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NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE, (London Group).

Our member, Mr. Gottfried J. Keller, whose masterly resumés of topical events are so highly appreciated at the monthly meetings of the Group, has received a signal honour by his election to the presidency of the Foreign Press Association in London.

We may recall that Mr. G. J. Keller is the London correspondent of the Agence Télégraphique Suisse and the Basler Nachrichten, and he is now following the distinguished Polish journalist Dr. Stefan Litauer, who has been president of the Foreign Press Association in London for the last five years, and who now becomes honorary secretary.

The members and the friends of the London Group are invited to be present in force at the next meeting, fixed for Saturday, the 26th of April, at Swiss House, at 1.30, in order to express to Mr. Keller in person their congratulations and keen appreciation of his outstanding services to the Group, the Colony and our Country.

A. FRED. SUTER, President.

FROM OUR POSTBAG.

4th April, 1941.

The Editor,
The Swiss Observer,
Dear Sir,

News at Random.

Having in my capacity as "the man in the street" tilted at the Federal Government in your number of the 22nd March, it behoves me to-day to put on record that the action of the Federal Government was correct.

It appears from the report in the Neue Zürcher Zeitung of the 16th January that the surrender of the French War Equipment to the German Reich was taken at the express desire of the French Government: it took place in the name and for account of the French Government.

An exception was made with regard to the horses which were returned to France because French agriculture was sadly in need of them.

The "man in the street" is glad to find himself in complete agreement with the Federal Government.

The fact, to his regret, remains that the German Reich has acquired a valuable addition to their war equipment.

J.J.E.

* * *

2nd April, 1941.

My dear Mr. Boehringer,

Your letter of the 8th January has only just reached me. First of all let me congratulate you on your courage and enterprise in keeping the "Swiss Observer" alive in these trying times. Just how trying the times are I shall not endeavour to say, you know much more on the subject!



It is just in these times that the need for your paper is most felt, and thus your patriotic decision to keep it in being is all the more appreciated by the colony.

You ask me how members of my Society have fared in recent air raids? Most of them have gone unscathed, but some have been the victims. You have already reported in your columns the destruction of Pagani's, which in recent years had become the very heart of the life of the Ticinese community, whilst its proprietors, Signora Linda and Sig. Arturo Meschini, were our staunchest supporters. Others of our members have had their places of business demolished, or their homes. In one case, our member's son was killed.

To alleviate partly the hardships caused, we have added an "air raid benefit," of which a number of members have already availed themselves. The purpose being to get help to the victim quickly and thus make up for any delay in official arrangements.

With best wishes for the future to you, and to the "Swiss Observer."

Yours very sincerely,
J. EUSEBIO.

President.
Unione Ticinese.

PERSONAL.

The members of our Colony will wish to send congratulations to Madame Paravicini, at Berne, and our former Swiss Minister in London, on the arrival of their first grandchild, a daughter having been born to Mrs. Vincent Paravicini in New York.

* * *

Mr. Stanley G. Phillips was killed during a recent air raid while on fire watching duty in the neighbourhood of his business premises; he was known to a good many in our Colony as he has attended festive gatherings in the company of his brother-in-law, Mr. A. Stauffer. Great sympathy will be extended by all of us to Mrs. Stauffer ("Mon Désir, Seymour Court Hill, Marlow, Bucks.) in this new shock so cruelly thrust upon her.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, April 26th, at 1.30 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting — followed by an address by Mr. G. J. Keller, on "Current Events," at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Saturday, May 3rd, at 1 p.m. — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting — preceded by a Lunch (5/6), at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street (near Green Park Station).

Wednesday, May 14th, at 6.30 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd. — Monthly Meeting — at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

PLEASE NOTE:— All following Monthly Meetings will again be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6.30 p.m.

UNION CHRETIENNE de langue française (French speaking Y.M.C.A.), Kingsway Hall, 3me étage, Kingsway, W.C.2. Chaque mardi à 5.15 p.m.

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