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GUIDE TO THE SWISS COLONY.


Practically all Swiss societies in the U.K. have responded promptly and with appreciation to the scheme for a Guide to the Colony, fully described in the S.O. of December 19th. The period of acceptance of applications for inclusion in this classified list of firms, etc., is, however, extended to enable the many laggards to apply. Applications or suggestions for inclusion should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Nouvelle Société Helvétique, 18 Montagu Place, W.1.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, February 13th, 1948.

We take the opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscriptions: M. Lienhard, S. Spagnapani, E. Montag, A. C. Kaelin, P. H. Conrad, H. Biucchi, Mrs. M. Hilt, F. Delaloys, A. Gallusser, L. Jobin, F. Egger, C. Campart, A. Knapp.

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CITY SWISS CLUB.

Monthly Meeting.

The Monthly Meeting of the City Swiss Club took place on January 6th, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, and was preceded by an excellent dinner.

Mr. R. de Cintra was in the Chair, and the guest of honour was Monsieur Jaques Boitel, Directeur Général de la Chambre de Commerce Suisse en France in Paris, who, in a fluent manner spoke on "Commercial Aspects in France" a most interesting subject. If this address could have been condensed a little, both the speaker and his many hearers would have benefited by it.

Amongst the visitors were Dr. A. Escher, Chargé d'Affaires, and members of the Swiss delegation actually in London for financial and trade talks.

Both the President and Dr. Escher, in welcoming the guests, expressed the hope, that these deliberations would be brought to a successful end, and wished the members of the delegation the best of luck in their difficult task.

Mr. Schaffner, Head of the Delegation and successor to Professor Keller, who on many occasions had been the guest of the City Swiss Club, addressed the gathering.

He paid a warm tribute to the former Federal Councillor Dr. W. Stampfli, who by his splendid efforts for victualling the Swiss population during the last war, gained the admiration of the entire Swiss people, and who, by his spade work for the "Old Age and Survivors Insurance" Act, will go down in the history of our country as one of our greatest statesmen.

Mr. Schaffner, said that there were dark clouds on the horizon in the economic sphere of our country, and that the "one way traffic" policy hitherto pursued by our country, must, by necessity, sooner or later come to an end.

The speaker briefly referred to the sacrifices the Swiss people have made during and after the last war to help war-ravaged countries, by granting large credits, keeping the door wide open for Imports, and by giving freely and unstintingly large sums for the Red Cross, Don Suisse, Children's help, etc., etc.

These sacrifices, Mr. Schaffner said, have, although willingly and generously undertaken, become a heavy burden on our small country, and it has become imperative that the position should be appreciated by countries who wish to trade with Switzerland.

"Switzerland," he said, "might be forced to buy in future only from countries who are prepared to buy from our country."

Concluding his very lucid *exposé*, Mr. Schaffner referred to the charter of Havana, which he said was unacceptable to our country in its present form and would put new and heavy burdens on our shoulders. He expressed the hope, that the difficulties experienced to-day by our country would be better understood by those who genuinely wish to bring back prosperity to world trade.

The President thanked the speaker for his address wishing him and his colleagues success in their endeavours.

Close of the Meeting 10 o'clock.

* * *

A "Thé Dansant" was held on Saturday, January 17th, at the Dorchester Hotel, which was well attended and most enjoyable.