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LONDON SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

**Annual General Meeting,
at the Glendower Hotel, Glendower Place, S.W.1,
on Saturday, January 27, 1951.**

When the last "Auld Lang Syne" was sung at the conclusion of the Anglo-Swiss Society's Banquet, on December 11th, 1950, at the Dorchester Hotel, I was looking forward to a little rest, after a somewhat hectic three months of banquetting and dancing.

The respite from "official" duties, I am sorry to say, did not last very long, as we are entering now the season of Annual General Meetings.

To make these more attractive to the members, most of these meetings are combined with either a luncheon or a dinner, which is not a bad idea, as this is more conducive to congeniality, and many a one, who intended to "kick up a dust" decided, after a glass or two of "Neuchâtel" to "keep the peace."

However, by combining such meetings with a more or less sumptuous display of food and beverages, the organisers have dealt me a serious blow. My medical adviser, a few months ago, prescribed for me a strict diet, which I feel almost impossible to follow owing to the many dinners which I have "par force majeur" to attend, and I think he has almost given me up as a bad job.

When I received a most cordial invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting and Luncheon of the London Swiss Philatelic Society at the Glendower Hotel, I intended first to politely refuse same for reasons of health, but I did not have the heart to do so, remembering the enjoyable affair of twelve months ago.

Well this annual function was just as happy a one as the previous, and the luncheon just as good as before; can one expect anything else at the Glendower Hotel? —

The luncheon was preceded by a Meeting and a cocktail party, the former I did not attend, as I am only a "stamp licker" and not a stamp collector, but I understand that the Society is a "flourishing concern" judging from the happy faces of the members. Whilst last year, the Hon. Treasurer, "smilingly" announced a deficit in the accounts, I see, that the Society enters into the new financial year with a surplus of nearly £20, so the members are, undoubtedly, entitled to smile.

Mr. F. Streit, the genial President of the Society, towards the end of the luncheon, extended a hearty

welcome to the official guests, naming them as follows: Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Baily, representative of "Stamp Collection", Mr. and Mrs. A. Stauffer, Editor "Swiss Observer", Monsieur P. Clottu, Social Counsellor of the Swiss Legation and Mr. Bossert.

He paid a warm tribute to his collaborators on the Committee for the great services they had rendered to the Society, singling out Mr. E. A. Gotz, who as Hon. Secretary and Editor of the "Bulletin" had rendered such conspicuous work. Mr. Streit voiced his regrets, that Mr. Gotz was unable to continue in this capacity and thanked the retiring Secretary for the efficient services which he had rendered to the Society for so many years. The President announced that Mr. W. Haworth has kindly consented to replace Mr. Gotz as Secretary and Editor of the "Bulletin", and the Committee for the ensuing year is now composed of the following Gentlemen: F. Streit, President, W. Burren, Vice-President, W. Haworth, Secretary and Editor of the "Bulletin", G. Wahl, Treasurer, E. M. Huber, Packet Superintendent, and Messrs. Pachoud, Becken and Waloff.

Finally Mr. Streit expressed his warm appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. A. Schmid for their excellent catering arrangements. The President's humorous address was heartily cheered.

Mr. A. Stauffer, on behalf of the guests, thanked the Society for the generous hospitality which had been extended to them.

The President, Mr. F. Streit amidst acclamation was presented with a silver cup for having won this year's Competition.

As usual, a tombola for the benefit of the Swiss Benevolent Society was held, with very attractive prizes (this time I was not lucky), yielding the sum of £35, a really splendid result, which Mr. M. Roethlisberger, of the Swiss Benevolent Society acknowledged with hearty thanks. An auction then took place for the benefit of the victims of Swiss avalanches and the amount of £10 was collected, which clearly shows that the members of the London Swiss Philatelic Society are not only fine, but generous fellows. Mr. G. Wahl was in charge of the tombola and the auction and the splendid results are greatly due to his efforts.

This 8th Annual General Meeting and Luncheon came to a close soon after 6 p.m., and everyone left the Glendower Hotel with the satisfaction of having spent a most enjoyable afternoon amongst good friends.

ST.

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