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NEWS FROM THE COLONY

CITY SWISS CLUB

Summer Dance

One of the post-war traditions of the City Swiss Club is the summer outing. After two years at Monkey Island, the Committee decided to go back to Great Fosters near Egham in Surrey. The unqualified success of the evening on 27th June showed clearly that the decision was a wise one, and Mr. Lucien Jobin and his helpers must be pleased that their hard work was so much appreciated.

Great Fosters is one of Britain's finest country house hotels in beautiful surroundings. It has many historic connections, having been partly built by Henry VIII. Queen Elizabeth I used it as a Hunting Lodge, as did Anne Boleyn and James I.

Drinks before dinner were taken out of doors in the splendid gardens, as the weather was most clement. The President and Mrs. Alfred Kuhn received the guests who included the Swiss Ambassador and Madame Keller as well as a number of other members of the Embassy.

The reason why the Club left Great Fosters a couple of years ago was that the food was not all one could wish. Whilst that reason would still hold good, I repeat what I wrote then: On an evening like that it is the good fellowship and the enjoyment of dancing and a happy atmosphere which matters; food is of secondary importance. And as far as ambiance and cheer were concerned, the Tithe Barn could not have provided a better background. Dancing was never neglected, and the wine glasses were filled again and again until 1 o'clock.

It was a good evening thoroughly enjoyed by members and friends and not least by — the Ladies.

MM

WELFARE OFFICE

for

SWISS GIRLS IN GREAT BRITAIN

(For Information, Advice or Help)

11 Belsize Grove, London N.W.3.

(Nearest Underground Station:
Belsize Park)

Telephone: 01-722 4260

RECEPTION HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
2 p.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment.

APPENZELL COMES TO ESSEX

On the banks of the River Stour, in the heart of the Constable country, stands a beautiful sixteenth-century house, a few steps down from a main motor road, yet so quiet and peaceful that one easily forgets that one is near the busy city of Colchester in thriving Essex. The place is Dedham, and the house Le Talbooth Restaurant. Did I say peaceful?

Certainly not on the two evenings of 3rd and 4th July when the marquees in the grounds of the Talbooth were full of boisterous and jolly life, not to say noise. Both evenings were given over to Switzerland, more precisely to Appenzell, for it was the famous Alder Band, complete with *Hackbrett* and yodelling, which provided music for dancing. But it was not only the colourful Appenzell costumes which brightened up the tents — the whole place was gaily decorated with flags, flowers and bunting. It said "Après ski" was to be the dress, but for once it was too warm even in England to turn up in ski-ing trousers and thick knitwear. And the majority of women were in summer dresses and the men in casual suits. But as the evening went on, the dancing to the swinging folklore band became more energetic and the Swiss wines warmed heads and hearts more and more, men discarded their jackets, and informality took over rapidly. One never really connects *Bratwürste* (from the Swiss Centre Restaurants in London) potato salad, *Chäscheuchli* and *Chuchipastetti* with formal dining and supping, nor trestle tables, however nicely set. It was just what the organisers set out to achieve, gay, light-hearted evenings with the atmosphere of a Swiss folklore festival. What was surprising were the large numbers, several hundred guests each evening! Few Swiss among them, at least not obviously, but a very, very large number of British friends of Switzerland, and I have heard it said that if they had not been on arrival, they certainly became such during the evening! And when the indefatigable band finally packed up their instruments, their music was played on records, and the musicians themselves showed how a real *Ländler* should be danced. The guests left in a happy mood, but Anglo-Swiss or Appenzell-Essex friendships were sealed in the bar of the Talbooth until early hours of the two mornings.

Much of the success of the evening must be attributed to the proprietor of the Talbooth, Mr. Gerald M. W. Milsom, whose initiative was the basis for the special Festival Week in general and the two Swiss evenings in particular. His house is well known for good food and attentive service; for years he has had Appenzell waitresses and other

Swiss staff. Swiss Fair Ltd. of London's Swiss Centre and the Swiss National Tourist Office have co-operated, and the result was certainly a very happy time for something nearing 1,000 people — most of them genuine friends of Switzerland.

MM

A GOLDEN WEDDING AND TWO BIRTHDAYS

On 11th August, Mr. and Mrs. Victor and Amy Bataillard, of 20 Keyes Gardens, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2, will be celebrating their Golden Wedding. We send them congratulations and many happy returns of the day.

Mrs. A. Bachofen will have her birthday on 10th August, and on 18th August, Mr. Giovenale Bozzini will be 87. To them as well as to any other readers whose birthdays will fall within the next fortnight, we extend best wishes.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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.

Secours Mutuels des Suisses à Londres:
No meetings until 1st October.

AUGUST:

4th to 16th — Hampstead Theatre Club (01-722 9074) — PIERRE BYLAND — Swiss Actor/Dancer/Acrobat/Poet and Pianist.

22nd to 29th — Swiss Church CAMP at Ashburnham Place near Battle in Sussex — Please apply for information to Rev. U. Stefan, 3 Womersley Road, N.8. 01-340 9740.

Friday, 29th to Sunday, 31st — ASSEMBLY OF THE SWISS ABROAD — Montreux.

SEPTEMBER:

Sunday, 14th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Swiss Rifle Association — SHOOTING Bisley Camp (Siberia Range).

Tuesday, 23rd — City Swiss Club — CARD EVENING.

Sunday, 28th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Swiss Rifle Association — SHOOTING (*Gruempelschiessen*) — Bisley Camp (Siberia Range).

NOVEMBER:

Saturday, 8th — Swiss Club Manchester — ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL — Excelsior Hotel.

Friday, 21st — City Swiss Club — 104th ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL.

SEE YOU

at Montreux at the Assembly of the Swiss Abroad from 29th to 31st August.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to thank the following subscribers for sending donations in addition to their subscriptions and/or for taking out gift subscriptions for friends or old-age pensioners:

Mrs. E. R. Cottet, Miss M. Paly, Mrs. J. Weller and Messrs. R. E. Baumann, A. Bleiker, F. Ferraris (Zurich), W. Flory, M. Gfeller, F. A. Gluck, J. L. Guggenheim, F. J. Heath, H. Jauslin, M. Merian, G. A. Ronus, B. Simon, X. M. Speckert.

We are most grateful for their kind and welcome support.

CITY SWISS CLUB

Will Members please note that
NO MONTHLY MEETINGS
will be held until 23rd September

YOUR NEXT "SWISS OBSERVER"

will be published on . . .

Friday, 22nd August. We shall be glad to receive all articles and reports by Monday, 11th August. Short news items only can be accepted later.

The "Swiss Observer" is published every second and fourth Friday of the month, and consequently, your next copy but one will be out on 12th September. Contributions for that issue should be to hand by Monday, 1st September.

MAKE SURE YOU JOIN
THE SOLIDARITY FUND
OF THE SWISS ABROAD.

SAVE,

INSURE,

HELP OTHERS

A TRUE ACT OF
SOLIDARITY

Please apply to Embassy and
Consulates.

SWISS CHURCH

SERVICES EN FRANÇAIS: à l'Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, tous les dimanches à 11h15 et 19h00.

SAINTE-CENE: le premier et troisième dimanche du mois, matin et soir.

PERMANENCE: chaque jeudi de 15h00 à 18h00.

REUNION DE QUARTIER: huit veillées en automne et au printemps; voir "Le Messenger".

CLUB DES JEUNES: tous les dimanches de 12h00 à 22h30, tous les jeudis de 15h00 à 22h30.

REUNION DE COUTURE: le 2^e mardi du mois.

LUNCH: tous les dimanches à 13h00.

VISITES: sur demande.

PASTEUR: A. Nicod, 7 Park View Road, London N.3. Téléphone 01-346 5281.

* * *

SERVICES IN GERMAN: at Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, at 10 a.m. At St. Ann's Church, Abbey Orchard Street, S.W.1. at 7.30 p.m.

HOLY COMMUNION: every first Sunday of the month at evening service only. On major feasts at morning and evening services.

CONSULTATIONS: every Wednesday 4-6 p.m. at Eglise Suisse.

DISTRICT GROUPS (W.4 and S.E.21) and SERVICES OUTSIDE LONDON: see "Gemeindebote".

SERVICES IN ENGLISH: every fourth Sunday at 7.30 p.m.

"KONTAKT" (Youth Group): every Wednesday 4-10 p.m. at Eglise Suisse. Supper at 6.30 p.m. Programme at 8 p.m.

SWISS Y.M.C.A.: see Forthcoming Events.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE: every first Tuesday of the Month.

MOTHERS' REUNION: 1st Wednesday in the Month, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

VISITS: by request.

MINISTER: Pfr. M. Dietler, 1 Womersley Road, N.8. Telephone 01-340 6018.

SWISS CATHOLIC MISSION

CHURCH and SERVICE: St. Ann's Catholic Church, Abbey Orchard Street (off No. 25 Victoria Street), S.W.1.

SUNDAYS: Holy Mass at 9 and 11 a.m. in English. At 6.30 p.m. for the Swiss community with regard to the different language groups.

HOLIDAYS of obligation: Holy Mass at 7.30 and 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5.45 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS and THURSDAYS: Holy Mass at 1 p.m. afterwards time for consultations.

CONFESSIONS: (German, French, Italian and English):
Sundays: one hour before Evening Mass.

Saturdays: 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m. or by appointment.

SWISS CATHOLIC YOUTH CLUB — Meeting every Sunday after Evening Mass (8-11 p.m.) at Westminster Ball Room, 30 Strutton Ground, S.W.1.

CHAPLAIN: Paul Bossard, St. Ann's Church, Abbey Orchard Street, S.W.1. Tel: 01-222 2895.

SWISSPACK 70

An international exhibition for
packing materials

The idea of organising an international trade exhibition in the field of packaging materials and machines in Switzerland has been brought forth by various interested parties in the course of the last few years and has even been put to the test. A study group of experts in the packaging line, enlarged by those closely interested in this line of business and by the management of the Swiss Industries Fair sent out at the end of 1968 an enquiry form to firms which would be suitable as exhibitors. The result was that something like 200 applications were received, which prompted the study group to hold a meeting last January in Basle of those firms definitely interested. This was done in order to supply information on the project and to appoint the exhibition committee.

It has been decided that the international trade exhibition will now take place from 3rd to 7th March 1970 in the halls of the Swiss Industries Fair in Basle under the title of "SWISSPACK 70 packing materials exhibition." However, it will be something more than a mere trade exhibition. Within the framework of the entire event, a series of professional trade meetings and conferences will be held with additional events such as the granting of awards to Swiss firms of a particularly meritorious nature. At the trade exhibition itself there will be special features like a packaging road, a shop of the future, a design centre and a technical information stand presenting new possibilities intended to promote additional interest in the trend towards new developments in the future prospects of this line of business.

SWISS DEEP-FREEZE INDUSTRY

The Swiss deep-freeze industry recorded a big increase last year. The total consumption of frozen foods in 1968 amounted to 49,951 tons, i.e. an average of 17.8 lb. per head of population. The increase compared with 1967 was 22.8% for wholesale consumption and 20.8% for consumption per head of the population. The total consumption of ice-cream amounted to 21,348,399 litres in 1968, i.e. 3.47 litres per person on an average. The increase compared with the previous year was 6.9% for total consumption and 5.2% for consumption per head of the population. Furthermore, while the sale of frozen poultry dropped compared with 1967, meat, fish, shellfish, potato products, pre-cooked dishes and specialities were in greater demand in 1968 than in 1967. Sales of deep-freeze chests in 1968 showed an increase of 16.6% compared with 1967, deep-freeze cabinets 13.9%, refrigerators with a proper deep-freeze compartment 35.6%. The demand for ordinary deep-freezers on the other hand dropped by 50% in the space of a year.

(D.S.E.C.)