

# New Year's Eve at "86, Duke Street"

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expressing the wish that the mutual connections might, if possible, become still closer.

The dance music was provided for by Arthur Salisbury and his Dance orchestra and by A. Gandon and his accordionists, dressed in Swiss costume; both bands were excellent and especially our accordionists, who made things lively by playing a few "Ländler" and quick waltzes.

Dancing went on with remarkable perseverance until midnight, when this most successful festival came to a close with the singing of Auld Lang Syne.

Lieutenant-Colonel St. Townend, the Director of the Society is to be heartily congratulated on the very efficient arrangements, everything went like clockwork and without a dull moment.

A really fine and enjoyable evening.

ST.

\* \* \*

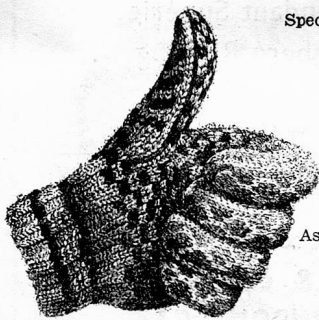
Amongst the guests of the Society were:— The Swiss Minister and Mme. de Torrenté, Sir David Kelly, Sir Harry Britain, Dr. E. Bernath and Madame Bernath, Counsellor of Legation, Mr. and Mrs. O. Ernst, Manager Swiss Fed. Railways, Dr. and Mrs. H. W. Egli, President N.S.H., Mr. and Mrs. W. Meier, President, S.M.S., Mr. and Mrs. A. Stauffer, Editor "Swiss Observer", Mr. and Mrs. Bionnsson, President Icelandic Society, Mr. and Mrs. G. Starkey, Assoc. of British Members of the Swiss Alpine Club, Capt. and Mrs. T. D. Richardson, Chairman, Figure Skating National Skating Association, Mrs. Philippa Martin, Mr. E. K. Martin.

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## UNIONE TICINESE.

### Tea Dance.

Amongst the many social functions which are held throughout the year in the Swiss Colony, a Banquet, Dinner or Tea Dance of the Unione Ticinese is always an enjoyable affair, and the Tea Dance which was held on Sunday, December 9th, 1951, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, was no exception.

Although I am somewhat reluctant to accept invitations to attend functions on a Sunday, having to be present at so many during the week, I could not resist the temptation to be with the Ticinesi once again, knowing what jolly company they always are.

If anyone wishes to participate in a few pleasurable hours, without any formality or stiffness, then I strongly advise them to spend those few hours with our "cari ticinesi", they will not regret it and will be made welcome whether they are members or not.

They will not find any red coated toastmaster to announce their names during a reception, nor will they have to listen to an orgy of speech making; they simply walk in, sit down, dance, eat, watch others and enjoy themselves.

Well over 300 members, friends and guests attended at the Dorchester, where they were heartily welcomed by the President of the Society, Mr. P. de Maria. In his short address, he voiced his regrets, that the Swiss Minister's representative, Dr. G. Lepori, Secretary of Legation, was unable to attend, owing to illness, but he announced that Mr. Carlo Meschini, Hon. Vice-President of the Unione Ticinese, had kindly consented to take the Chair for the afternoon and evening. He also greeted as guests, Mr. and Mrs. A. Stauffer, Editor of the "Swiss Observer" and Mr. and Mrs. P. Dick, conductor of the Swiss Male Choir, Mr. C. Meschini, thanked the President and the Organising Committee, including Mr. C. Berti, a former President of the Society, for the efficient way this Tea Dance was being carried out.

A cabaret was introduced for those, "whose dancing days are over" and was greatly applauded, but the star turn of the evening was the singing of the "Corale", who dressed in their becoming national costume lustily and melodiously rendered the homely folklore of their lovely canton; I have seldom heard them sing better, and their conductor, who is no less than the President himself is to be congratulated on his achievements.

Dancing went on without interruption until 10 p.m. when this jolly Tea Dance drew to its close, hugely enjoyed by all those who attended it.

ST.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE AT "86, DUKE STREET".

The Swiss Youth Club has held many successful Gala Dances in the past, but this year's "Réveillon" was certainly the most brilliant and colourful of them all. Over two hundred young Swiss people with their friends from all parts of the world crowded the beautifully decorated rooms of the club to welcome the New Year in the traditional style. It was all fun and games, and the resident band gave of its best. When, at midnight, the lights were put out, everybody felt thankful towards Mr. and Mrs. Bachofen and their staff for this memorable evening and their untiring efforts throughout the year.

E.A.