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CITY SWISS CLUB.

86th Annual Banquet and Ball, on Friday, November 23rd, 1951, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

Advanced publicity has been given to the above mentioned function in our last issue of October 12th; in a few days time, the members of the Club will receive particulars in connection with this annual festival.

As usual, the Committee of the City Swiss Club extend their invitation also to non-members, so as to make it a real Swiss evening, and it is hoped that many members of the Swiss Colony will make good use of this opportunity to meet both their English and Swiss friends at the Dorchester Hotel, on the 23rd of next month.

The Swiss Minister, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, accompanied by Madame de Torrenté in the capacity of *Président d'honneur* of the Club, will be in the Chair, and a number of distinguished English friends will be seated at the top table.

As Press Reporter of the Club, which, frankly speaking, is nothing else than a sort of glorified and unpaid "Publicity Agent," I can do no better than repeat what I wrote twelve months ago, because my appeal, on that occasion, proved to be successful fetching over 350 members and friends to the Dorchester.

In this appeal I have addressed myself particularly to the Ladies as follows :

"I have on several occasions acted as your spokesman, *f.i.* when I advocated, on your behalf, a drastic curtailment of oratorial outbursts at the many Swiss functions, and I dare to flatter myself, that, in most cases, I have been successful.

In the past, I have also endeavoured to say many nice things about you, I have compared you to lovely flowers and described your beautiful eyes as a perfect match to the sparkling lights of the chandeliers which shine so brightly over our gatherings. This was, of course, no mere flattery, I think you deserve every bit of praise and appreciation for all you do to make our life bearable, and you are fully entitled to be rewarded for so much kindness.

Now let us see, how in some of our families, the announcement of this function will be received. In a number of cases, the respective husband will fling the circular with disgust and a rude manner on the table, exclaiming: "another of these many functions, I do not think *you* will wish to go!"; now Ladies, be very careful, this is begging the answer, and is a striking example of the artfulness of men. Do not let him get away with it, simply and sweetly say "I am going," that will make him sit up. When he has recovered from this shock, he will, no doubt, raise the question of expense, but do not let him get away with that either, does he ever tell you, what he spends weekly on smoking and beverages of one kind or another?

Then comes the question of a dress, a most important one, I admit, and here for once I take the part of the husband. So often you dear Ladies exclaim, when it is a question of attending a dinner or ball: "But I have nothing to wear!" and yet you will find in your wardrobe hardly space for another dress; on this being pointed out by the said husband, you

remark that they are shabby and old-fashioned, to which the adequate answer of the hard pressed husband should be, "why keep them?", this is after all logical.

Now here, I wish to have a heart to heart talk with you Ladies, I agree, you have to wear something, as it would not be decent otherwise, but need it be, I ask you, absolutely the latest Paris model?

I will take a bet, that none of the Gentlemen at any of these functions will have the slightest notion of what dress you wore, say twelve months ago, all they will remember is your radiant smiling faces, your lovely hair, your pleasant company, etc., etc., but you will say: "What about the Ladies, *they* will know." Well, well, well, in this age of austerity one should be above such an argument, let them talk, all your finery is meant to attract the so called stronger sex, so what does it matter. The main thing is, that you are present, and thus add to the brilliance of the gathering.

Although I am, by nature a man of peace and compromises, I openly invite you to revolt, put your foot down for once, and insist on attending this forthcoming Banquet and Ball of the City Swiss Club, *he* will give in at the end, if you are persistent enough, and we shall all be very, very happy to see both of you.

Au revoir, then, on the 23rd of next month at the Dorchester Hotel.

ST.

(Press Reporter, City Swiss Club.)

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