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SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Benevolent Society took place at Swiss House on 28th March, 1955. The President, Mr. F. G. Sommer, welcomed Monsieur Daeniker and expressed the Society's pleasure at having the new Minister's support in its work. Monsieur Daeniker was then elected Honorary President. He thanked the Society for this honour and in his short address he praised the large amount of voluntary work which was done and the generous financial help given by the Colony. He said that a lively sense of responsibility towards the less fortunate countrymen was deeply rooted in our lives, here in Great Britain possibly even more so than elsewhere. He expressed his hope that the Sandoz Legacy would not lessen our efforts. He also thanked the committee workers and other helpers.

After the Chairman had welcomed Monsieur Ansermoz and Consul Huber, both active honorary workers in the Society, the accounts were presented by Mr. M. A. Rothlisberger, Hon. Treasurer. These showed that over the last few years all classes of expenses had gone up whilst the income from donations and subscriptions had decreased. The total outlay in 1954 had reached the considerable sum of £8,012. This was higher by £435 than the previous year, and it was only thanks to the income from the Sandoz Legacy that the deficit of £2,510 could be reduced to about one half of this sum. Mr. Rothlisberger thanked Mr. J. Oertli and Mr. D. E. Bonnet for their help in preparing the accounts.

Mr. Sommer then went on to give a short report on the Hostel for Swiss girls. Negotiations were in progress and repairs would start shortly. It was hoped that the Home would be open by the end of the year. The collection in Switzerland for furniture and a running capital was going well.

The next item on the agenda was the election of officers and committees. The temporary chairman, Mr. R. Dupraz, thanked the President. He said that a record in expenses also meant a record of work, particularly to the faithful members of the Monday Committee. All officers and members were re-elected, also the auditors Consul Huber and Mr. Wagner.

Five new pensioners were then elected to bring the number of the Society's pensioners to 66. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Swiss Mercantile Society for giving hospitality to the Swiss Benevolent Society for their meetings.

MARIANN.

LANTERN SLIDE SHOW.

We wish to direct the attention of our readers to a talk (in English) illustrated by numerous coloured slides, by Dr. Joseph Zihler (of Zurich) on "Joys and Trials of Ascending the Matterhorn", being a repeat of the lecture given at Londonderry House under the auspices of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique and the Anglo-Swiss Society, on Monday, April 18th.

The lecture will take place on Sunday, May 15th at 5 p.m. at "Swiss House", 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1. (free of charge)



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