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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.
Monthly Meeting held 15th March, 1950.

Owing to the normal date for our meeting clashing with the farewell dinner to Mr. de Graffenried arranged by the City Swiss Club at the Dorchester Hotel, our monthly meeting was put off for one week, the members having been duly notified of the change.

The meeting was largely one of routine. We accepted with regret the resignation of Mr. George Marchand (of Ryf & Marchand) who is retiring to Switzerland. On the other hand we were pleased to learn from Mr. De Brunner himself that the treatment he is undergoing in Switzerland is beginning to prove beneficial. Mr. Marfurt thanked us for making him a corresponding member and reported he was settling down well at Lucerne, though he still suffered pangs of nostalgia for London when hearing outside the classroom the language he now teaches at the Kantonschule.

The President informed us: that the Annual Dinner and Dance had been fixed for Friday, 6th October, 1950. Further, that the Council had approved a General Purposes recommendation to fix the annual subscription for London members at 18/-, the Zentralblatt charge at 10/- and the S.M.S. Old Age Insurance at 6/-, while the subscription for our members in Switzerland be raised to 32/-, their Zentralblatt to 8/- and the Old Age Insurance also to 6/-. These rates of payment were confirmed by the members present.

We had received through the Swiss Legation, a letter from Messrs. Helbing & Lichtenbahn, Buchhandlung, Freie Strasse 40, Basel, asking us for the addresses of our members who would be kept posted of new books published in Switzerland. Our Society does not issue address lists for such purposes. It was left to our members, if interested, to communicate direct with the firm.

Mr. W. Burren, the new Chairman of the Education Committee reported that we have enrolled 160 students for the summer term, which constitutes the absolute maximum we can accommodate. 33 students have already been booked for the autumn term. 200 students in 12 classes were making full use of our evening classes. A Mr. J. P. Pattinson, M.A. Cambridge, has been engaged on a temporary basis as a teacher from 20th inst. Mr. C. Slade, M.A., has been appointed principal of the college, starting with the summer term in May. Another class room will become available at Swiss House by May next.

For the purpose of the School and of the Society, we have acquired an epidiascope, which is an improved form of lantern projector, our old projector having been out of repair for some time. A student dance has been arranged at Royal Hotel, the Swiss Club having proved too small for the purpose. A Chess team has been added to the other sparetime activities of the students.

As our April 12th Meeting we shall see the film on "One Hundred years of Swiss Constitution" which should prove to be very interesting for Swiss in London.

Mrs. H. Jenne had offered us the services of Miss E. Botting, an expert on the National Health Insurance, to address the members on the practical working of the scheme and it was decided to accept the offer for either the May or the June Meeting.

The President informed us that S.K.V. Delegates Conference will be held at Basle on 5th and 7th May and Mr. Boos was elected our delegate, no special delegates being appointed.
E.H.S.

ZUM CHATZEJOMERE !

Die kirzlige Sprich vu däm Luzernermeitschi
 Hän die mi mache zliche
 I ha scho welle scribe wäge däre Schweitzi
 Wo d'Bärner agfange hai Uufregig z'mache.

I g'seh au gärn vierbeinigi Chätzli
 Aber sones G. . . schrei go mache
 Ghert sicher nit an jenes Plätzli
 Au wenn mes Tierli bstimmt cha bache !

Däm Meiti isch sicher Geduld usgange
 sinscht häts no ufzellt Bikersteak, Kuchitieger,
 gar vu Frässe wie jung Miis agfange ;
 Du gmietlige Bärner, gau jetz schwigsch de lieber.

Grinse mues i da Landsliit, üsi,
 jetz gar iri Strauhiet ässe mien
 will's der Unterschid nid schmegge zwische
 Haasepfeffer & Chatzebüsi
 obwohl au Brähme scho lang ibere Gotthard fliege dien-

Per i amis ticines un picul posteritt
 Bisogna minga aver pagura!
 I Bernes sa lassan scrafigna i ditt
 anca se gan premura!

O.A.D.

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