

Birmingham's young Swiss

Autor(en): **[s.n.]**

Objektyp: **Article**

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

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

Heft 1091

PDF erstellt am: **10.04.2021**

Persistenter Link: <http://doi.org/10.5169/seals-692171>

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BIRMINGHAM'S YOUNG SWISS.

The Junior Swiss Group of Birmingham held a Social and Dance — organised by their own efforts — on Friday, April 28th, at the "Garden Club," Hagley Road.

At far as is known this was the first venture of its kind to be held in this country at least since before the war, and much to the surprise and delight of the Group it proved a great success.

The members of Birmingham's 53 year-old Swiss Club had the unique experience of being the guests of their young compatriots. Judging by their participation in the fun they thoroughly enjoyed it and there was no doubt that the young people felt honoured and encouraged by their company.

Dancing started at 7.30 p.m. and with the exception of a short interval for refreshments continued almost non-stop till 10.30 p.m.

Mr. Bird, and his excellent Band provided the music and his rendering of Swiss Airs and "Ländlers" was much appreciated by the young and not-so-young.

The Highlight of the evening was a Traditional Dance by the young members but the not-so-youngs came into their own in the Palais Glide and Hoki-Koki, and took great pride in initiating the youngsters. Seemingly these dances have not yet found their way into Switzerland and the hilarious efforts of the tyros caused much merriment. Spot Dances too were a novelty hitherto unknown — not to mention the "Paul Jones" but the Vienna Waltz still held pride of place. Alas 10.30 arrived all too soon.

The thanks of the Group is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Perrinod (Worcs.) Mr. and Mrs. Wüest and the Birmingham Swiss Club for their generous donations, to Mr. and Mrs. Haefeli, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Brunner and Mr. and Mrs. Duvoisin for the lovely Spot Prizes which they presented, and to Miss Jameson and the Staff of the "Garden Club" for the excellent arrangements made for their comfort.

When all expenses had been paid there was found to be a surplus, and it has been decided to use this to form the nucleus of a Fund to provide further entertainment for the Group.

So high is their confidence that they propose to arrange similar gay evenings during the Autumn and Winter. They certainly have the good wishes of all who attended this most enjoyable evening.

El.

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GENERAL GUISAN'S LUNCHEON PARTY.

A few hours before the departure of General Guisan from Northolt to Geneva, the General gave an informal Luncheon Party at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, on Thursday, June 3rd, 1948.

No speeches were given, but the General in a few words, thanked everyone connected with his short visit for the care and comfort which had been bestowed on Madame Guisan and himself, he expressed once more his pleasure at having been able to make contact with the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

The Swiss Minister, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, on behalf of the company, thanked the General for his kind invitation, saying how much pleasure his and Madame Guisan's visit had given to the Colony.

The following were present:— The Swiss Minister, Dr. A. Escher, Lieut-Colonel J. G. Ryser, A. Renou, L. Chapuis, Ch. Chapuis, R. Dupraz, E. Luterbacher, A. Stauffer, A. Schmid, M. Claisse, J. Zimmermann, E. A. Grau, G. A. Ronus, Father A. Lanfranchi, Pastor H. Blum, Pasteur C. Reverdin.

RECEPTION AND DINNER IN HONOUR OF GENERAL AND MADAME GUISAN.

A full report concerning the reception and dinner given by the Swiss Colony, in honour of General and Madame Guisan, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, on Wednesday, June 2nd, 1948, will appear in our next issue.

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