

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1950)
Heft: 1128

Artikel: 31st Swiss childrens' annual Christmas Tree Party
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-687159>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 11.12.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

31st SWISS CHILDRENS' ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE PARTY.

The second party since the war was again a great success when 168 children came to the Victoria Halls on January 7th.

The party began with a welcome from Mr. Campart followed by carol singing led by Miss Alice Hoffmann de Visme. The Rev. C. Reverdin then read the account of the Nativity and told the children a Christmas story — the story of the grey thistle that turned blue, the colour of heaven. This little grey thistle (there were no blue ones in those days) was proud and boastful because it had actually seen the Holy Child and the kings and shepherds who came to worship Him. However when it was nearly eaten by the ass, just like any ordinary thistle, it understood that honour and glory were due only to the King that was in the manger. Thus when it had learnt humility and taught it also to the youngest shepherd who was proud because the Babe had smiled at him, it suddenly turned into the lovely blue thistle that we often see in Switzerland. Mr. Reverdin concluded with a prayer that we also might be simple and humble and so carry the joy of heaven in our hearts all through the year.

Swiss tunes played by three accordionists, Mr. Gandon and two friends all in splendid national costume, then delighted the children. They applauded loudly and, led by Mr. C. Chapuis, clapped hands in time with the music.

Suddenly a funny face looked through the curtains and said "Hello"! and the children roared their welcome to Risto the Clown. Like last year, he needed several boys and girls on the stage to help him with his tricks and they, as well as the laughing and cheering ones in the audience, had a wonderful time. Risto's final trick was to turn someone's bowler hat into Rastus the golliwog who then entertained us and even sang Good King Wenceslas!

Tea was the next item on the programme with a visit from Father Christmas, who told us the names he is known by in the countries he visited on his way here. We know that whether he is called Father Christmas or Le Père Noël or any other name, the

children always love him and listen attentively when he tells them to be good and kind, especially to the younger members of their families. Like last year, he brought a present for "César", the big boy whose birthday is on January 1st and to whose efforts much of the success of the party is due.

Each child then received a carrier bag containing a toy or book, an apple, a mince pie and half a pound of chocolates.

Everyone was very pleased indeed to see His Excellency the Swiss Minister and Madame de Torrenté and we thank them for coming and having tea with the children. It was very kind of them to come, especially as they could not bring their little girl who was only returning from Switzerland the following week. We do hope she will be able to come next year.

We were very happy that the Rev. H. Blum, Father Lanfranchi and the Rev. C. Reverdin were all able to be present. It is never quite such a happy family party if they are not all there.

Sincere thanks are due to the many friends in the Colony who gave money, toys and sweets, and to the members of the committee who gave their time to make the party a success.

ALB.

ROYAL BELL HIGH STREET HOTEL BROMLEY KENT

.....
FULLY LICENSED RESIDENTIAL
DINING AND PRIVATE ROOMS
SPACIOUS BALLROOM
COCKTAIL LOUNGE . . MASONIC TEMPLE
GARAGE AND CAR PARK

F. WALLHEAD (General Manager)

Telephone : Office — RAVENSBORNE 0077.
Visitors — " 3093.

TRANSPORTATION . . .

TO AND FROM SWITZERLAND

For details of groupage services and all other current facilities apply to:

WORLD TRANSPORT AGENCY LTD.

ESTABLISHED 1913

1, MARTIN LANE, CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

Telephone : MANsion House 3434.

Telegrams : WORTRANCY.

and at

BASLE, SWITZERLAND

Viaduktstrasse, 8.

also at

MANCHESTER LIVERPOOL HULL BRADFORD BIRMINGHAM