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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY

There was again a good attendance at the Monthly Meeting of the Society, held at Swiss House on Wednesday, 11th April.

With deep regret, the Chairman, Mr. R. Chappuis, had to inform the assembly that our former Hon. President, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, had passed away suddenly on 27th March during a brief visit to London. He paid a special tribute to the great interest M. de Torrenté had taken in the activities of our Society, and in particular the College, whilst Swiss Minister in London, and the members rose to pay a last tribute to the departed.

Referring to the "Jass" evening arranged in connection with the previous meeting, the Chairman expressed his pleasure that this had proved so popular and intimated that the venture would no doubt be repeated.

It had been intended to pay a visit to the Pestalozzi Children's Village at Battle this summer, but as all Sundays during June and July had already been fully booked for some time, it was decided to defer a visit to next year. Instead, a family outing in members' private cars was suggested for Sunday, 24th June, and the following itinerary met with the full approval of those wishing to participate: Meeting place; Bodiam Castle, Sussex, at 11 a.m.; Luncheon at the well-known Mermaid Hotel at the Cinque Port of Rye. In the afternoon, ride to Fairlight, the highest point in Sussex, with a fine view of the sea and the downs, or alternatively bathing at Winchelsea beach. The party have kindly been invited to tea at Mr. Krucker's house in the vicinity as a fitting conclusion to what promises to be a most enjoyable outing, to which members and their friends are cordially invited.

As both the President, Mr. Chappuis, and the Chairman of the Education Committee, Mr. A. Jaccard, will represent the Society at the Delegates' Meeting of the S.K.V. at Interlaken on 4th to 6th May, it was decided that the next meeting be held on 16th May, i.e., the third instead of the customary, second Wednesday of the month.

Following the official business, a documentary film, "This is the BBC", was shown.

This exciting film gives an impression of some of the work that goes on during any twenty-four hours throughout the innumerable branches of the BBC, the largest organisation of its kind in the world. The film portrays the tremendous activities behind the scenes in sound and television studios in all parts of the country. These include the rehearsal of a large scale television drama; the news coverage of an air search over the Atlantic; the remotely-controlled equipment broadcasting on its own, and well-known and unknown people at work.

This splendid film was greatly enjoyed by all present, and brought to a close a pleasant evening.

W.B.

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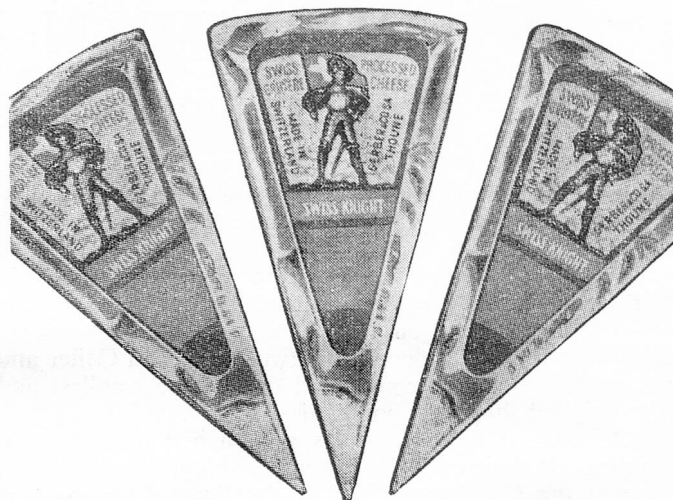
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