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**ERMANO BERNER**  
President: Swiss Club, Manchester.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Club Manchester, which took place on February 20th, 1954, the following committee has been elected:

President: E. Berner, Vice-President: M. Lichtensteiger, Hon. Secretary: R. Beaujon, Hon. Treasurer: H. Monney, Librarian: H. Schweiwiler.

The newly elected President E. Berner, has already in 1950 occupied the post as President. He is succeeding, Mr. Etienne R. Cottet, who has been at the head of the Society since 1952.

Mr. E. Berner was born in 1903 at Cene (Bergamo, Italy), and received his schooling at the "Kantonschule" in Aarau and the "Ecole Supérieure de Commerce", at Neuchâtel. Later on he attended the "Preussische Höhere Fachschule für Textil Industrie" in Krefeld, and subsequently joined the "I.G. Farben Industrie, A.G." Leverkusen. (Cologne).

In 1925, he joined the "Società Italiana Industria Velluti", in Bergamo, a subsidiary of the firm of "Johs. Girmes & Co., A.G.", Oedt, nr. Krefeld, velvet and plush weavers, dyers and finishers, of which firm he became Managing-Director and a member of the Board until 1936.

Mr. Berner came to this country in 1937 and entered the firm of Messrs. Giron Frères (Great Britain) Ltd., of Accrington, French velvet weavers, dyers and finishers, in which concern he holds the position of Managing-Director and a member of the Board.

We extend to the new head of this active and patriotic Society our very best wishes for a successful and fruitful year of office.

### OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, March 26th, 1954. We take the opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscription: Emil H. Hess, C. Berti, A. Schmid, C. H. Willi, Mrs. L. C. West, F. Winkelmann, A. Ritzmann, R. Jaeger, R. Weist, H. Gattiker, M. A. Roethlisberger, E. Rognon, E. Rietmann-Adams, W. Graf, R. A. Jequier, F. Eggar, P. Lequent.



**ETIENNE R. COTTET**

We have much pleasure to announce that Mr. Etienne R. Cottet, has been appointed Chief Hotels Manager, Northern Group, British Transport Hotels and Catering Services, with headquarters at York.

Mr. Cottet was born at Bossonens (Ct. Fribourg) in 1894, and started his schooling in his native village and at the Ecole Régionale d'Attalens. On the conclusion of his studies he made his apprenticeship at the Hotel Eden at Montreux.

In 1911, at the age of nearly 18, he decided to go abroad, and his choice was Germany, where he obtained a position at the "Kaiserhof" Berlin, and afterwards had several appointments at Breslau, Bad Salzbrunn, etc., etc.

It was in 1913, that Mr. Cottet arrived in this country, where he obtained a position at the Hotel Adelphi in Liverpool, belonging to the London Midland Scottish Railway; after having spent several years at various Railway Hotels, he was appointed Manager of the Euston Hotel in London, during the coronation of the late King George VI, in 1937.

For several of the tragic war years, he was in charge of the Hotel Adelphi at Liverpool, which Hotel was, on many occasions, bombed and badly damaged. In 1943, he took over the management of the Midland Hotel in Manchester, and at the same time also managed the famous Gleneagles Hotel in Scotland, which under his direction was again transformed into a Hotel after having been used as a hospital.

In April, 1949, he was nominated Manager Superintendent of the British Railways Hotels in the North-West region of England, which brought twelve of the largest Hotels under his supervision.

Two years later, October 1951, Mr. Cottet was appointed Chief Hotels Manager (Headquarters).

Mr. Cottet was until recently President of the Swiss Club, Manchester, and we are tendering him our best wishes in his new sphere of activity.

### SWISS SPORTS.

At the Delegate's Meeting of the "Swiss Sports", it was decided to hold this year's Meeting on Saturday, May 22nd, 1954, at the Chiswick Stadium.