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SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Swiss Benevolent Society took place at Swiss House on 30th August. The new President, Mr. F. G. Sommer, was in the chair. He welcomed Monsieur Bernath, who represented the Swiss Minister, and Monsieur Ansermoz, the Attaché Social, as well as an old friend of the Society and the Colony in the person of Monsieur le Pasteur Hahn. From the accounts it was evident that the Society's expenses were steadily going up. The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M. Rothlisberger explained that the pensioners had been given another increase. The pensions varied according to individual means, and the Society had always tried to keep up a similar standard to that set by Government pensions and National Assistance. The meeting elected 2 more pensioners which brought the number up to 59. The Treasurer announced that at usual the old people would again be given a special fuel grant of 5/- a week during the winter months, and that the committee hoped to be able to improve the living conditions of some of the pensioners now that some more money was available owing to the Sandoz Legacy. The President reported on the progress made with the Home for Swiss Girls which had been proposed by the Swiss Minister at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. The difficulty at the moment was to find a suitable property.

The SBS again participated in the holiday scheme which the Nouvelle Société Helvétique arranged in conjunction with Pro Juventute. Of the 27 children

who were sent by special Swissair transport the Society took a financial interest in eleven.

During the first six months of the year another 24 people were repatriated by the Society. Again this number included quite a few young men who had come to England without a permit and with little money and whom the SBS had to send home at heavy cost.

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NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE.

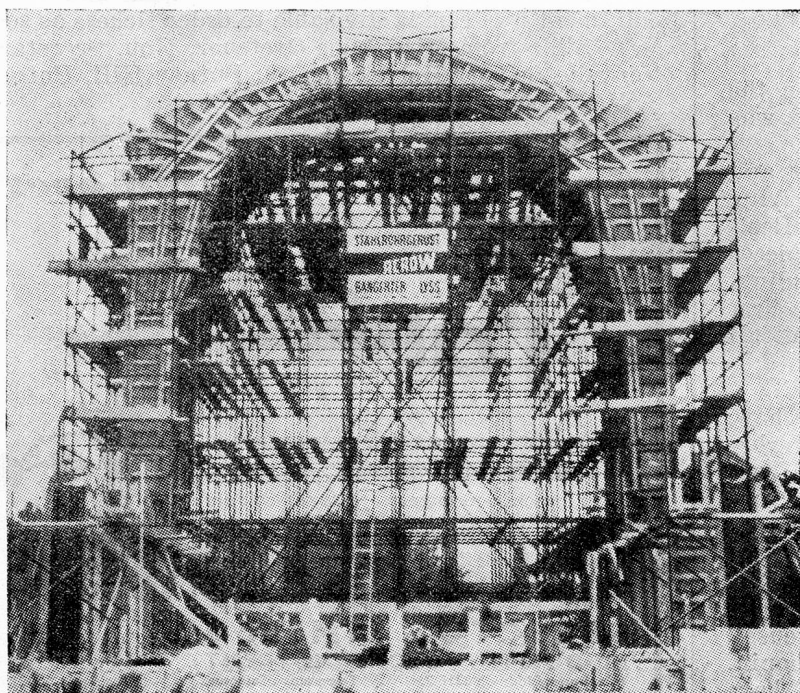
The Open Meeting of the London Group of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique took place on Tuesday, September 28th, at the "Schweizerbund", 74, Charlotte Street, W.I.

The President, Dr. H. W. Egli, being prevented from attending, owing to professional duties, the Chair was taken by Mr. W. Renz. There were 40 members present.

Dr. H. R. Christ, Joint-director of the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger, who was to have spoken on "Other Colonies", was owing to illness unable to make the journey to London.

His place was taken, at the last minute, by Mr. A. Schwander, "Chef der Sektion für berufliche Ausbildung, Bundesamt für Industrie, Gewerbe und Arbeit" Berne, who gave a very interesting exposé of the work of this Department. The lecture was followed by a Film Show.

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