

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: - (1964)

Heft: 1457

Rubrik: Birmingham SWiss Club

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J. C. WETTER
President, Swiss Rifle Association

As reported in this issue, Mr. J. C. Wetter of 8 Carew Road, Northwood, Middlesex, — on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting — was elected President of the Swiss Rifle Association in succession to Mr. Alfred Schmid.

Mr. Wetter was born at Teufen (Appenzell A.Rh.) in 1896. He received his schooling at Teufen and afterwards at the *Ecole de Commerce* Neuchâtel. Like so many of his compatriots, in order to gain experience, he left his native country in 1916 for Paris where he spent two years with a firm of general merchants. During his stay there he was twice called back for military service in Switzerland.

In 1918, Mr. Wetter came to this country obtaining a post first with a textile concern and afterwards with a transport firm. Six years later (1924), he started his own business as agent for food processing machinery, later manufacturing his own machinery for meat and canning factories. In 1949, Mr. Wetter floated the company J. C. Wetter & Co. Ltd., with head office in Middle Street, E.C.1, which firm enjoys today a prominent reputation in the trade.

Although a very busy man — often travelling in various countries — he has always found time to take an interest in the doings of the Colony. He joined the Swiss Rifle Association in 1925, when the Society was re-formed, but has been connected with the former Society since after the first world war as a member of the committee. Being one of the "crack shots" he competed at various Federal Shooting Competitions, obtaining many trophies and distinctions.

Besides shooting, Mr. Wetter indulged in many sports. He was a keen mountaineer, climbing many of the "Viertausender" in the Swiss Alps. He was, and still is, an enthusiastic skier, a golfer and at one time a tennis player.

Mr. Wetter joined the Swiss Mercantile Society in 1918 and the City Swiss Club in 1929.

During his stay in this country he has been a faithful member of the London Colony, attending many of the social functions together with his charming wife. He has always been a generous supporter of many deserving causes concerning the Colony. Mr. Wetter has a married son and daughter, and one single daughter.

We wish him every success in his year of office.

ST.

BIRMINGHAM SWISS CLUB

The Birmingham Swiss Club held its Annual General Meeting on April 20th, at the White Horse Hotel, preceded by an excellent meal . . . although not the traditional one of sauerkraut which, with its trimmings, was lost somewhere between London and Birmingham.

Our President, Mr. Brauchli, expressed his pleasure at seeing so many members present. We all mourned the passing of two esteemed friends, and active members, Mr. Haefeli and Mr. Brenni. Regrettably, there had been few activities during the past year, the President continued, but new ideas and new members would be welcome.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. B. Flury, presented his encouraging report . . . expenditure had been moderate and there had been no cause to call on the relief fund.

Election of new officers followed. Retiring Committee: — President: Mr. W. Brauchi, Hon. Treas: Mr. B. Flury, Hon. Sec: Mrs. I. Scott. Newly-elected Committee: — President: Mr. B. Flury, Hon. Treas: Mr. P. Brun, Hon. Sec: Mrs. P. J. Waterton.

Our relief officer, Mr. J. Flury, and our trustees, Mr. O. Wuest and Mr. G. Darbre, were re-elected.

Business over, general conversation prevailed until the closure of the meeting at eleven o'clock.

M.W.

A VISITOR AT THE SWISS CHURCH

On 6th and 7th June, the French-speaking congregation of the Swiss Church resumed its tradition of the parochial week-end. It was a pleasure to welcome the former minister of the Swiss Church, Pastor Claude Reverdin, who spoke at well-attended afternoon meetings on Saturday and Sunday, and who also gave the Sunday sermon on the general theme "L'Engagement du Chrétien".

Monsieur Reverdin also met a number of his former parishioners during the few days of his visit to London. Unfortunately Madame Reverdin was unable to accompany her husband on this occasion.

B.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We wish to thank the following subscribers for sending donations in addition to their subscriptions and/or for taking out or renewing gift subscriptions: Miss B. Deutsch, Mrs. H. Philipps, and Messrs. W. Bosshardt, A. J. Gluck, J. J. Huber, L. Huguenin, M. Niederer, M. Schneebeli, J. E. Schneider. We are most grateful for their kind and welcome support.

OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will be published on Friday, 10th July. We shall be glad to receive reports and articles not later than Wednesday, 1st July. Short news items only can be accepted later.

Some readers have expressed surprise at an interval of three weeks between the issues of 22nd May and 12th June. We should like to remind subscribers that the "Swiss Observer" is published every second and fourth Friday of the month. This normally means a fortnightly interval, except when there are five Fridays in the month — four times a year — which means an additional week between publications.