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A book was presented to the departing Hon. Secretary, Mr. P. Bringolf, for his valuable services rendered to the group during his stay in London.

As in previous years, an anonymous donor kindly provided gifts for the ladies, this year in the form of evergreen plants.

When the writer had to leave, the after-dinner "Social" was in full swing; she has no doubt that the party proceeded in the happy mood which is the hall-mark of all N.S.H. gatherings.

MM

SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Benevolent Society was held at Swiss House on Monday, 18th April 1966, when despite the bad rain a good attendance was recorded.

The President, Mr. X. M. Speckert, had the pleasure of welcoming the Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur B. de Fischer, Honorary President of the Society, Mr. F. G. Sommer, Honorary Vice-President, and Mrs. Sommer, Monsieur F. Ansermoz of the Swiss Embassy, and about a score of faithful members.

In the absence of the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Rothlisberger, the accounts for 1965 were presented by Mr. Bonnet, Hon. Assistant-Treasurer, who gave all necessary comments and explanations reflecting the undiminished traditional activities of the society. As foreshadowed twelve months ago, the extensive programme of major and costly renovation work carried out over the last few years at the Society's premises at 9-11 Belsize Grove, the home of the Swiss Hostel for Girls, was practically completed during the year under review, much to the relief of all concerned.

Mr. Speckert as President and the various committees were duly re-elected for a further annual term of office, with the exception of the committee of the "Home for Aged Swiss" now obsolete and whose members not previously belonging to the General Committee were, for simplicity's sake, transferred to it.

Thanks were expressed to the Federal Authorities and to the Embassy for the maintenance of the increased annual subsidy and to the Ambassador, his collaborators and staff for the help extended to the Society on all occasions.

J.Z.

MARGOT VEILLON'S "DIVERTIMENTI"

Miss Margot Veillon, the Swiss painter from Egypt, who has recently had a successful show of her paintings at the Trafford Gallery in London, is having a collection of drawings published. "Divertimenti", the folder of sixty drawings is called; it contains a choice selection and a text by Vera Bajocchi. It is published by Imprimerie Robert S.A. at 2740 Moutier and costs Fr.22.—.

OUR NEXT ISSUE

The "Swiss Observer" is published every second and fourth Friday of the month. Our next issue will appear on 10th June. We shall be glad to receive articles and reports not later than Wednesday, 1st June. Only short news items can be accepted later.

SUMMER EDITION OF "SWITZERLAND CALLING"

The European and Overseas Service of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation has just published its illustrated programme schedule "SWITZERLAND CALLING" for this summer. There are also separate editions in French, German, Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic. Whoever does not yet know SBC's programme schedule, or would like to have additional copies in any of the languages mentioned, may obtain them free by writing to the address given below.

SBC's European and Overseas Service is also known as "Swiss Shortwave Service". It has the twofold task of telling foreign listeners all over the world about Swiss activities and achievements — and of helping Swiss citizens abroad to keep in touch with their homeland. To this end, SBC is broadcasting around the clock in eight languages.

Of the many daily transmissions, the "European Programme" is broadcast by means of omni-directional aerials, while all other transmissions are beamed to overseas areas via directional aerials. Frequencies and transmission times are chosen according to propagation forecasts and international agreements.

All details about wavelengths, directions and transmission times of SBC's European and Overseas Service for the Period from 1st May to 6th November 1966, are given in the latest issue of "SWITZERLAND CALLING". This illustrated programme guide also contains a "check-list" or report form, making it easy for listeners to inform SBC about their reception conditions and their opinion concerning programme contents in a manner which is both concise and suited for quick statistical evaluation.

SBC welcomes all listeners' reactions, requests for programme schedules (available free), individual enquiries, etc., which should be addressed to

European and Overseas Service
Swiss Broadcasting Corporation
CH 3000 Berne 16.

SWISSAIR NEWS

Until the end of October, Swissair, in co-operation with SAS and IBERIA, is operating a direct coach link between London Heathrow and London Gatwick airports. This coach leaves the Domestic Arrivals building, Heathrow, at 11.45 p.m. and arrives at Gatwick at 1 a.m. On the return journey, the departure from Gatwick is at 4 a.m., arriving Heathrow at 5.15 a.m.

During the summer season, the coach will operate nightly, but at other times the frequency will be adjusted to coincide with Swissair flights from and to Gatwick.

This coach link is for passengers arriving by internal U.K. and Irish services at Heathrow and continuing to Switzerland and beyond by Swissair night flights, and *vice-versa*.

* * *

Recently, Swissair began to offer children flying on its North Atlantic lines a menu of eight delicious dishes, specially planned to suit the tastes of children. Swissair is the first airline company in the world to offer this advantage to its young passengers. On an average, some two dozen children a day travel by these lines during the summer season.