

Swiss Catholics in London

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man, especially now that the Council is embarking on a new and important venture, the creation of an Anglo-Swiss Trade Promotion Centre.

We wish him success in his endeavours and a good many years of fruitful work.

MM

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

We send our best wishes to any readers whose birthdays fall within the next few weeks, and we congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chapuis on their 49th wedding anniversary on 17th November. Many happy returns of the day!

COMMITTEE OF SWISS CATHOLICS IN LONDON

Encouraged by the result of our last year's Christmas Draw, the Committee has decided to hold one again this year instead of having a bazaar. The drawing of the prizes will take place on Friday, 16th December 1966. The object of the Draw is to give added financial support to our Chaplain, the Reverend Father Joseph Scherer, in his efforts to look after the several thousand young Swiss temporarily in this country for studies, training or domestic work.

The Committee, with the help of their Chaplain, are doing their utmost in looking after the moral well-being of their compatriots and helping them to pass their leisure hours by running the Swiss Catholic Youth Club. This Club holds socials every Sunday evening at the Westminster Ball Room, 30 Strutton Ground, S.W.1, with a varied programme such as dances, films, colour slide shows and talks. These functions are regularly attended by an average of 150 to 255 compatriots; at the 1st of August Celebration, we even had an attendance of 350, and at our "Kilby — Kermesse" 250. Needless to say that there are always non-Catholics with us. Our rule "Swiss only" prevents the entry of undesirable elements to our Club. During the summer months, the Club organised a Surprise Country Walk (80 people), excursions to Oxford (160) Canterbury (80), the Isle of Wight (160), a river trip to Kew Gardens (30). Further visits were made to the Tower of London, twice to London Airport, to Westminster Abbey and to the Houses of Parliament in session, etc.

The Committee is still making strenuous efforts to rent and furnish a room in the West End of London, where our Swiss Youth can meet and spend their free time in a little corner away from our beloved Switzerland.

The permanent members of the Swiss Catholic community are unable to carry on as well as they would wish this valuable work which is growing from year to year and it is very important to the good reputation of our young Swiss compatriots in Great Britain, without calling upon the kind support of all our friends.

May I therefore ask you kindly to consider helping our work by sending either a donation or a gift in kind for our Christmas Draw.

Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

O. GROB, Chairman.

Donations to Mr. O. Grob, 60 Seafield Road, London N.11.

Gifts in kind (latest date 12.12.66) to:—

St. Ann's Presbytery, Abbey Orchard Street, London S.W.1.

ARNOLD KUNZLER 70



Another prominent member of the London Swiss community will be celebrating his 70th birthday in a few days: Mr. Arnold Kunzler of 7 Windfield, Epsom Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, will have reached the ranks of youthful septuagenarians on 15th November.

Arnold Kunzler was born at Stein, Appenzell, in 1896, but at an early age he was taken to St. Gall near Rorschach, St. Gall. His father was a great expert on bees, and we have it on record that he won many awards. Among them was the first of 560 prizes at the International Bee-keeping Exhibition in Vienna in 1903, when the Emperor showed marked interest in Mr. Arnold Kunzler (senior)'s exhibits. At that time, hope was expressed that the Emperor's honourable award of 50 ducats would stimulate Mr. Kunzler in his *Spezial-Bienenschreinerei* at St. Gall. His love of nature was passed on to his son, and "our" Mr. Kunzler is still very fond of the beauties of nature and a keen swimmer.

Arnold Kunzler completed his education at the *Verkehrsschule* in St. Gall and then went as a farm-hand to the Jura to learn French. After that he joined a forwarding agency in Basle. His early duties included such things as loading groupage wagons, but he gained quick promotion, for he was quick in the uptake and of no mean intelligence.

After the first world war and a spell of military service he came to London, solely with the intention of learning the language and then moving on to U.S.A. But London fascinated him, and he stayed on. In 1924, he married Miss Nolte from Basle.

Two years later Mr. Kunzler founded Machinery and Technical Transport Limited, later to be known as M.A.T. Transport Ltd. The company, now comprising 300 employees, is a flourishing concern and has just been celebrating its fortieth anniversary. He still enjoys a full day's work at the office, and his two sons, too, play an active part in the business. They are amongst the many who admire Arnold Kunzler's achievements and like him for his generosity, fairness and sense of humour.

Mr. Kunzler has always supported the activities in the Swiss Colony and is a member of several societies. His friends send him heartfelt wishes for many more years of health and happiness with his wife, sons, daughter-in-law and grandchildren.

MM