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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

An Interesting Lecture.

Not for some time has Swiss House attracted such a packed audience to a monthly meeting, as Mr. W. Meier, our President, had the pleasure of welcoming on 10th November.

A special word of greeting was addressed to Messrs. Bernath, Faessler, Miesch and Consul Huber of the Legation, and to our trustees, Messrs. Gamper, Sommer and Voegeli. Our Minister, Mr. H. de Torrenté, had to decline our invitation owing to another pressing engagement.

The minutes were approved and there were no new members and no resignations to deal with.

Mr. J. E. Schneider, Hon. Secretary, who is our representative on the Council of the N.S.H., reported that that society had suffered rather large a loss on the performance of the Cabaret "Rueblisalt", owing to a number of unforeseen circumstances which were explained by Mr. Meier. Although no appeal has been made to the colony for contributions to meet this loss, it was felt that the occasion warranted our making a donation of £5 5s. towards this loss. This was carried without a dissentient.

Mr. Meier asked us to make a note of the following events:—

Annual Dinner and Dance at the Dorchester Hotel, Saturday, 19th February, 1955. Fête Suisse, Thursday, 21st April, 1955. Concert by Miss Ruth Huggenberg at Wigmore Hall, Saturday, 11th December, 1954.

Having thus disposed of the business of the monthly meeting, our President called on Dr. H. Miesch, of the Commercial Division of the Swiss Legation to address us on the Double Taxation Convention between Switzerland and Great Britain. After giving us an outline of the history of this agreement, the first attempt which goes back to 1929, he gave us an account of the involved technical points of the convention, some of which appeared in summary form in the Swiss Observer of 15th October, 1954. At the conclusion Dr. Miesch answered questions from those present which, as usually happens, further clarified many points affecting individuals and concerns in the two countries. He further undertook to deal in the Swiss Observer with particulars of general interest arising out of the Convention as and when to come to light. Those who wish to look more closely into the matter can obtain the draft order on Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) Switzerland order, 1954, costing 6d., from H.M. Stationery Office, and a copy in German or French of Botschaft No. 6723 of the Federal Council to the Bunderversammlung on this subject.

This very interesting meeting came to a close at 8.45 p.m. after prolonged applause to Dr. Miesch.

E.H.S.

CITY SWISS ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL
at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1,
on Friday, November 19th, 1954.

A full report about the above mentioned Banquet will appear in our issue of Friday, December 17th.

SWISS CLUB, DUNFERMLINE.

The 17th Annual General Meeting of our Club was held on the 11th November, 1954, in the Recreation Hall at Castleblair Works. Our President was very pleased indeed to welcome a full attendance of our Active Members.

Mr. Frick opened the meeting with the annual survey, and expressed his satisfaction on the interest shown by our Members in all functions and other activities during the past year.

The Entertainment programme for the Winter 1954/1955 was fully discussed and the following functions were proposed to take place:—

Whist Drive on the 30th November, 1954. Film Show, middle of January, 1955. A Ladies Night, February, 1955. Annual Gathering, end of March, 1955.

The following Office Bearers were unanimously re-elected for a further term of office:—

Mr. Bruno Frick, President; Mr. Emil Schoenberger, Secretary; Mr. Robert Weiss, Librarian; Mr. Albert Bolliger, Auditor.

Our Entertainments Committee was also unanimously re-elected. Messrs. Vogel, Meier and Tanner spare no effort to prepare so that our functions are 100% successful.

The official part of the evening closed just before nine o'clock. A pleasant surprise was given to us by Mr. Weiss who had prepared "Wienerli and Brot", which we enjoyed very much. The rest of the evening was spent by the members either playing cards or enjoying the music from the newly purchased gramophone.

B.

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