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In the presence of notabilities of the diplomatic and cultural world, the European Cultural Centre was recently inaugurated at the Villa Mon Repos, Geneva.

Speeches were made and messages were received in the name of the European Movement and from the College of Europe.

Mr. Albert Picot, State Councillor of Geneva, speaking of cultural exchanges between various countries, said that this task could only be realised given the respect of the human personality and the liberty of the human mind. Mr. Denis de Rougemont, the Director of the Centre, in stating the objects of this European Cultural Centre, stressed the necessity of saving European culture if Europe wishes to maintain its place in the world.

At a time when machines and industrialisation were bringing about a mad rush to speed up the tempo of life and thereby leaving man less time in which to meditate, the cinematograph was invented, for man does not live on bread alone.

In its initial stages, the cinema was merely an attraction competing with fair grounds and the like but in the course of 50 years it has achieved an indispensable place in present day life. News reels bring current events immediately to the screen, films exactly depict the cultural life of our age and the documentary films give the history of our times.

In the same way as we preserve books, newspapers, pictures, so must we preserve films. Most countries nowadays have their own cinematographic museum and in Switzerland the Film Archives were established in Basle in 1943. Owing to certain internal difficulties, however, this organisation had to abandon its activities and it was then that a few young dynamic cinema enthusiasts in Lausanne took action to ensure that the Basle Film Archives were transferred to Lausanne. They met with the benevolent support and welcome from competent persons and from the Lausanne authorities, and to-day the Swiss Cinematographic Museum is a reality. It comprises to-day some six thousand reels.

ANGLO-SWISS SOCIETY. Xmas Banquet, Ball and Cabaret.

We have much pleasure in directing the attention of our readers to the Xmas Banquet, Ball and Cabaret of the Anglo-Swiss Society, which will be held on Monday, 11th December, 1950, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

Well known artists will provide a Cabaret which

will end with a tableau and the entry of a large cake depicting a Swiss mountain scene; there will be an Xmas tree and Xmas Decorations.

Seating will be by round tables and those representing "Canton" will be arranged to form a large map of Switzerland. Each cantonal table will fly the flag of the "Canton."

There will be no speeches. Evening Dress (tails or dinner jacket) will be worn. Price of tickets will be 40/- each and Members may bring as many guests as they like.

Applications for tickets should be made to the Director, Anglo-Swiss Society, 145, Palace Chambers, Westminster, London.

INTERNATIONAL SKATING COMPETITION.

The Open International Skating Competition (for Ladies) organised by the Richmond Amateur Ice Skating club was held on Monday, 6th November, 1950, at the Richmond Ice Rink.

Amongst the 18 young ladies who competed here, five were of Swiss nationality, namely Mlles. Nina Doria, Yolande Jobin (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Jobin, of 12, Berkeley Road, Barnes, S.W.13), Lily Kresz, Suzy Wirz and Doris Zerbe.

Yolande Jobin, who was placed fifth out of the 18 competitors and headed the list of all the Continental skaters, is being trained by Jacques Gerschwiler, our famous countryman, trainer of Cecilia Colledge and of the present British champion, Jeanette Altwegg, who was the winner of the Competition.

Our best wishes go to Yolande Jobin for her forthcoming participation in the Swiss and International Championships this winter.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, December 15th, 1950 (one issue only, owing to Xmas holidays).

We take the opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscriptions: G. A. Schwarz, L. Jobin, Ls. Chapuis, F. G. Sommer, M. A. Roethlisberger, Dr. C. Devegney, G. Senn, O. Luterbacher, M. Giacomo, W. Glur, R. J. Helfenstein, W. Walter, J. Joerin, A. A. Bodenehr, F. Kibiger, Ch. F. Schumacher, A. Luminati, Willy Fischer, A. Muller, F. Beyli, F. Jmhoff, J. H. Buchi, P. Hatz, V. Umbricht, Mrs. Koerber, H. Schenkel, W. Tschuy, A. von Dach.

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