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SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The second Annual Dinner and Prize Distribution of the Swiss Rifle Association took place last Friday, Nov. 6th, in the spacious hall of the Union Helvetic at No. 1, Gerrard Place, W.1. The heavily-laden prize table, artistically arranged and displaying attractive specimens of the best that art and industry can produce, together with the cantonal escutcheons on the walls, as well as the traditional shooting ensigns, was reminiscent in its splendour of a Colonial pavilion at the Wembley Exhibition. Soon after 9 p.m. a company of about 120 took their seats, presided over by Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister and Hon. President of the Swiss Rifle Association.

The two loyal toasts having been submitted and duly honoured,

Mr. G. E. DeBrunner, the president, rose to extend a cordial welcome to Monsieur Paravicini, whose frequent presence at their gatherings meant for the club a great encouragement. He remembered on the last occasion, on the 1st of August at Hendon, the Swiss Minister astonished the members by making a bull's eye straight away on one of the targets, which should go a long way to prove that he could always be depended upon to make a bull's eye in diplomacy whenever necessity arose. Mr. DeBrunner then shortly traced the history of their young society, pointing out the desirability of a larger contingent of London Swiss making use of the unique facilities at their disposal; he maintained that it was the patriotic duty of every recruit to continue and improve rifle practice. True, the rifle range at Hendon represented by no means the last word, and it seemed to him that the funds which at present lay dormant in certain quarters of the Colony and were earmarked for a very ambitious scheme of the distant future, would be much better employed in acquiring and establishing without delay a general sports ground worthy of Swiss traditions. He then gave a fascinating description of the ground at Hendon and its environments, which were not altogether devoid of the scenery and beauty found in Switzerland. He was pleased to state that it had been the scene of a marked success of a friendly bout fought during last season with the Wandsworth Borough Rifle Club and the Lyons' Rifle Club; whilst they (the S.R.A.) also had their reverses, he thought in these friendly bouts they were always the winners in good fellowship. In this connection he would like to lay stress on the valuable assistance given by the wives of members in ministering to the personal requirements of the "tireurs," and he presented Mrs. Rohr, on behalf of the Committee, with a basket of flowers as a small token of recognition for her unfailing devotion in regularly superintending their catering department at the Hendon range. In saying that he had now come to the most pleasant part of the toasts, Mr. DeBrunner emptied his glass to the further prosperity of the S.R.A., coupling with it the name of the Swiss Minister.

The Swiss Minister, who on rising was loudly cheered, said he too looked forward to that happy part of the toast referred to by the president in his excellent speech. He (the Swiss Minister) was much impressed and flattered by all that had been stated, especially when allusion was made to that lucky "mouche" of his. He had a very vivid recollection that, in his younger days, when doing military service, he was, by a rare unanimity, considered the worst shot of his company. He was overwhelmed by a feeling of self-estimation at the thought of having now at last succeeded in blotting out the only blemish in his reputation—and this fact was performed under the auspices and guidance of the Swiss Rifle Association in London. He hoped to overcome in time a suspicious and disturbing personal notion that either the particular army rifle or the target at which he aimed at Hendon were endowed with some magic properties hidden from the ordinary mortal. He was agreeably surprised at the progress made by the S.R.A. in the short space of its existence, and he was sure that a great future was in store for them, as the nucleus of a world champion was born with every Swiss rifleman.

Mr. Alfred Schmid pronounced the toast to "The Guests" and "The Ladies" and welcomed the following official representatives: Monsieur Hilfiker (the new Chancellor of the Legation), Councillor Edwards and Mr. Bailey (Chairman and Secretary of the Wandsworth Borough Rifle Club), Mr. Redfern, of Messrs. Westley Richards & Co., Mr. G. Marchand (City Swiss Club), Mr. Biuchi (Unione Ticinese), Mr. Indermaur (Union Helvetic), Mr. Pache (Schweizerbund), Mr. Staehelin (Swiss Mercantile Society), Mr. Peter (Swiss Choral Society), Mr. Sermier (Swiss Gymnastic Society) and Mr. P. F. Boehringer (Swiss Observer). As to the Ladies, Mr. Schmid regaled his audience with allusions to the events in the Garden of Eden and other abodes of feminine enterprise, and terminated by chronicling the experience of one of his colleagues. The latter arrived home late after one of their mellifluous committee meetings, and was greeted by his longing spouse with the unembellished announcement that it was past twenty to one; "all right," he replied, "it was a fiver each way."

Councillor Edwards replied on behalf of the visitors. He was proud to have been one of the sponsors of the S.R.A. and well remembered the official opening day at Hendon. His club was this year's winner of the inter-borough rifle shooting competition, and it was a feather in the cap of the S.R.A. that the Wandsworth team was beaten in the recent bout on the Hendon range. He could assure them, however, that a shoot with the S.R.A. was a meeting they always looked forward to with exceptional delight.

The Distribution of Prizes, which now followed, took up most of the time of the official part of the evening. The chief winners were Mr. Arnold Schmid, who in the yearly competition with the Swiss army rifle scored 233 out of 250 possible points on 300 metres, and Mr. H. F. Holliger, with 918 points out of a possible 1000 on the 100-yards automatic target. Both recipients were personally congratulated by the Swiss Minister, who graciously assisted them in draining of their contents the two respective challenge cups. Outstanding results were achieved in the Boys' competition, Master Lampert obtaining out of a maximum of 100 no less than 95 points, runner-up being Master Burger jun. with 89 points. In the Ladies' competition Mrs. Krucker was first with 87 points, followed by Mrs. Lampert (83), Mrs. Mueller (82), Mrs. Haesler (79), Mrs. Cusi (67) and Miss Rohr (65). The following were the top scores in the different categories:—100 yards automatic target, ten series of ten shots, maximum 100; Holliger 98, Mueller 93, DeVincenzi 93, Krucker 93, Alfred Schmid 92, Arnold Schmid 91. 300 metres with Swiss army rifle, maximum 250: Arnold Schmid 233, J. C. Wetter 226, A. Lampert 224, W. Krucker 219. 100 yards yearly competition, maximum 1000 points: Holliger 918, Krucker 917, Hirt 915, Lampert 912. "Kunst" 3 shots with Swiss army rifle, at 300 metres, maximum 300: Lampert 245, Holliger 241, A. Wyss 210, Arnold Schmid 210. "Glück," best out of two shots with Swiss army rifle on 300 metres, maximum 100: J. C. Wetter 100, Holliger 92, Lampert 90. 100 yards handicap on automatic target: Fuchs 98.80, Lutz 98.75, Jaeggi 98.42, Locher 97.75, Buchi 97.72.

Before adjourning for the Ball, which concluded a most successful evening, the President gave expression to everybody's appreciation of the excellent catering arrangements made by Mr. and Mrs. Duthaler, the popular stewards of the Union Helvetic Club.

HODLER" PICTURES IN LONDON.

We are sure most of our London readers will make a point of visiting the International Society's Exhibition at the Royal Academy, Piccadilly, W., where for the first time in England a representative collection of Ferdinand Hodler's pictures are on view. The exhibition has a multinational character and includes works of other modern Swiss painters. The Royal Academy is open to the public from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m.; admission, incl. tax, being 1s. 6d.

LYCEUM CLUB SWISS CIRCLE.

The Swiss Circle of the Lyceum Club held its annual meeting on Nov. 6th at the Club, 138, Piccadilly, W.1, when the following committee was elected:—Hon. President, Mme. Paravicini; President, Mrs. Emmeline Carson; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Smedley-Maclean and Mrs. Ruffer; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Jenkins; Members of the Council, Lady Beachcroft, Mme. de Baillou, Dr. Heck-Gray, Mrs. Dornton-Browne, Miss Bowman, Mrs. F. Lewis, Miss Arnott, Miss de Paoli.

The hope was expressed that in the near future members of the Swiss Colony in London will join the Lyceum Club, which is the main step to get into the "Swiss Circle." A hearty welcome may be confidently looked forward to.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

The members and friends of the S.M.S. will be pleased to hear that a successful start has been made with the "Cinderella Dances." The first one took place on Saturday last at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, as in previous years, however with a new band. The Entertainment Committee hopes to see a continued good attendance; the next "Cinderella Dance" will take place on 5th December.

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SWISS INSTITUTE.

The Swiss Institute extend a cordial invitation to all Swiss and their friends to attend their

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Dimanche, 15 Nov., 11 et 6.30.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

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SCHWEIZERKIRCHE (Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

Sonntag, 15. November, 11 Uhr vorm.—Gottesdienst.
6.30 Uhr abends.—Gesangsgottesdienst.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag, 12-1, St. Anne's Church,
9, Gresham Street, E.C.2;
Mittwoch, 12-2, Foyer Suisse, 12, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1 (am Wohnort des Pfarrers).
Pfr. C. Th. Hahn.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, Nov. 18th, at 7.30.—NOUVELLE SOC. HELVETIQUE: Council Meeting at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

Friday, Nov. 20th, at 8.30.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Lecture by J. F. Green, Esq., entitled "A Topical Talk," at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

Friday, Nov. 27th, at 6.30.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual Banquet and Ball at the Victoria Hotel, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

Sunday, Nov. 29th, at 3.15.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Concert at St. Marylebone Hall, 181, Marylebone Road, N.W.1. (See adv.)

Saturday, Dec. 5th, at 6.30.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance at the Midland Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.

Sunday, Dec. 6th, at 3 p.m.—SWISS GYMNASTIC SOCIETY: Gymnastic Display at No. 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

SWISS GYMNASTIC SOCIETY.—Exercise Evenings: Wednesdays at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.
Fridays at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

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