rencontrés, notamment de notre ancien Président Mr. Châtelan, dont les personnes présentes sont heureux d'entendre causer. Il informe ceux que cela pourrait intéresser, qu'il met à leur disposition quelques copies de l'Heimatschutz.

Mr. P. F. Boehringer porte à la connaissance des membres qui voudraient se rendre en Suisse pour la Foire d'Echantillons de Bâle, que des Billets à prix réduits seront émis par les Chemins de Fer Suisses, par les soins du "Swiss Observer." Il se met donc à la disposition des intéressés pour de plus amples détails.

La date de notre Assemblée Générale est fixée au 10 Avril, et la séance est levée à 9 heures 40.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING

March 14th, 1922.

The meeting was declared open at 9.30 by Mr. de Brunner, President.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. The following applicants were unanimously elected as active members (including Miss King, the rules permitting non-Swiss to be elected):—Misses Myrtha Schütz, Adelaide King; Messrs. Edwin Bochni, Arthur Haller, Max Willmann, Fritz Zürcher, A. H. Ungemuth, William S. Renz, Ezio Soldati, Ernst Schneider, F. Burkhardt.

The following members' resignations were accepted, subject to their financial obligations being in order:—Eugen Hauser, Jean Hauri, Henri Baumberger, F. Suter.

Mr. Bretscher reported on the outstanding subscriptions.

Banquet.—Monsieur Paravicini will be pleased to take the Chair at the forthcoming banquet and to propose the loyal toast, but regrets that Madame Paravicini will not be able to be present. Monsieur Henri Martin will be among the guests of the evening. The President made a special appeal and expected every member to make it a point of honour to do their level best to make the banquet a big success. It was decided to invite as guests representatives of all the Swiss Societies in London and provincial towns and also Professor Eugène Borel. It was also proposed to invite the trustees of the Educational Fund. All these propositions were unanimously accepted.

Mr. Pfendler had heard the remark that the banquet tickets were too expensive and suggested to issue separate dance tickets for the younger members. Mr. Veil opposed, as it would make the control too difficult, and read out the menu, which was entirely approved as being very good value for the money. It was proposed to send a circular to the members, informing them that an extension had been granted until 2 a.m. and that dancing will start at 9 p.m. sharp.

Swiss Sports.—A letter from the Swiss Sports Committee was read, fixing the Sports to take place on May 26th at Herne Hill, and asking the S.M.S. to participate in the various races. All the members are invited to give their best support to this event. It was suggested to put into the field a team of eight for the tug-of-war, although last year's attempt proved a failure, owing to the very poor attendance of the participants for training. Mr. Paschoud addressed the meeting on the subject and proposed to send a circular to all young members. He is willing to supervise the training of the team. It was proposed by the President to offer a cup or a shield to the Swiss Sports. The S.M.S. would do well to encourage this important event of the Swiss Colony, and its own members would thus be induced to participate at least in the race for which this trophy would be earmarked. Mr. Werner and other members opposed the proposition on the ground that many contributors to the Educational Fund might object to see money being spent in this manner. The President pointed out that this fund is entirely separate from the funds of the Society and that the S.M.S. should encourage physical training equally as much as mental exercise. The proposition was put to the vote and rejected by a small majority.

The Revision of Rules Commission was asked about the work done. Mr. Werner would like the matter to be put before the General Meeting and not at each Monthly Meeting.

"Swiss Observer."—Mr. Bretscher reported on the interview he had with the Editor. It appears that only a small number of members are subscribers. Mr. Boehringer has made an offer which would result in a saving of about 13s. a month, without including the cost of plates for the addressograph. Mr. Bretscher was re-

quested to supply a new and detailed report. It was pointed out that such a way of circularising our members would induce many to become subscribers to the "S.O." and consequently gradually diminish the circularising expenses.

Various.—All members are requested to settle their subscriptions for the financial year ending April 30th. Circulars will be sent to this effect.

In order to facilitate the control, members should always have their membership cards with them when they go to the Club rooms.

Mr. Emmenegger presented a few books to our library, for which a letter of thanks has been sent by the librarian.

The meeting closed at 11.15 p.m.

LANTERN LECTURE AT HULL.

(From a Correspondent.)

On the 15th March, Mr. G. Dimier gave at the Hull and District Retail Watchmakers' and Jewellers' Association a lantern lecture on his alpine experiences, to which he invited the Consul and the Swiss Colony.

For over 150 minutes our lecturer showed a succession of 240 magnificent slides, which sent a thrill through the hearts of his Swiss listeners. Many a pleasant memory was revived at the sight of our high peaks and the beauty of our country.

Of course, for the non-Swiss element, for those whose alpine knowledge did not extend beyond the cliffs of Hornsea or the mud-banks of the Humber, the experience must have been bewildering, the 240 slides passing nearly as rapidly as telegraph poles do on a railway line when in an express train. They were overawed by the majesty of the scenes and the wonderful memory of Mr. Dimier, who rattled off names, episodes, and yarns at machine-gun speed, remaining as fresh after 2½ hours as he was when he began.

OUR NATIONAL PARK.

"What is this Swiss National Park really like?" I hear asked. Well, it is not a Zoological Garden, nor is there a band playing in it. It is simply a certain territory, comprising 143 square kilometres, situated in a south-east corner of Grisons, the entrance to which can be made at Scafs, Zerne, or Scuol, and in which no animals may be killed and no plants destroyed. In 1923 the Swiss Confederation took over this area from the adjoining communes, with a view to keeping its very interesting fauna and flora intact for ever. According to the present agreements, which have been entered upon for ninety-nine years, but which our great-grandchildren will most probably renew for an equally long period, the animals living in this district will be safe from any persecution and the plants form any collecting. There is every likelihood, therefore, that in one or two generations hence something like an original Garden of Eden will be found in this part of the Alps. Already chamois, marmots, deer and stags have become quite tame, even bears have passed twice through the park since its existence. Some weeks ago Colonel Bühlmann described in the *Bund* a visit which he paid to the park in autumn. He mentioned that, when passing through it, he observed in three instances herds of thirty to forty chamois at a distance of only 200 to 300 metres, whilst a mighty eagle circled above his head high up in the sky. When visiting on the second day, he observed some beautiful stags with their hands and fawns, as well as elegant deer, continuously for several hours at very close quarters.

If you want to know more about this beautiful park, come to the public lecture which the London Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique is arranging for Thursday, March 29th, at 8 p.m., in King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1. Prof. Dr. F. Zschokke, from Basle, the eminent zoologist, will speak in English on its origin, its situation and its landscape, its animals and its plants; besides, he will show about sixty beautiful lantern slides. Entrance is free, but a silver collection will be made to cover expenses.

P. L.

SWISS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB.

SWISS BANK 1st XI v. LUDGATE CIRCUS (THOS. COOK & SON) 2nd XI.

(London Banks' Football Association, Senior 'B' Div.)

Played on the latter's ground at Ravensbourne on Saturday, March 10th. The home team won the toss and took advantage of a slight breeze. The Swiss Bank opened the score, but were not able to hold the lead for long, Cook's soon equalising. Half-time, 1-1. After resuming play, several attacks by the visitors were split up in smart style by their opponents, who, in turn, brought pressure to bear on the Swiss defence, resulting in two more goals. The visitors had very hard luck on two occasions in hitting the upright by firing shots, with the custodian completely beaten.

Result: Ludgate Circus 3, Swiss Bank 1.

Team: Floyd; Herzog, Habluetzel; Schwendener, Rufer, Steiner; Tobler, Bornand, Goubach, Holton, Quaife.

Swiss Postal Travellers'

Cheques.

The Swiss Postal Authorities have arranged for the issue in Great Britain of Postal Travellers' Cheques, which can be cashed without formalities at any Post Office in Switzerland. These cheques may be obtained in London from the

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Dimanche, 25 Mars (Jour des Rameaux), 11h.—
M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme. (Ste. Cène.)
6.30.—Pir. U. Wildbolz. (Abendmahl.)
Vendredi-Saint, 30 Mars, 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme. (Ste. Cène.)
6.30.—Pir. U. Wildbolz. (Abendmahl.)
Dimanche, 1er Avril (Jour de Pâques), 11h.—
M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme. (Ste. Cène.)
6.30.—Pir. U. Wildbolz. (Abendmahl.)
Lundi, 2 Avril.—Promenade à Colley Hill. Rendez-vous: Charing Cross, Stn. (S.E. & C.R.) 10.40 a.m.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Monday, March 26th, at 5.15.—CITY OF LONDON COLLEGE: Lecture by Dr. Pierre de Wolff on "Switzerland." at White Street, Moorfields, E.C.2. In the Chair: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister.
Thursday, March 29, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE: Lantern Lecture by Professor F. Zschokke on "The Swiss National Park" at King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Rd.
Saturday, April 7th, at 7 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Banquet and Ball at Midland Hotel, St. Pancras, N.1.
Tuesday, April 10th, at 6.45.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual General Meeting, preceded by a Supper, at Gatti's Restaurant.
Friday, April 13th, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE: Lecture by the Rev. R. Hoffmann-de Visme on "Le Major Davel," at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.
Saturday, April 14th, at 11 a.m.—"Basle Fair Party" leaves Victoria Station for Switzerland.
Saturday, April 14th, at 7.30.—UNION HELVETIA: Grand Benefit Concert in Aid of London Hospitals at Wigmore Hall (tickets 3s. and 5s.).
Thursday, April 19th.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Banquet and Ball at Gatti's Restaurant, Strand, W.C.
Friday, May 4th, at 8 p.m.—UNION HELVETIA: Annual Dinner and Ball.

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