

To our readers

Objekttyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): **- (1948)**

Heft 1081

PDF erstellt am: **27.04.2024**

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4. Discussion on "How to maintain allegiance to Switzerland among our children."
5. Discussion on the "Problem of Dual-Nationality," introduced by M. Aubaret.
6. Talk on the "German Problem" by Dr. Hans Zbinden, Bernese author.
7. Talk on "Switzerland's Past and Future" by Dr. Arnold Jaggi, historian.
8. Discussion on the "Journée des suisses à l'étranger".
9. Report on above by Dr. Egli, discussion.
10. Talk on "Switzerland and the Marshall Plan" by M. de Graffenried.
11. Discussion on "Old Age Insurance for the Swiss Abroad" introduced by M. Clottu.
12. Talk on "English Residents in Switzerland of the past" by Prof. de Beer.

At various of these meetings Mr. Tall also showed Swiss films of great beauty and interest. A fine Swiss Army-Film was shown to the Colony on April 15th and 17th.

3. Our intention to organise special scientific and educational lectures to be given by qualified specialists is maturing only slowly as it is not easy to find suitable lecturers. Early in December Dr. Lindt gave an introductory talk for a course of three lectures on "Switzerland's history, constitution and culture" to be held in the early part of the new Year. Dr. Lindt, as Chairman of a special educational sub-committee, has also secured the special lecturers from Switzerland

(mentioned above under 3, 6 and 7), for which the warmest thanks are due to him.

4. An outing for children of the Colony was organised by Mr. Weist. It was invited to tea by Mr. Dubs on his farm near Missenden. For this act of generosity as well as the free use he is allowing us of the hall at his "Vienna Café" for our meetings we wish to thank him and Mme Dubs most cordially.

5. Dr. Egli and Mr. Renou were delegated by consent of all societies of our Colony to the "Journée des suisses à l'étranger" at Berne, supported by Mr. Suter and Mr. Huber, Consul at Manchester. Mr. Suter had the honour of speaking on behalf of all the Swiss abroad at the memorial ceremony at Murten. Our views and suggestions, based on former discussion in our Colony, met with much interest and attention in the press.

6. As a result of the previous Open Discussion on a "Swiss Centre" the Council invited Mr. Renou to form an autonomous committee at his own discretion to pursue the question and establishment of such a Centre. It has met several times and is preparing for action as opportunity occurs, finance constituting the most difficult aspect of the problem.

7. M. Aubaret and Mr. Spargnapani have worked hard in sorting out and completing the N.S.H.-Library, enriched by the generosity of Mr. Wüthrich's heirs with many books from his collection. The Library now counts over 1,000 volumes and it is hoped to make it available soon to members and friends.

8. The Council assisted the Anglo-French Art Centre last summer on the occasion of the performances of the Swiss cabaret-artists "Edith et Giles" by suitable propaganda and an opening reception.

9. Experimentally a first Social Evening was held towards the end of the year with dancing and songs with guitarre.

10. The Council has taken the initiative to the publication of a "Guide to the Swiss Colony in Great Britain" as a welcome to new arrivals and reference book to all members of the Colony. Proposals have been published in the Swiss Observer and sent out to all fellow-societies. It is hoped to bring the booklet out early in the new year, with a foreword from the Minister.

11. Closer contacts with the provincial colonies in this country have been initiated by correspondence and a visit of Mr. Renou to Manchester.

Our special thanks are due, apart from those already mentioned, to our Minister for his active interest in our progress; to the Editor and publisher of the *Swiss Observer* for their ever ready co-operation; to the presidents and other members of our fellow societies for their sympathy and frequent participation at our meetings, and to the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'étranger for their encouragement and unfailing help.

On behalf of the Council,
Dr. H. W. EGLI,
President.

TO OUR READERS.

The Editor wishes to thank his many readers for their kind messages of appreciation which he has received at the close of the old year.

These tokens of esteem and interest are an encouragement to him to carry on and improve the Colony's paper.

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