

News from the colony

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AT THE SWISS ECONOMIC COUNCIL

The 1964 Swiss National Exhibition, to be held in Lausanne, will be nearly twice the size of its predecessor which took place in Zurich twenty-two years ago, and a maximum of sixteen million visitors is expected. It is estimated that the cost of this tremendous show will be about 90 million francs, but this should be covered without too many difficulties.

The Swiss National Exhibition, which the Swiss Observer will talk about more fully in the months to come, will last from May until October 1964, and will give a remarkably fascinating picture of all aspects of present and future life in our country. It is to be hoped that the 1964 Exhibition will not be held at such an unfortunate date as were the previous ones — in Berne and Zurich — which coincided with the commencement of the world wars in 1914 and 1939.

This information was given by two distinguished visitors to London, Mr. Gabriel Despland, Counsellor aux Etats and Chairman of the Swiss National Exhibition, and Mr. Edmond Henry, Chancellor of the State of Vaud. They were the guests of the Swiss Economic Council at a dinner given at the Dorchester Hotel on Monday, 16th October. His Excellency, the Swiss Ambassador, honoured the gathering with his presence. Mr. Christen presided over the meeting, and Mr. Alfred Renou gave a most lively introduction to our visitors from Lausanne.

P.H.

THE ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL OF THE CITY SWISS CLUB

By the time this issue is appearing the members of the City Swiss Club will have received the circular concerning the Annual Banquet and Ball of the Club, which is taking place on Friday, 17th November, at the Dorchester Hotel (see advertisement).

The annual festival is an opportunity to get in closer personal contact with each other — so necessary in these critical and uncertain times, when nobody knows what the future may bring. We have stuck together in hard times; now, more than ever, we ought to *serrer les rangs* and get closer together as members of the country which we so proudly call *La Patrie*. This festival is not meant to be exclusively a Club affair, and any members of the Swiss Colony and their friends are cordially invited to come along. For this reason it has been decided to dispense with much speech-making, in order to make this event in the real sense of the word, a congenial and homely evening.

As on former occasions, a number of prominent personalities in this country will be the guests of the Club, and the Swiss Ambassador and Madame Daeniker will be present.

To enable the committee to make their arrangements in good time, it would be appreciated if those who intend to take part would apply as early as possible for tickets. These can be obtained from members of the committee.

Au revoir, then, at the Dorchester Hotel, on Friday, 17th November 1961.

*The Press Reporter
City Swiss Club.*

NEWS FROM

IN THE SWISS CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Encouraged by the result of our last year's Christmas Draw, the Committee has decided to hold one again this year instead of having a bazaar.

The proceeds of this Draw will help, in particular, the Reverend Father J. Scherer in looking after many of the several thousand young Swiss staying temporarily in this country for studies, training and domestic work, etc.

The Committee, together with the Reverend Father J. Scherer, are doing their utmost to look after the moral wellbeing of our compatriots and help them to pass their leisure hours by running the Swiss Catholic Youth Club. This Club has organised socials each Sunday, and excursions to places of interest. Among the places visited were the Isle of Wight (150 people), Oxford (140) and Windsor Castle (120).

The permanent members of the Swiss Catholic community are unable to carry on, as well as they would wish, this valuable and important work — which is steadily growing and is so essential to the good reputation of Switzerland in Great Britain — without calling on the generosity of all our friends.

May we ask you to consider helping our work by sending us either a donation or gifts for our Christmas Draw.

Your generosity would be greatly appreciated.

O. GROB,
Chairman.

Donations to: Mr. O. Grob, c/o Swiss Bank Corporation,
99 Gresham Street, London E.C.2.

Gifts to: Mr. E. Bonvin, Montana Hotel, 67 Gloucester
Road, London S.W.7.

NO PASSPORT FOR THE SWISS SEASIDE!

We find Swiss people all over the world, sometimes exercising the most unusual professions. But here, surely, is something really odd when we see the Swiss owning a small English seaport!

Nevertheless, this is the case with Dr. Charles Hagenbach, who, with his brothers earlier this year bought the Porthleven Harbour and Dock Company, in Helston, Cornwall.

In addition to the harbour for coastal and fishing vessels, the company, which is managed by the Hagenbach brothers, also owns all the property in the centre of the village.

As Dr. Hagenbach says: "Who knows? Perhaps one day we'll see a Swiss cargo-boat in the harbour. They were occasionally to be seen in the neighbouring port of Penzance before the war."

THE COLONY

For our Compatriots in need

As is usual at this time of the year, the Swiss Benevolent Society and the Swiss Churches in London appeal to all their Swiss friends for gifts in kind or in cash to provide for a little extra cheer at Christmas for our compatriots in need. New articles of clothing, or old ones in clean and good ready-to-wear condition, and household goods are always greatly appreciated.

Parcels should be sent, preferably not later than the middle of November, to the Swiss Benevolent Society, 31 Conway Street, Fitzroy Square, London W.1, whilst gifts in cash may be forwarded to any of the following addresses:

Swiss Benevolent Society, 31 Conway Street, London W.1.
Rev. Ph. Nicole, 7 Park View Road, Finchley, London N.3.

Rev. P. Wipf, 1 Womersley Road, London N.8.

Rev. J. Scherer, St. Ann's Church, Abbey Orchard Street, London S.W.1.

CONGRATULATIONS

— to Mr. and Mrs. Renaud Thomas, of 34 Barrie House, Lancaster Gate, W.2, on the occasion of the birth of a son, Benjamin Louis.

PERSONAL

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of Acrow, company chairman and general manager Mr. W. A. de Vigier gave a huge dinner and dance at Grosvenor House Hotel on 6th October.

Over two thousand guests came along to dine, wine and dance in a sumptuous hall brilliantly decorated by flags of all the countries where Mr. de Vigier has introduced the now world-famous name of "Acrow".

Xmas Greetings

Following former years, practice we propose to publish again in our December issue a collective greeting.

The high costs of Xmas cards should induce many of our subscribers to make use of this facility to extend to their friends the compliments of the season.

Those of our readers and friends wishing to be included should forward name and address to our office not later than Friday, 25th November 1960, together with remittance for £1.

CITY SWISS CLUB

96th Annual Banquet and Ball

FRIDAY, 17th NOVEMBER 1961

at the

DORCHESTER HOTEL, PARK LANE, LONDON, W.1

RECEPTION 7 p.m. • DINNER at 7.30 p.m. • DANCING until 2 a.m.

to : ARTHUR SALISBURY and his Orchestra



EVENING DRESS (TAILS OR DINNER JACKETS)

TICKETS £2 2s. (including gratuities) obtainable from

Mr. A. Stauffer, 48a, Putney Hill, London, S.W.15. or

Mr. L. F. Jobin, 100, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.1.

Tables for parties of 8 to 12 can be arranged in due course