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NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE.

Meeting of the Council on September 24th, 1924,
at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

1. The President opened the meeting by expressing in a few words the sorrow that was felt in the London Swiss Colony at the sudden death of Mr. J. W. Sterchi, late Chancellor of the Swiss Legation in London. His loss would be particularly felt by the London Group of the N.S.H., as he had always rendered it such generous and willing service. In its opening years, when the Group required all the support and assistance it could get, Mr. Sterchi, as a member of the Council and in many other ways, had been of the utmost help to it. The President therefore requested that the Councillors should stand for a few seconds in honour of his memory.

2. The Treasurer reported the loss of three members by death, and four resignations. This leaves the total membership at 326. He also reported on the present state of finances and foreshadowed the resumption of the usual winter activity to obtain outstanding subscriptions and new funds through donations.

3. (a) The President read two letters from members of the Group to the Meeting. From one it was learned with much regret that we were going to lose one of our most valuable members, Dr. W. Weibel, who is shortly returning to Switzerland. From the other it was heard with equal regret that, owing to business ties, Mr. C. Kiefer felt himself obliged to resign both from the Council and the Propaganda and Entertainment Committee. His resignation will be a very real loss, for he has rendered the Propaganda and Entertainment Committee the greatest service as its president, and we shall always remember the work he did for us with gratitude. (b) The autumn dinner had been arranged to take place on November 25th, but as the City Swiss Club are having their Annual Banquet within a few days of that date, it was decided that our dinner should be postponed, and arrangements are now being made accordingly. In view of the Annual General Meeting of our Group being held in February, it was decided that, as our dinner will probably not take place until early in the New Year, it would be unnecessary to read a half-yearly report, as is customary. (c) Having received a circular from the S.S.E. with regard to our Group contributing towards their funds or sending them names of firms in London likely to do so, it was decided, after some discussion, that a letter should be written to the S.S.E. explaining that it took the London Swiss Colony all its time to support its own Group of the N.S.H. and that in these days of economic troubles one could not expect the Swiss firms of London to support a Group here, as well as the organisation in Switzerland, and so, much as we regretted it, it was impossible for London to help the S.S.E. financially.

4. The letter, which was drawn up by the Propaganda Committee for distribution with the number of *The Swiss Observer* containing last year's annual report and an extract of Dr. Lang's farewell address, was read and approved by the meeting. It will accordingly be sent out shortly to all our members.

5. S.S.E. Circular 50 was read by the meeting, as also their circular with regard to the *Almanach Pestalozzi*. In connection with the latter, it was thought that the Sunday School of the Swiss Church would best be in a position to deal with the distribution of such almanacs, and a letter will therefore be sent to the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'étranger to that effect, so that the matter will now pass into the hands of the Rev. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6. After a short discussion it was decided that, owing to the financial situation of the Group, it was not advisable to engage a permanent Secretary at present. The work of the Group and the Secretariat will, of course, continue as usual.

7. It was unanimously agreed that the Group should subscribe £2 2s. towards the silver cup which was presented last July by the London Colony to Aarau for the *Tir Fédéral*.

8. A very interesting suggestion was made by one of the Councillors, and it is hoped that good results may spring from it. He had been greatly struck, he said, by the lack of knowledge which existed amongst many London Swiss with regard to their own literature and art. They were probably conversant with German, French and even English literature, but knew sadly little about their own men of letters. He felt that the N.S.H. might do something to mend this state of affairs, and his suggestion was that the London Group should approach one or two of the Swiss Societies in London with a view to finding out whether it would appeal to them to have a short reading from a modern Swiss work at one of their monthly gatherings. The meeting was greatly interested in this idea and agreed that, could such readings be arranged, they might be an excellent stimulus to the interest of the London Swiss in their own literature and art, and might also prove to be the stepping-stones to much more ambitious schemes.

As a result of this suggestion and discussion, we hear that the City Swiss Club have expressed their wish to have such a reading after their dinner on October 7th. The Rev. Hoffmann-de Visme has,

therefore, very kindly consented to give a short reading from a modern French-Swiss writer on that occasion.

The Secretariat of the London Group,
28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

Visit of the Double Quartette 'Fidelio' Zurich.

The Swiss Colony in London received yesterday (Friday) a visit from 12 members of the well-known Double Quartette "Fidelio," Zurich, who have come to London "to do Wembley."

They have arranged for a concert to be given at Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour Street, W.1, on Tuesday, October 7th. In addition, two receptions will be held, one at the Union Helvetia, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1, on Saturday, October 4th, and the other at the Swiss Club, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1, on Sunday, October 5th. (For further particulars see 'advert.)

Here is a fine opportunity for every Swiss residing in London to hear once more our national songs and yodels. As the members' list of the "Fidelio" includes no less a name than that of Paul Gerber, who is a past master in yodelling, a splendid programme is assured. Those who had hitherto been content with hearing his fine voice on the gramophone only, will now have the rare chance of enjoying his songs and yodels as rendered from the concert platform.

It is earnestly hoped that every Swiss in London will join in giving our compatriots from home a right hearty welcome by supporting one of the above mentioned functions.

It is advisable to book in advance, as the number of seats available is limited.

SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

The Swiss Choral Society decided, at its last meeting, to offer the Double Quartette "Fidelio," Zurich, on the occasion of their visit to London, a simple dinner, as brother society to brother society.

The 8th October next has been reserved for this event, which takes place at the Union Helvetia, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1, at 8 p.m.

Members and friends of the S.C.S. are cordially invited to take part in this function. Price per cover 3s.

Applications will be received by the Secretary of the Society till next Monday evening, at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

Wandsworth Borough Rifle Club v. Swiss Rifle Association.

The Swiss Rifle Association paid a return visit to the Wandsworth Borough Rifle Club on Saturday, the 20th of September.

There were present on that occasion Mr. G. E. DeBrunner, President of the S.R.A., Councillor F. W. Edwards, F.F.I., M.C.A., Chairman of the W.B.R.C., Mr. E. Bailey, Secretary, and other members of the two Clubs.

A team of eight from each Club then competed at the 100-yds. firing on the regulation targets as supplied by the S.M.R.A. After a good competition the result was declared as follows: W.B.R.C. 730, S.R.A. 694, out of a possible 800. There was a strong wind blowing during the competition, which was equally bad for both teams. After this two contests were held by firing at discs, three discs to each man. The first contest was timed by Councillor Edwards and was finished in 1 min. 50 secs., resulting in a win for Wandsworth. The second contest was timed by Mr. DeBrunner and was settled in 2 mins. 4 secs., resulting in another win for Wandsworth.

The whole party then adjourned to the Earlsfield Conservative Club, where a pleasant evening was spent, votes of thanks being passed to the Swiss team for coming to Wandsworth, and to the Wandsworth team for receiving them, and to the President and Chairman of the respective Clubs for their interest in the matter.

TROST.

Manchmal an trüben Tagen
Sich die Sonne durch die Wolken bricht,
Dass man drob des Regens nimmer achtet,
Weil die Landschaft ward getaucht in Licht.

Manchmal ward eine trübe Seele,
Der das Leid die Aussenwelt verhüllt,
Durch ein einz'ges Wort von einem Kinde
Wieder ganz von Licht erfüllt.

T. K.

Please reserve FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28th,
for the BANQUET and BALL
of the CITY SWISS CLUB.

SWISS BANK CORPORATION,

43, LOTHBURY, E.C.2.

and 11c, REGENT STREET, S.W.1.

By arrangement with the Swiss
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at any Post Office in Switzerland,
are obtainable at the Offices of
the Bank.

The WEST END BRANCH
open Savings Bank Accounts on
terms which can be ascertained
on application.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine

Assemblée Mensuelle

aura lieu le MARDI, 7 OCTOBRE au Restaurant GATTI et sera précédée d'un souper familial à 6.45 h (5s. par convient).

Après l'assemblée Mons. R. Hoffmann-de Visme nous fera le plaisir de lire quelques pages des œuvres du distingué écrivain suisse, Philippe Monnier.

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 21, Garlick Hill, E.C.4. (Téléphone: City 4603).

Ordre du Jour.

Procès-verbal. Démissions.
Admissions. Banquet Annuel.
Divers.

Divine Services.**EGLISE SUISSE (1762), 79, Endell St., W.C.2**
(Langue française.)

Dimanche, 5 Oct., 6.30.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6.30.—Le Dimanche, M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

11h.—Rentrée de l'Ecole de Dimanche: 83, Endell Street. Prière d'annoncer les nouveaux Catéchumènes au pasteur.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6. (Téléphone: Mountview 1798.) Heure de réception à l'Eglise: Mercredi 10.30 à 12h.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutsch-Schweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Sonntag, 5. Oktober, 11 Uhr vorm.—Gottesdienst.
Pfr. W. Dietsche.

6.30 abends ("Foyer Suisse").—Bibelstunde.
Mitt. 11, 16.—17. Pfr. W. Dietsche.

Requests for Pastor's visits, Baptisms, Weddings, etc., can be made on Sunday morning after the service, or to the Treasurer, C. Bertschinger, 114, Fore St., London, E.C.2.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, Oct. 4th, at 8.30.—UNION HELVETIA: Concert of the Double Quartette "Fidelio," at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

Sunday, Oct. 5th, at 8.30.—SWISS CLUB: Concert of the Double Quartette "Fidelio," at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Tuesday, Oct. 7th, at 8.30.—SWISS YODEL CONCERT by the Double Quartette "Fidelio" at Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour Street, W.

Tuesday, October 7th, at 6.45.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting, preceded by a Supper, and followed by "Readings from the works of Philippe Monnier," at Gatti's Restaurant. (See adv.)

Friday, October 10, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Lecture by the Rev. R. Hoffmann-de Visme: "De Rousseau et de certains aspects de la pédagogie moderne," at Ashburton Hall, 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

Thursday, Oct. 30th.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Concert and Dance in aid of the Fonds de Secours, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Friday, November 28, at 6.30.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual Banquet and Ball at Victoria Hotel, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

Every Saturday and Sunday (weather permitting).—SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION: Shooting Practice at Hendon (opposite Old Welsh Harp).

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