

**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:** - (1946)

**Heft:** 1055

**Artikel:** The "Swiss Observer" twenty-one years ago

**Autor:** [s.n.]

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-692134>

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## THE "SWISS OBSERVER" TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO.

We give below a summary of some of the events which have taken place in the Swiss Colony twenty-one years ago. (January to December 1925.)

*January, 1925:* A meeting is held in London for the creation of a "Deutschschweizerische Kirchgemeinde". In the chair is Mr. A. Muller.

Children's Xmas Party, attended by 130 children, takes place at the Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1. Mr. Maeder welcomes the little visitors.

*February, 1925:* The Colony hears of the death of General Ulrich Wille, the third General, who in our history was called upon to lead our army. He was born on April 5th, 1848, the scion of an old family of Neuchâtel. His father, Dr François Wille, lived in La Sagne, and later on moved to Meilen, on the lake of Zurich, where the parental home became a spiritual centre, including, amongst others, Gottfried Keller, Arnold Böcklin, Franz Liszt, Richard Wagner and C. F. Meier. Ulrich Wille studied law at the universities of Zurich, Halle, Leipzig and Heidelberg, obtaining the degree of doctor of law. Afterwards he started his military service in the artillery and in 1871 received his *brevet* as lieutenant; as such he took part in the frontier occupation during the Franco-Prussian war. For thirteen years he was a member of the Instruction Corps, having decided on a military career, he quickly advanced to the rank of captain, major and lieutenant-colonel. In 1883 he changed over to the cavalry which branch of our army he completely reorganised. In the year 1900 he was promoted to the rank of colonel in which capacity he commanded the 6th division, and four years later he advanced to army-corps commander. On August 6th, 1914, he was elected by the two Federal Chambers to the supreme command of the Swiss army with the rank of General. On conclusion of the frontier occupation in 1918, General Willie retired from the army which he had well served.

Annual dinner and ball of the Swiss Choral Society at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1. Principal guest, Monsieur W. A. de Bourg, First Secretary of Legation. (President: F. Eggenberger.)

36th Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Merchantile Society takes place at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1. Mr. A. C. Staehelin is elected President of the Society. Dr. C. Rezzonico, Commercial Attaché at the Swiss Legation, and Mr. E. Werner are elected Honorary Members in appreciation of the great services they have rendered.

Death occurs of Mr. Walter Walters, General Manager of the British and Russian Transport Co., Ltd. A native of St. Gall, he settled in this country at an early age. He was greatly respected by a large circle of friends. Mr. Walters was a member of the City Swiss Club.

*March, 1925:* First Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Rifle Association is held at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1. Mr. G. E. DeBrunner is re-elected President.

The City Swiss Club at their monthly meeting decided to contribute a sum of 100 guineas to the "George Dimier" Fund.

The Gymnastic Societies of the "Schweizerbund" and Union Helvetia amalgamate.

Fifty-first Annual Banquet and Ball of the Union Ticinese is held at the Monico Restaurant. In the

chair: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister. (President: W. Notari.)

*April, 1925:* Annual General Meeting of the London Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique at 29, Red Lion Square, W.C. Mr. J. Baer is re-elected President.

Forty-seventh Anniversary banquet and ball of the "Schweizerbund" is held at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1. In the chair: Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister. (President: J. Tresch.)

Annual General Meeting of the City Swiss Club. Prof. Borel is elected President of the Club.

The Nouvelle Société Helvétique arranges a concert at Caxton Hall in aid of the funds of the Swiss Benevolent Society. Mr. E. P. Dick and his orchestra presents a well-chosen selection of music; Mme. Sophie Wyss is the soloist.

*May, 1925:* Swiss Sports are held at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds under the chairmanship of Mr. Ch. Barbezat.

The "Foyer Suisse" Annual General Meeting is held at 15, Upper Bedford Place, under the chairmanship of the Swiss Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini. The following were elected to form the Council of Management: Rev. Hoffman-de Visme, H. Barth, C. Bertschinger, G. Hafner, H. Joss, G. A. Matzinger, F. G. Sommer.

*June, 1925:* The death is reported of Mr. Edwin Huber, a former President of the City Swiss Club.

"Fête Suisse" celebration at Caxton Hall under the chairmanship of the Swiss Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini.

Swiss Gymnastic Society is giving a display at the Union Helvetia, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

*July, 1925:* The Swiss Rifle Association is taking part for the first time since its existence in a Bisley competition.

The death occurs of Mr. J. E. Muller, representative of Messrs. A. Gagnière and Co., Ltd., Golden Square, W.1. The deceased, who had resided in this country for about 20 years, was well-known in Swiss circles and was a member of a number of Swiss Societies and Clubs.

*August, 1925:* First of August Celebration at Cax-

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ton Hall under the chairmanship of the Swiss Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini.

The passing of Mr. Rudolf Rudin, at the age of 80, is reported. He was a Honorary Member of the Société de Secours Mutuels of which Society he was a member for over 50 years.

*September, 1925:* At a shooting competition at Hendon between the Swiss Rifle Association, the Wandsworth Rifle Club and Lyons Rifle Club, the Swiss Rifle Association team turns out to be the winner.

The death is reported of Mr. Henry Brunner, who was connected for many years with the firm of Messrs. George Johnson and Sons, of 9, Wilson Street, E.C.2.

The engagement is announced of the Rev. C. Th. Hahn, of the "Schweizerkirche" in London with Miss Lily Meyrat of Zurich.

*October, 1925:* Piano Recital at Wigmore Hall of M. Charles Lesneur from Lausanne.

*November, 1925:* Lecture by Lt.-Colonel J. Atkinson, D.S.O., O.B.E., on "The Humour of Our Street" at the Swiss Institute.

Second Annual Dinner and prize distribution of the Swiss Rifle Association at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1. Principal guest: the Swiss Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini. (President: G. E. DeBrunner.)

The death is reported of Mr. Gottfried Lüthi, a prominent member of the Swiss Gymnastic Society. He was a fine sportsman and well liked in the Colony.



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Monsieur Emile Stutz, Secretary at the Swiss Legation, is transferred to the Legation in Paris. Monsieur G. Jaccard from the Swiss Legation in Belgrade is succeeding Monsieur Stutz.

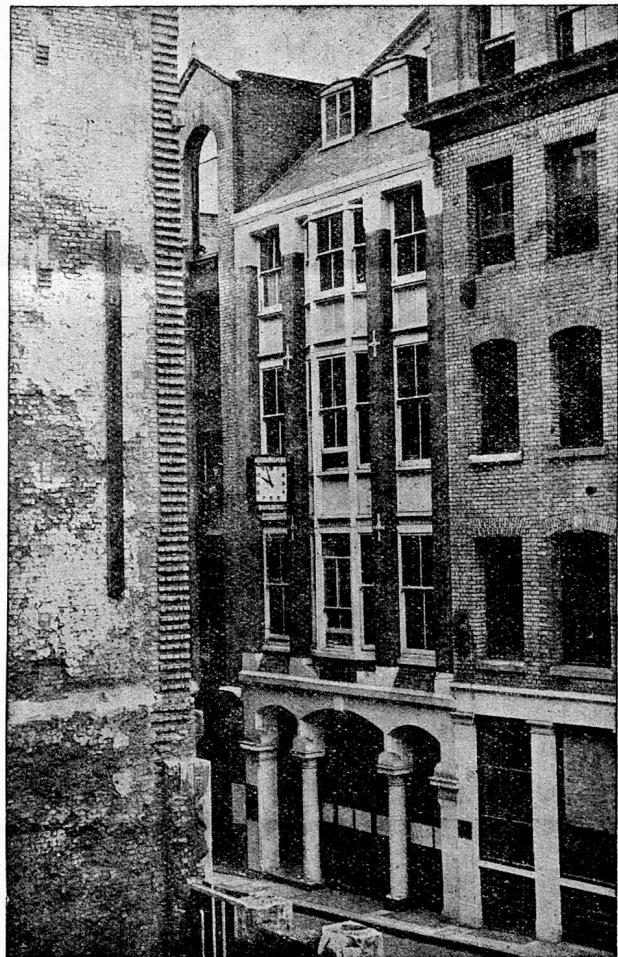
*December, 1925:* City Swiss Club Annual Banquet and Ball at the Hotel Victoria. Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, the Swiss Minister, is in the chair. (President: Prof. Borel.)

Sunday afternoon concert of the Swiss Institute Orchestra at the St. Marylebone Hall. (Conductor: Mr. E. P. Dick.)

The death is reported of Mrs. J. R. Goetz at the age of 81. In her younger days Mrs. Goetz was an ardent worker in the Swiss Colony and her house at 19, Buckingham Street, Strand, was a *rendez-vous* for Swiss young and old.

Escalade dinner at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.1. In the chair: Mr. R. de Cintra.

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