

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: - (1948)

Heft: 1095

Artikel: Useful addresses for travellers to Switzerland

Autor: [s.n.]

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-693959>

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SCHWEIZERBUND (SWISS CLUB.)

Swiss Evening with the Basler Jodler Gruppe
at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.
on Saturday, July 31st, 1948.

The "Schweizerbund" (Swiss Club) entertained their members and friends to a "Swiss Evening"; on Saturday, July 31st, 1948, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

This event was advertised as a "Gemütlicher Abend" and it certainly proved to be a genial and homely affair; well over 400 persons attended this gathering, which started and ended with a "swing". This Society, which only a few months ago, passed through a serious crisis, has made a remarkable recovery, and great credit is due, in the first instance, to its President, Mr. E. Siegrist, who by his energetic handling of the situation, has brought about a desired revival, and secondly to the members, for having faithfully stuck to the old "flag" and thus given their Society a new lease of life.

The principal attraction at this function proved to be the "Basler Jodler Gruppe", consisting of twenty-four members, who had travelled from Basle, on the invitation of the "Schweizerbund"; amongst other guests were: the Swiss Minister, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, Dr. E. Bircher of the Swiss Legation, Herr Brechbühl, a member of the Government of the canton of Basle-Town, at present in London, Mr. A. Stauffer, Editor of the Swiss Observer, Mr. & Mrs. C. Berti, President of the Unione Ticinese, Mr. & Mrs. F. G. Sommer, President of Swiss Male Choir and Mr. & Mrs. Maeder.

Further visitors were, the members of the Rhenania Sports Club, Basle, who, after journeying 500 miles down the Rhine in their 60ft. long boat, had then rowed up the Thames from Tilbury to Charing Cross Pier, bringing with them the Olympic flag, which flew in Switzerland during the Winter Games, and a scroll from the City of Basle to the people of London. (The latter was presented in person to the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House) and a group of young boys and girls who were on holiday in the Isle of Wight under the auspices of the "Pro Juventute".

Punctually at 4 p.m. dancing started to the tune of the Regina Sextet Band, and half an hour later tea was served.

Now followed an hour of most enjoyable entertainment by the members of the "Basler Jodler Gruppe", it started with a tune "Salute to London" by the "Ländler Kapelle Bornbuebe", and then the choir sang with much feeling "O mein Heimatland" which was vigorously applauded. Mr. Willy Bolliger followed with an exhibition of "Fahnenschwingen", accompanied by the "Ländlerkapelle", this act, judging by the applause, seemed to be greatly appreciated by the audience.

Two more songs "Alti Fründe" by P. Müller and "Hochzyt ha" by R. Fellmann, rendered by the choir, proved that they are an *Ensemble* of first class singers and musicians, and their conductor, Mr. H. Hartmann, is heartily to be congratulated on his leadership. Dancing then continued until 6 p.m. when the "Grand Opening of the Bar" was announced, tea cups disappeared like lightning and a brisk exodus to the Bars could be witnessed.