

**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:** - (1963)  
**Heft:** 1433  
  
**Rubrik:** Forthcoming events

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## SWISS ECONOMIC COUNCIL

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Dorchester Hotel on 9th May 1963.

In reviewing the activities of the past year Mr. J. P. Christen, Chairman, made reference to the Gilliard Report and the conclusion to which it led the Committee, i.e., to abstain, for the time being, from proceeding with the creation here of a Swiss Chamber of Commerce.

Endeavours to inspire and to co-operate in the foundation of a Swiss Information Centre were continuing, the belief being that it was in the interests of the Swiss Economy to have here, in what was still the most important Capital of Europe, a display window of Swiss export goods and services.

A proposal made by the Chairman at the March 1963 meeting of the Ausland Schweizer Kommission in Berne, for "action in Switzerland to encourage young people, in their own as well as in their country's interest, to spend at least a few years abroad to widen their horizon and to take advantage of the many possibilities open to them" had received a warm welcome.

In the passing away of Mr. Alfred Renou the Colony had lost one of its rare idealists, and in the affairs of the Council the services of a very devoted Vice-Chairman and Founder Member would be greatly missed.

The Chairman then paid tribute to the goodwill and the help the Council had had throughout the year from our Ambassador, Mr. Armin Daeniker, and from Mr. M. Heimo, the Commercial Counsellor.

Mr. J. P. Christen, Chairman, Mr. O. Rohn, Vice-Chairman, and Mr. X. Speckert, Hon. Treasurer, were re-elected, as were the retiring Committee members, Mr. G. E. Suter and Mr. M. Wiesendanger. Newly elected to the Vice-Chairmanship was Mr. R. J. Keller.

With the business thus concluded, the Chairman extended a special welcome to the Swiss Ambassador, Mr. Armin Daeniker, and to the guests. After an excellent dinner Mr. D. A. Gladwell, Superintendent O. & M. Department, Midland Bank, addressed the meeting on "Automation" with particular reference to data processing in banks. Members gained a valuable appraisal of the work done by computers today and the sociological and economic aspects that surround their practical application. The exposition proved all the more rewarding as the speaker knew how to bring to bear upon the subject a mind at once highly individual, independent and humorous.

The discussion was followed by a vote of thanks from Dr. H. B. Knuchel.

F.

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Every Sunday 7 to 11 p.m. — The Swiss Catholic Youth Club — Social at Westminster Cathedral School, 48 Great Peter Street, S.W.1.

Every Thursday, from 6 to 7.30 p.m. — Discussion Circle in English — Young men specially invited. Tea from 6 to 6.15 p.m. Swiss Y.M.C.A., London Central Y.M.C.A. Building, Great Russell Street, W.C.1.

Every Thursday from 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. — Unione Ticinese — meets at the Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9 Belsize Grove, N.W.3. All Ticinesi welcome. The "Corale" rehearses from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Every 1st Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. — Swiss Get-Together at 2 Sussex Place, Widcombe, Bath.

Every 1st Wednesday in the month — Secours Mutuels des Suisses à Londres — meeting at Swiss House, 35 Fitzroy Square, W.1, at 7 p.m.

Every last Thursday of the Month — Swiss Club Manchester — Ordinary Monthly Meeting from 6 p.m. at the Midland Hotel, Manchester.

Friday, 14th June, 8 p.m. — Bath Festival CONCERT — Zurich Chamber Orchestra conducted by Edmond de Stoutz — Wells Cathedral.

Sunday, 16th June — LANDSGEMEINDE — Annual Gathering of the Swiss of Lancashire and Yorkshire at Hardcastle Crags — Meeting at Memorial Park, Hebden Bridge, at 10.30 a.m.

Sunday, 16th June — Swiss Rifle Association — SHOOTING at Bisley (Siberia Range).

Tuesday, 18th June, at 7.45 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — OPEN MEETING — Swiss Hostel for Girls — Mr. Jean Perrin, "Au delà des Frontières". (Swiss contribution to the French Theatre.)

Sunday, 23rd June — Swiss Mercantile Society — FAMILY OUTING to St. Albans and Hatfield House.

Sunday, 30th June — Swiss Rifle Association — SHOOTING at Bisley (Siberia Range).

Sunday, 30th June — 7.30 p.m. — ORGAN RECITAL by the Swiss Organist, Guy Bovet — Holy Trinity Church, Brompton Road, S.W.7.

Friday, 5th July — City Swiss Club — INFORMAL DINNER AND DANCE — Great Fosters, Egham, Surrey.

Monday, 8th July — 6 p.m. — SINGING AND DANCING by "Les Mouettes" of Morges and "Le Vegnolan" of La Tour-de-Peilz. — Théâtre de l'Institut Français, Queensberry Place, South Kensington, S.W.7.

Thursday, 1st August — SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION at Wimbledon Town Hall.

16th-18th August — ASSEMBLY OF THE SWISS ABROAD — St. Moritz.

Saturday, 19th October — Swiss Mercantile Society — 75th ANNIVERSARY DINNER — Dorchester Hotel.