

Swiss Church Bazaar

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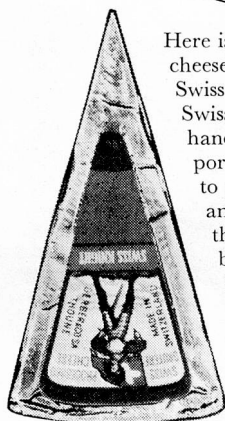
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SWISS CHURCH BAZAAR,

22nd November 1958.

Those of our compatriots who may have been attracted by the notice: "Luncheons from 12.30 — Swiss Specialities", and whose mouths watered at visions of a "Bernerplatte" or of a "Fondue", were perhaps somewhat disappointed when faced with the standard "menu" of two Wienerlis with potato salad (if any), although these were delightfully hot and of excellent quality, but the facilities available made anything more substantial practically impossible. Inside the hall, however, there was an amazing variety of delicacies to whet our appetites — from toffees and home-made cakes to "Birewegge" and "Ankewegge" — and the lucky ones who got there early were able to buy even "Fasnachts-Chuechli" and Poulets! It would need a culinary expert to describe all the other foodstuffs, fresh or manufactured, solid and liquid, which rapidly disappeared from the stalls into shopping-bags and no doubt brought much joy into many homes. In addition there were so many other things that space is lacking to enumerate them all: unexpected bargains were discovered in brand new ladies' dresses of latest fashion, household articles and so on, it was almost like a Department store "en miniature". In spite of the official relaxation of the "credit squeeze" it was obviously often a case of "the purse is the limit", although there were bankers present who might possibly have obliged with a suitable overdraft! There were fathers walking around with that vacant look in their eyes which reflects an empty pocket, no doubt because of the constant calls made on it by the female members of the family covering their essential requirements, with perhaps a tie for daddy thrown in as a consolation prize. . .

So much for the material side of things, which was, of course, the outward channel leading to the day's overwhelming financial success. But behind it all were many hours of devoted work in organizing and conducting the sale, a partnership of ideas and a lining-up of efforts, which always bring out the best for such a worthy cause, and of course the goodwill shown by all sections of the Swiss Colony and its English friends who gave their support by turning up in such large numbers and digging deep into their purses. The accommodation available was, if anything, almost too small for comfort, and perhaps on a future occasion it might be considered whether a somewhat larger (and also more easily accessible) hall would not serve the purpose better.

The Consistoire is most grateful to all who with their hands and heads and purses (not to mention the sore feet of some helpers) assisted in planning and achieving such a successful result in aid of our church.

M.