

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: - (1961)

Heft: 1394

Rubrik: News from the colony

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: 13.12.2025

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

NEWS FROM THE COLONY

AT THE SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY

The Society held its first Monthly Meeting after the summer recess, at Swiss House on Wednesday, 13th September. There was a very good attendance, despite the fact that many members were still on holiday. Among those present, the Chairman, Mr. R. Chappuis, was very pleased to welcome Mr. Robert Brand, of Langenthal, a former Hon. Treasurer of the Society, who was paying his first visit to London since his return to Switzerland in 1928. The Chairman congratulated Mr. Brand on having attained 40 years' membership of the London Section. The Chairman further extended a cordial welcome to Mr. Th. Sibler, a member of the Zurich Section, who had left London in 1930, and prior to which had been an active member of our Society.

With deep regret, the Chairman announced that Mr. A. Rutishauser, an active member since 1920, had passed away on the day following our last meeting, i.e. on 8th June. The members rose to pay a last silent tribute to their departed colleague.

After the official part of the meeting, members indulged in holiday reminiscences. The Chairman began by showing some coloured photographs on the epidiascope, which he had taken at the Delegates' Meeting of the S.K.V. at Rheinfelden in May last, at the Society's family outing to Parham, Sussex, in June, as well as at the "Landsgemeinde" of the Manchester and Leeds Swiss communities at Hardcastle Crag on the day following the meeting of the Presidents' Assembly at Manchester.

Mr. W. Stettbacher, whose mountaineering feats we have long come to appreciate, followed with some excellent photographs of his recent ascents in the Mont Blanc region, on some of which stretches of the ill-fated cable railway from Chamonix to the Vallée Blanche could be seen, with some of the gondolas passing each other.

Once more we crossed the Alps, looking on them from high above in an aeroplane, when our former President, Mr. O. Grob, showed us a selection from his fine collection of colour slides. These included views of Rome, with the Vatican and its Swiss Guard, portraying the exquisite architecture from the Roman to modern times in all its grandeur. The journey proceeded to Assisi and the photographs shown had undoubtedly captured the spirit of this town, so renowned for its association with St. Francis. On we went to Florence, city of art and culture with its picturesque Ponte Vecchio, thence to Ravenna with its world-famous mosaics. Finally we reached Venice, a veritable photographer's paradise. This was indeed a very fine and most interesting show, which must have animated many, if they had not already done so, to go and see some of these sights for themselves.

Finally, Mr. E. M. Huber, took us on a cruise round the Mediterranean, after having previously travelled by car to Genoa. We called at Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Lebanon and Israel, and saw many familiar and lesser-known views of famous buildings and monuments, from the Acropolis to the minarets, the mosques and the tombs of the Pharaohs. Here again, the colour slides were of excellent quality and gave us a realistic impression of what Mr. Huber saw on his journey.

It would be difficult to describe in detail all we saw and enjoyed in one evening. Suffice it to say that those who contributed towards its success earned the thanks of all present.

W.B.

We deeply regret to announce the passing away, on 21st August 1961, of Mr. Otto Frei, of 8 Playfair Mansions, Queens Club Gardens, W.14.

An old member of the Swiss Colony, Mr. Otto Frei was born on 3rd June 1877 and came to England in 1902. Until his retirement not many years ago, he was head of the firm of Henri Picard & Frère, watch materials manufacturers, of 34 Furnival Street, E.C.4. He joined the City Swiss Club as an Active Member in 1907 and was made an Honorary Member of the Club in 1957.

A quiet, likeable man, he was seen at many functions of the Colony.

We offer his widow and his family our deep sympathy in their great loss.

THE ANGLO-SWISS INSURANCE & REINSURANCE AGENCY LTD

in collaboration with

THE SWITZERLAND GENERAL INSURANCE
CO. (LONDON) LIMITED

British subsidiary of the **Schweiz Allgemeine Versicherungs-Aktien-Gesellschaft, Zurich**, are at your service in connection with all insurance matters. The "Switzerland" have a world-wide organisation and are well informed regarding present day business conditions in many parts of the world. If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to approach us at

29/30, High Holborn, London, W.C.1

Telephone: CHAncery 8554 (5 lines)