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NOUVELLE SOCIETY HELVETIQUE

Open Meeting.

The usual Monthly Meeting of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique (London Group) took place on Tuesday, June 21st, 1949, at the Vienna Café, Berkeley Arcade, N.W.1.

Dr. H. W. Egli, President of the Society, was in the Chair and there were about eighty Members present, amongst them the Swiss Minister, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté.

The principal speaker of the evening was Dr. E. Moergeli, of the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger, who was on a visit to this country making contact with a number of groups of the N.S.H.

He had chosen as his subject "Switzerland and the Swiss Abroad," of which he spoke both in English and "Schwyzerdütsch." The lecturer in a very interesting manner gave an extensive *exposé* about conditions at home and the work and aims of the Secrétariat in Berne, which was much appreciated.

On the conclusion of the address given by Dr. Moergeli a lively discussion took place in which the Swiss Minister, Mr. A. Bon and others took part. Various weighty questions were put to the speaker who was able to answer them to the satisfaction of the questioners.

Before closing the Meeting two excellent films were shown through the courtesy of the Manager of the Swiss Federal Railways, this time there was no mishap and the performance was a most enjoyable one.



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EDITOR'S POST-BAG.

London, 16th June, 1949.

To the Editor of the "Swiss Observer,"

23, Leonard Street,

London, E.C.2.

Dear Sir,

Ten momentous years have passed since the Swiss Colony of Great Britain celebrated the twenty years' jubilee of its own newspaper and the first ten years of your editorship. The "Swiss Observer" has, I say it without hesitation or reservation, worn exceedingly well during this further decennium of its existence under your direction. Take first the war period, when we were cut off for very long stretches of time from Switzerland and all Swiss papers, when even private letters took months to reach us. The "Swiss Observer" then became the sole source of information from home to thousands of us. It was surely no mean achievement, that publication of the "Swiss Observer" was kept up right through those difficult years. The importance of the "Swiss Observer", however, to all of us, the Swiss Colony and the home-country, has scarcely diminished since the end of the war. We still look to it, as a matter of course, for information on events at home, events in our Colony and comments on Switzerland published in the British Press. It may no longer be the exclusive source of information, but it surely has gained in stature and influence as the vehicle of discussion of problems of importance to our Colony or the Swiss abroad generally or the home-country.

The "Swiss Observer" is as indispensable to us to-day as during the war and ever before. We must count it a blessing to know, that there is no danger of its disappearance. The Colony and the "Swiss Observer" suffered a heavy loss through the death of its founder and indefatigable patron and publisher, P. F. Boehringer. But we are happy to see, that it has not affected the fortunes of the paper in any way. We know, that we have to thank Mr. O. Boehringer, jun., for this happy fact, as well as you, Mr. Stauffer, our ever faithful chronicler, instructor and monitor. I know I am speaking on behalf of the entire Colony as Chairman of the Assembly of Presidents of the Swiss Societies in Great Britain, in expressing our deep appreciation to both of you, our warm wishes for the continuing success of the paper and our enduring sympathy for Mrs. P. F. Boehringer, the widow of our great benefactor.

Yours sincerely,

H. W. EGLI,

Chairman of the Assembly of Presidents of the Swiss Societies of Great Britain,

President of the Nouvelle Soc. Helvétique, London Group,

Chief London Correspondent of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zürich.

THANK YOU!

The Editor wishes to thank the many readers, who have so kindly sent him messages of congratulation on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the paper, and his 60th birthday, which have been greatly appreciated.