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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

There was a record attendance at the Monthly Meeting, held at Swiss House on Wednesday, December 14th. The chief attraction was a film show, to which the Students of the College had also been invited.

Reporting on the activities of the College, Mr. E. A. Hueni, Chairman of the Education Committee, stated that the maximum number of students who could be admitted had already been enrolled for the term beginning in January. This was an improvement on previous winters, when there had usually been a seasonal decline. Applications were, in fact, already being received in large numbers for the summer term.

It was with regret that the Chairman announced that the Society would shortly lose the services of Mr. Hueni, who had accepted an appointment in Switzerland. He said this was the third occasion within three years that the Society was losing a Chairman of the Education Committee, Mr. Hueni's two predecessors, Mr. Ammann and Mr. Roethlisberger, having both returned to Switzerland. He added amid laughter that it would appear as if the Chairmanship of that Committee formed a stepping stone to higher appointments in Switzerland.

Mr. Hueni, in his farewell address, said he was leaving London, where he had made so many friends, and in particular the congenial atmosphere of Swiss House, with mixed feelings. He concluded by wishing the Society further progress and prosperity.

The meeting was followed by a FILM SHOW. By courtesy of our member, Mr. H. O. Ernst, Manager of the Swiss National Tourist Office, the following coloured Swiss films, which had not previously been seen in London, were shown:— *Springtime in Switzerland*, *Winter in Villars*, *Winter in Saanenmöser*, *Spring in Zermatt*. For many present, it was probably the nearest they could get to winter sports, and the homely scenes and beauty spots depicted were enthusiastically received by the audience. It was a pity that some had to crane their necks or had too close a view from distorted angles in a tightly packed lecture room. Nevertheless, all present enjoyed the excellent films and thanks are due to Mr. Ernst for having provided a most enjoyable evening. It will interest members and friends to learn that from the same source a talking film "100 Years Swiss Constitution" has been promised for our Monthly Meeting on March 8th.

We wish to remind all our members that the Annual Dinner and Dance will be held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Friday, January 27th (vide advert.). The Annual General Meeting has been fixed for Wednesday, February 15th, at Swiss House.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. Annual Dinner and Dance.

As previously announced, the Swiss Mercantile Society, is holding its Annual Dinner and Dance on Friday, January 27th, 1950, at the Trocadero Restaurant, Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly Circus, W.1.

This function promises to be a very pleasurable affair, speeches, we are told, will be cut to a minimum, so that there should be plenty of opportunity for those who wish to indulge in dancing. To enable as many as possible to attend this festival, the price of tickets has been kept at a reasonable level (25/- per person, including service and refreshments during the dancing). Evening Dress will be optional which will, no doubt, be an additional inducement to attend this Dinner and Dance.

Older members of the Society are specially welcome, as this will be a splendid opportunity to renew old friendships, but the invitation is also extended to all members of the Swiss Colony and their friends.

The Swiss Minister and Madame de Torrenté will be the principal guests of the Society and we sincerely hope, that a great number of our compatriots will attend this function, we feel sure they will not regret it.

LONDON SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On 16th December last the L.S.P.S. held its 70th Monthly Meeting at Swiss House.

The President opened it by giving a hearty welcome to Mr. W. B. Haworth, Assistant-Editor of "Stamp-Collectors' Fortnightly" who was to act as Judge at our Challenge Cup Competition.

The following gentlemen, Messrs. F. Ernst and A. J. Sandoz of the Swiss Legation were enrolled as Members.

The President announced that the A.G.M. would be held, as usual, at Glendower Hotel, on 21st January, 1950.

After the close of the official part of the meeting, the competition began. The Cup awarded to Mr. J. Beken for showing a collection of Chile-Peru war stamps, and the Judge also commented favourably upon the fine exhibits by Messrs. W. Burren and F. Streit.

The President expressed the Society's thanks to Mr. W. B. Haworth for performing the duties of Judge, and he invited him to attend the A. G. M. to present the Cup to the winner.

E.A.G.

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