

**Zeitschrift:** The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK  
**Herausgeber:** Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom  
**Band:** - (1954)  
**Heft:** 1220  
  
**Rubrik:** Swiss Mercantile Society

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 10.12.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

**SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.**  
**An Interesting Lecture.**

The monthly meeting, held at Swiss House on 13th inst., was well attended in view of the attraction of Mr. F. Ansermoz's address.

Mr. W. Meier was again under the sad necessity of reporting the death of one of our most loyal and regular members, Mr. G. Flueckiger, who passed on suddenly when on his way to the station to meet his daughter. He also referred to the death of Mr. De Maria, President of the Unione Ticinese, and conductor of the "Corale", who died on 22nd December. Those present paid the usual tribute to the departed by standing in silence.

**SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY**  
 34-35, FITZROY SQUARE, W.1.

The  
**Annual Dinner**  
 and  
**Dance**

will take place at

**THE DORCHESTER HOTEL,**  
**PARK LANE, W.1**

on

**SATURDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 1954.**

All members and friends will be welcome.  
 Please reserve the evening. Full details will  
 be announced later.

After announcing various items of activity of the colony, our President called on Mr. F. Ansermoz, Social Attaché of the Swiss Legation, to address us on the new

*Anglo-Swiss Convention on Social Insurance.*

He did this in an easy fluent style of great clarity, but regretted at the outset that he could not give a full picture of what was aimed at. Although the Swiss Federal Assembly had authorised the ratification of the convention, the experts of the two countries were now working out the administrative agreement which would govern the practical application of the Convention. This would probably not be ready until Spring. Meanwhile he could only give us a brief preliminary report.

As far as Switzerland is concerned the convention is strictly limited to the A.V.S. and the provisions of the federal law of 1911 concerning insurance against accidents and industrial diseases. In the United Kingdom the convention only applies to the National Insurance Act and the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act. As the National Health Service was not instituted by the National Insurance Act of 1946 but by the National Health Service Act of 1946, it is not affected by the new Convention.

The Convention should help many of the 11,000 Swiss living in Great Britain and some of the 3,000 English residing in our country. It has two chief objects in view:

1. To insure equal treatment in social insurance for the Swiss and the English living either in England or Switzerland. This is not too difficult to achieve because, while the Swiss A.V.S. pensions are rather more generous than their British equivalent, the risks covered by the English insurance are rather more comprehensive.

2. To enable the nationals of the two countries, when they go from the territory of one country to the territory of the other, to retain as far as possible the rights acquired under the legislation of the first country.

Payment of Old Age Pensions: At present British Old Age Pensions are not payable abroad. Conversely Swiss A.V.S. pensions are not payable to foreigners living outside Switzerland. The new Convention will make Old Age Pensions and other benefits coming into consideration payable in the other

Telegrams and Cables: TRANCOSMOS LONDON.

Telephone: HOP 4433 (8 Lines)

**COSMOS FREIGHTWAYS** **AGENCY LIMITED.**  
 INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARDERS

By Road, Rail Sea and Air

1, CATHEDRAL STREET,  
 LONDON BRIDGE, LONDON, S.E.1.

REGULAR GROUPAGE SERVICES WITH

**SWITZERLAND**

ANGLO-SWISS CUSTOMS EXPERTS.

Agents: WELTIFURRER INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT CO. Ltd., Zurich, Basle, Buchs, Schaffhausen, Geneva, St. Gall.

ALSO AT  
 LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER,  
 NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,  
 HULL, BRISTOL, CARDIFF,  
 SWANSEA, NEWPORT, Mon.  
 GLASGOW.

•  
 CONNECTED  
 THROUGHOUT  
 THE WORLD

OFFICIAL FREIGHT AND  
 PASSENGER AGENTS FOR  
 SWISSAIR AND ALL AIR LINES  
 TO SWITZERLAND AND ALL  
 PARTS OF THE WORLD.

country. A Swiss entitled to an English pension will be able to claim payment of it in full in Switzerland in the event of his retiring there. The same applies to widows pensions.

The Convention also provides for Swiss and British people who left Great Britain before 5th July 1948 (date of introduction of the new system of social insurance) and were receiving a pension under the old regime, to receive it in Switzerland.

British subjects living in Switzerland will be able to qualify for Swiss A.V.S. pensions after five years of uninterrupted insurance instead of ten years, or after one year of insurance, provided they have resided ten years in Switzerland without a break in the last five years. Moreover they will receive Swiss pensions at the full rate, instead of less  $\frac{1}{3}$  as provided for by article 40 of our A.V.S. legislation. As that law covers self-employed and non-employed persons, English residents in Switzerland will be covered by the convention whether they are employed in Switzerland or living on superannuation pension or unearned income.

**Reimbursement of Contributions:** Swiss and British nationals who, when they reach pensionable age, are not entitled to an A.V.S. pension, but are entitled to a British Old Age pension, can ask that the Swiss A.V.S. contributions be transferred to the British insurance. These contributions will then be utilised as if they had been paid to the British insurance.

In the corresponding case, when Swiss and British persons are not entitled to a British pension, but qualify for a Swiss pension, they can ask for the contributions to the British insurance to be transferred to Switzerland where they will be reimbursed to the contributors but independently from the A.V.S. pension.

For our young compatriots who are here as student trainees, and for the thousands of Swiss girls in domestic employment, the Convention brings no change. They come under the British scheme in the usual way. On the other hand, Swiss students who obtain temporary employment in the U.K., will not have to join the British scheme unless they stay here for more than six months.

In regard to insurance against accidents and

industrial diseases the main difference from the Swiss point of view will be:

Up to now when a Swiss met with an accident in Great Britain he could claim payment of disablement pension in Switzerland. If he was killed his dependents had no claim. Under the new convention his dependents will get the pension. He himself, if not killed, will get supplementary allowances payable in Switzerland.

The short but lively discussion showed the close attention with which the Swiss Colony is following this question of the provision for old age.

E.H.S.

65

don't  
scrap  
that!

turn it into an  
attractive 'extra' with

**MAGGI**  
**ASPIC JELLY**

There's no end to the lovely savouries you can make . . . with ordinary left-overs (a few peas, some fish or anything you have handy) and wonderful Maggi's Aspic Jelly. It's so easy too, and so money-saving. Buy some today.

2 oz. tin  
**2/-**

The Nestlé Company Limited, Hayes, Middlesex.



## GLENDOWER HOTEL

GLENDOWER PLACE, S. KENSINGTON, LONDON, S.W.7

100 Rooms with running water and telephone.

Terms: from 25/- per day  
from 6 guineas per week } inclusive.

Room and breakfast from 17/6.

Telephone: KENSington 4462/3/4.

Telegrams: "Glendotel Southkens" London.

Small Private Dinners,  
Christening Parties and  
Wedding Receptions  
Catered for  
Fully Licensed.



A. SCHMID & FAMILY.