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IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Swiss Embassy wishes to announce that from January 1962, an important change is to be made in its working schedule in order that its staff may be free on every second Saturday, as has been the case in the Offices of the Federal Administration in Berne since 1st January 1960.

Will prospective visitors therefore kindly note that the Embassy offices will be closed every alternate Saturday, starting on 6th January 1962, namely on the following Saturdays:

6th and 20th January	7th and 21st July
3rd and 17th February	4th and 18th August
3rd, 17th and 31st March	1st, 15th and 29th September
14th and 28th April	13th and 27th October
12th and 26th May	10th and 24th November
9th and 23rd June	8th and 22nd December

Visiting hours from Monday to Friday will be 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (except Tuesday afternoons), and on working Saturdays 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

London, December 1961.

NEWS FROM

THE CHRISTMAS DINNER OF THE CITY SWISS CLUB

Christmas, with all its excitement, merrymaking and good cheer, has come and gone. The candles on the Christmas tree have been blown out, Father Christmas has gone up the chimney — or whence he came — the church bells have rung out the old, and in the new year, and all that remains is memories.

Amongst these is the traditional Christmas dinner of the City Swiss Club, which was held, as usual, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, on Wednesday, 13th December 1961.

Whilst in former years this jolly annual reunion has always been well attended, this time it broke all records. Over 140 members, or about 50 per cent of the total membership, gathered together in the Orchid Suite, amongst them a considerable number of the younger generation, which is a good augury for the future of the Club. It is sad to report, though, that these younger members, so badly needed, were, so to speak, "left out in the cold", as not enough accommodation had been provided — unfortunately due to the fact that quite a number of members had not notified the Hotel of their intention to be present. Tempers ran high, but soon became normal when additional tables were installed, and everybody felt happy again.

The dinner was preceded by a cocktail party, which greatly helped to kindle a festive "Stimmung". It was with some difficulty that the company could be persuaded to adjourn to the gaily decorated dining room.

The principal fare — as it should — consisted of turkey, Christmas pudding, and mince pies, and the Head Chef of the Dorchester Hotel, Mr. E. Käufeler, who, by the way, was that very same evening elected a member of the Club, deserves a hearty pat on the back for so well looking after the revellers.

Towards the end of the dinner, Mr. Th. von Speyr, who was in the Chair, proposed the customary Toasts to H.M. the Queen and "La Suisse". The President welcomed the members of the Club and the representatives of the Embassy, expressing delight at the exceptionally large attendance.

The second part of the evening proved to be as enjoyable as the first. Our old friends, Mr. A. Gandon and Mr. Ott, played with much *élan* a number of our well-known folklore songs, and soon everyone joined in singing the songs, which always recall happy memories. Mr. E. Luterbach, our old champion yodeller, gave a few yodel soli which were very much enjoyed.

All too soon the hour of departure struck, and, before leaving these hospitable quarters, the President extended best wishes to all members and their families for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He warmly thanked Mr. G. A. Ronus, Manager of the Dorchester Hotel — and a member of the committee of the City Swiss Club — for the way in which he always makes the members of the Club feel at home in Park Lane.

Press Reporter
City Swiss Club

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY 34-35 FITZROY SQUARE, W.1

The Annual Dinner and Dance

will be held at

THE DORCHESTER HOTEL
ORCHID ROOM — (Deanery Street Entrance)
PARK LANE, W.1

on

SATURDAY, 27th JANUARY 1961
6.30 p.m. for 7 o'clock (Until Midnight)

Tickets at 30/- per person, including service, can be ordered from:

**THE SECRETARY
SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY
34-35 FITZROY SQUARE, W.1**