

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1935)
Heft: 698

Rubrik: News from the colony

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 13.08.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

But now, after a century or more of neglect, glass painting is coming into its own again. To those interested in the art, whether professionally or as amateurs, few things have been more noticeable than the recent decorations of stained glass windows, with heraldic panels and medallion portrait busts, so extremely decorative for the house of to-day. The chief glory of ancient stained glass is its beautiful colourization; not the individual colours only, but the marvelous distinction attained by the rarely skillful disposition and balance of the colours to one another, rendered even more beautiful by the masterly conception and easy drawing of the subject delineated. Sapphire, blues of the rarest tonality in juxtaposition to fine ambers, amethyst, emerald, green and ruby that scintillate with gemlike radiance when touched with a glorious gleam of sunlight and produce a note of joyous colour impossible to arrive at from any other source, for stained glass stands alone in this wonderful characterization.

Only a generation ago, such decorations were usually regarded as mild-mannered mental aberrations, but the past ten years have changed all that. Our more catholic system of art training has excited a new interest in, and a greater reverence and care of, the work of departed generations of hand craftsmen. Modern stained glass is more intelligently criticized, ancient glass more cherished than ever before.

Glass painting is a highly fascinating occupation, not necessarily to be considered a useless luxury, it, by all means, develops an interest in mediaeval history, promotes an intelligent curiosity in architecture and the allied arts, and last but not least, it beautifies its owners home as does no other Art — and this applies as much to the lady of limited means as to her richer sister. Indeed, with judgment, it will prove a surprising fascination, a good specimen of stained glass hung or inserted into a window, always bestows a touch of colour and brightness that no other material can give.

Many books have already been devoted to the history of the art of glass painting and names of some of the most useful are very familiar to me. And though books upon the subject are legion, they are for the most part written only for the historian, the craftsman, or the artist, it is therefore obvious, that anyone desirous of having their windows decorated in a highly artistic manner, should not hesitate to consult the artist who has devoted his life to this noble task and therefore opens the way to the decoration of a window or windows in small or large homes, in which brilliancy of colour can be satisfactorily combined with the romance of the periods portrayed and the transmissions of sufficient light into the rooms thus decorated.

NEWS FROM THE COLONY.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY LTD.

The Fourth Ordinary General Meeting of the Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd., was held on Wednesday, February 20th, 1935, at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1.

Mr. A. Steinmann, President of the Society, was in the Chair.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditor.

The auditor, Mr. Percy H. Green, F.C.A., elucidated the accounts for the period under review which could be considered a year of satisfactory achievement. Some discussion ensued and the accounts were unanimously adopted.

The Chairman surveyed the activities of the London Section during 1934, the 46th year of its existence. In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman of the Education Committee (Mr. E. Hardmeier), the report of the Education Committee was read by the Vice-Chairman, Mr. W. Meier. Mr. J. J. Boos, Chairman of the House Committee, reported on the work of his Committee.

A resolution for the adoption of the reports was carried unanimously and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the various chairmen for the excellent manner in which the reports were drawn up.

The auditor, Mr. Percy H. Green, F.C.A., was reappointed.

Mr. A. C. Stahelin, on behalf of the Council proposed, and Mr. J. J. Pfander seconded, that "Mr. Ph. Schmid-Ruedin, Secretary General of the S.K.V., and Dr. K. Böschenstein of the Bundesamt für Gewerbe, Industrie und Arbeit be elected Honorary Members of our Society."

In moving this proposal, Mr. Stahelin stated that the professional education of commercial employees is one of the foremost aims of the S.K.V. and all its Sections, and that both those gentlemen had rendered great and valuable services in that direction. He added that in our own case, they helped us to overcome obstacles of an almost forbidding aspect by their constant encouragement and help.

The resolution was carried with acclamation. The list of nominations for members of the Council and Committees was submitted. Mr. A.

C. Stahelin, Vice-Chairman of the Council, Mr. E. Hardmeier, Chairman of the Education Committee and Mr. J. H. Attinger, member of the Education Committee, did not offer themselves for re-election. Mr. Hardmeier, however, consented to carry on as a member of the Council and the Education Committee.

The Chairman, in expressing hearty thanks to the retiring members of the Council and Committees for their collaboration regretted the loss of Mr. Stahelin as Vice-Chairman of the Council and commented upon the signal services he had rendered to the Society for many years. Various speakers voiced similar sentiments. Mr. Stahelin however, assured the Meeting that he would still continue closely to follow the activities of the Society.

The Chairman also regretted Mr. Hardmeier's retirement from the Chairmanship of the Education Committee who had proved a faithful and hard-working Chairman and was pleased that Mr. Hardmeier was willing to give his services as an ordinary member of that Committee.

He also expressed thanks to Mr. Attinger for his many years' services on the Education Committee and appreciated the reasons which had prompted his retirement.

The following nominations to fill the various vacancies had been duly proposed and seconded:

Mr. W. Meier as Chairman of the Education Committee,

Mr. H. H. Baumann as Vice-Chairman of the Education Committee,

Mr. M. Röthlisberger as a member of the Education Committee,

Mr. J. Trachsel as a member of the General Purposes Committee.

The nominees for the Council and Committees were declared elected, unopposed.

The Council and Committees for the year 1935 are constituted as follows:

Council: Chairman: Mr. A. Steinmann; Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. J. Boos; Members: Messrs. Ch. Chapuis, G. E. De Brunner (Trustee), W. Deutsch, O. Grob, E. Hardmeier, G. Jenne, W. Meier, L. W. Krucker, J. J. Pfander, M. Schneider.

General Purposes Committee: President: Mr. A. Steinmann; Vice-President (Chairman Education Committee): Mr. W. Meier; Vice-President (Chairman House Committee): Mr. J. J. Boos; Hon. Secretary: Mr. M. Schneider; Hon. Treasurer: M. O. Grob; Members: Messrs. R. Chappuis, M. O. Henchoz, J. Trachsel.

Education Committee: Chairman: Mr. W. Meier; Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. H. Baumann; Members: Messrs. E. Hardmeier, M. Röthlisberger, F. Streit, R. Weist.

House Committee: Chairman: Mr. J. J. Boos; Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Trachsel; Members: Mrs. T. Lunghi-Rezzonico, Mr. P. Mathys.

Auditor: Mr. Percy H. Green, F.C.A.

Press Reporter: Mr. W. Burren.

Delegate on the Advisory Board of the Employment Department: Mr. Ch. Chapuis.

Delegates on the Swiss Sports Committee: Messrs. W. Burren, M. O. Henchoz, J. J. Schneider.

Delegate to the N. S. H.: Mr. F. Streit.

The Chairman apprised the members that our air-famed compatriot, Walter Mittelholzer, would come to London to give a lecture on Friday, April 5th, and asked them to reserve that date.

Mr. J. J. Boos made a fervent appeal to the members to attend the Annual Banquet and Ball to be held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Saturday, February 23rd.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. A. Stauffer, a former President of the Society for his very active co-operation in getting a very large number of members and friends to attend the Annual Banquet.

This terminated the proceedings and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman.

The Annual General Meeting was followed by an Ordinary Monthly Meeting.

W.B.

WALTER MITTELHOLZER.

We are pleased to inform our readers that the celebrated Swiss airman, Walter Mittelholzer, will give an illustrated lecture about his flights from the Arctic to the Equator, conquering the Alps, the Ice Peaks of Spitzbergen, of Persia, and Africa's Mountains of the Moon, at King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1, on Monday, April 15th. Further details will follow.

CONCERT NEWS.

A Lieder Recital will be given on Monday, March 11th, at 8.30 p.m., at the Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W.1, by Lily Zaehner. The programme will include songs by Beethoven, Weber, Schubert, Hugo Wolf and Adolf Jensen.

Madame Zaehner has a fine mezzo-soprano voice, and is well-known as a Lieder singer both in London and on the Continent.



Oscar Gambazzi

President
of the
Unione Ticinese

We have great pleasure in publishing herewith the portrait of Mr. Oscar Gambazzi, the newly elected President of the Unione Ticinese.

Mr. Gambazzi succeeds Mr. W. Notari, who has for the last 16 years been at the head of the Society. This establishes no doubt a record in the Swiss Colony, but those who know the great services, which the late President has rendered to his Society, during the years he has held his high office, will appreciate their endeavours to keep him at the helm. If the Unione Ticinese ranks to-day amongst the important Societies in the Colony it is principally due to the enthusiasm, and to the patriotic work which Mr. Notari has rendered; the taking up of a high position in another sphere of activity has compelled him to lay down his office. Mr. Notari is the Manager of the famous Paganini's Restaurant which is jointly owned by our compatriots Madame Linda Meschini and M. Arthur Meschini.

The Unione Ticinese has been fortunate enough to find a worthy successor in the person of Mr. Oscar Gambazzi, who has been hon. secretary of the Society for 31 years, and also Vice-President during 1933/34. The new President is a "Socio Benemerito" of the Unione Ticinese.

Mr. Gambazzi landed in this country in 1894, and following the natural course of most Ticinese entered the catering trade, he was for many years connected with such famous firms as "Gatti's" and "The Monico."

During the war Mr. Gambazzi has rendered many services to our country, for which he received the official thanks from Dr. Carlin, then Swiss Minister in London.

We tender Mr. Gambazzi our heartiest wishes for his year of office; his experience and faithful work for a great number of years have been fittingly rewarded.

POETRY SOCIETY'S HIGHEST AWARDS.



Photo by Courtesy of The Daily Sketch.
MISS ADRIENNE CAMPART.

We are extending heartiest congratulations to Miss Adrienne Campart, of 33, Heathfield Park, Willesden Lane, N.W.2, who has been awarded the "Lady Margaret Gold Medal" for verse speaking of the Poetry Society.

Only recently we had the pleasure of announcing that our gifted compatriot received the gold medal of the Poetry Society for verse-speaking, this second award is a still higher distinction, as a matter of fact, it is the highest honour for verse-speaking awarded in this country.

The competition pieces were, a sonnet by W. Shakespeare, "Pauline" by Browning, and John Massfield's "Sea Fever."

During the last three years, Miss Campart has toured in several companies, and has done quite a lot of film work.

In between her radio, stage and film work, Miss Campart, who speaks French and German fluently, teaches elocution.