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MUSICAL PARTY AT THE LEGATION.

Princess Marie Louise was present at a musical party given by the Swiss Minister and Mme. de Torrenté, on Tuesday, November 28th, at the Legation, 21, Bryanston Square.

The artists were: Pierre Mollet (Baryton); Rolf Looser (Violoncelle); André Loew (Violon) and Margaret Kitchin (Piano).

The works of the following composers were rendered:—

Willy BURKHARD was born on the 17th April, 1900 and studied music at Berne, Leipzig, Munich and Paris. At the age of 28 already he was teacher at the Konservatorium in Berne.

He has produced several orchestral works, Oratoria, works for choir and orchestra, an opera, concertos for instruments and vocal soloists as well as songs and Lieder.

Pierre WISSMER was born on the 30th October, 1915, in Geneva. He studied in Geneva and in Paris under Roger-Ducasse and Daniel Lesur. He lives now in Geneva and is Director of Chamber Music at the Radio Genève.

He wrote pieces for Orchestra and Symphonies, a Suite for Piano and for Organ, also Ballet Music and several instrumental and vocal works.

Robert OBOUSSIER was born on the 9th July, 1900, at Antwerpen, and studied music in Heidelberg, Mannheim and Zurich as well as in Berne. Later on he moved to Florence, Munich and Paris and besides composing he was music critic for various French and German papers. Since 1939 he lives in Zurich.

The first public performance of his works was at the Chamber-Music Festival of 1923 in Germany.

Frank MARTIN was born on the 15th September, 1890, in Geneva. He studied under Joseph Lauber and Jaques-Dalcroze and lives now in Amsterdam, acting at the same time as Professor for Composition at the Konservatorium of Cologne.

He has written a great number of works. His "Petite Symphonie Concertante" was first played in Great Britain at the Edinburgh Festival of 1949, conducted by Ansermet. His other works include a big Symphony Oratoria, Piano Concertos, Chamber Music as well as pieces for Choir and Orchestra.

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ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS OF THE SWISS SOCIETIES.

A Meeting of the Presidents was held at the Swiss Legation in the evening of Monday, November 20th. Mr. F. G. Sommer (Swiss Male Choir) was in the Chair and Monsieur F. Rothenbühler and Monsieur P. Clottu attended on behalf of the Swiss Minister. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. Streit (Swiss Philatelic Society) read several letters received from Presidents of Swiss Societies in the Provinces and unable to be present. It was decided that in future the Provincial Societies should be given special notice of meetings and that their wishes should be taken into account when fixing the date.

It was noted with regret that the Swiss Orchestral Society had ceased to function and that the Union Helvetia Club would shortly be dissolved. On the other hand, the Mutual Benefit Society of the Union Helvetia will continue its activities.

The Chairman then called on Dr. H. W. Egli (Nouvelle Société Helvétique) who had recently attended the Journée des Suisses de l'Etranger at Lausanne and who had been delegated to present the Assembly's views to the Journée. Dr. Egli did not wish to add to his report published in the *Swiss Observer* on September 29th but he suggested that in future the Assembly's recommendations should be more clearly defined. After a full discussion of the best means of achieving this end it was decided to appoint a Committee consisting of Dr. H. W. Egli (N.S.H., Mr. A. Renou (Confrérie Vaudoise) and Mr.

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