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partly in the German-, partly in the French-speaking parts of Switzerland. It is a large red cross, with a white cross superimposed and the centre forming the Swiss cross on its red background. Whilst the individual pieces are of manufactured plastic material, the badge has been assembled by invalids working at home.

The four stamps (with surcharge) show historic metal exhibits from Swiss Museums. They can be bought in Switzerland only.

The badges will be on sale at meetings of Swiss societies in the U.K. and at Embassies and Consulates, and, of course, at First of August Celebrations.

(MM)

REQUIRED: PERFORMERS WITH TALENT

Grosses Kramgassfest vom 25. August mit Auslandschweizer Je-ka-mi, anlässlich der 50-jährigen Auslandschweizertag in Bern.

Wir suchen

K E I N E S T A R S

für das grosse Jeder-Kann-Mitmachen der Auslandschweizer am bunten Kramgassfest in Bern vom 25. August 1972. Wir suchen amateure (einzelnen oder in Gruppen) die musizieren, singen, tanzen, schauspielern können. Wir möchten mit diesen spontanen Darbietungen das Band zwischen der Fünften Schweiz und dem Heimatland stärker knüpfen. Wer sowieso am grossen Kongress 50 Auslandschweiz in Bern vom kommenden August teilnimmt, oder vielleicht am 26. August nach München zur Olympiade reist, ist herzlich eingeladen am unkonventionellen Je-ka-mi teilzunehmen. Das Organisationskomitee offeriert Gratisunterkunft. Wir bitten um eine Anmeldung bis spätestens 30. Juni 1972 an das Auslandschweizersekretariat der Neun Helsischen Gesellschaft, Alpenstrasse 26, Bern.

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53rd "COMPTOIR SUISSE"

The general trend in Switzerland's economic situation is reflected by the two big Swiss national spring and

autumn fairs, both of which—each in its own particular way—bear witness to a spectacular growth: Basle, by opening up a number of its sectors to products from abroad, and Lausanne, by welcoming to the Palais de Beauvau this year four foreign displays in official government pavilions.

The chief aim of the Lausanne Fair continues to be the presentation of the leading branches of Swiss production and the display in its 38 sectors of the latest products of light industry, agriculture, trade and craftsmanship. But its guest of honour pavilions will house the national displays of three large countries from Asia, Europe and Africa, i.e. India, Poland and Senegal; while the growing emphasis on trade with the two Americas will be featured in an official exhibition of the Caribbean Common Market, organised for the first time not only in Switzerland but also in Europe.

A genuine and lively national event, offering interesting glimpses of openings onto European and overseas markets, the 53rd Lausanne Fair grants visitors from abroad a number of facilities, about which information may be obtained from Switzerland's official agencies in all countries.

ANGLO-SWISS SOCIETY

The novel Anglo-Swiss Society meeting of 13th June, which was held in the Houses of Parliament, was a great success. Over 160 members and guests attended and the Secretary of the Society had sold out nearly all her tickets. Members gathered for a bustling and lively reception in the Cholmondeley Rooms of the House of Lords, where they were greeted by the Society's President, Lord and Lady Selkirk. This vast room leads directly onto the terrace overlooking the Thames and, thanks to a warm and welcoming sun, most of the Reception took place outside.

Earlier, the Anglo-Swiss Society had held its AGM in one of the Committee Rooms upstairs. Lord Selkirk presided under the stately glance of Queen Mary, whose massive portrait hung from the wall of a neo-Gothic chamber adorned with a lordly royal coat of arms and furnished with heavy leather chairs. The main item discussed was that of life membership. A proposal to introduce life membership at the cost of £20 was turned down as uneconomical, but the matter will be raised again next year.

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PROGRAMME

The programme, as usual, includes items of a patriotic nature.

The main address will be given by

H.E. The Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur Albert Weitnauer

The well known singing and dance group "Chanson veveysanne" will provide the main entertainment programme of the evening.

DANCING

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Many members of the House of Lords joined in at the Reception. As the House was in session, it was not possible to organise a visit, but those present had a taste of Parliamentary life as peers hurriedly left their cocktails to answer the call to successive divisions by the House Whips. Later the House Officers called out the results of these divisions by crying out the tally of "content" and "not content" voters—traditional formula referring to the "for" and "against" votes.

The following meeting of the Anglo-Swiss Society, to be held in November, will hear an exposé on the protection of marine environment by the Swiss oceanologist Jaques Pickard.

(PMB)

Board changes in the George Fischer Group

Dr. B. K. Greuter becomes deputy chairman of the GF (GB) holding company, and Mr. W. Finger is appointed a Director.

At George Fischer Castings, Mr. R. C. Jones, Managing Director, also assumes the Chairmanship on the retirement of Dr. M. H. Schneebeli.

Dr. Schneebeli and Mr. B. Scott retire from the board of Le Bas Tube Company, and Mr. A. Luthy is appointed a Director.

SWISS CATHOLICS AGM

The Committee of Swiss Catholics in London Benevolent Society held its Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 11th May at 48 Great Peter Street, London.

After opening prayers, the Chairman, Mr. Oscar Grob, K.S.G., extended a warm welcome to all present. The Honorary Treasurer of the Society, Mrs. K. A. Grob, recalled in her Report that it had been decided to hold a Christmas Draw in 1971, which had produced £240.79. This, in addition to the contributions of 82 donors, Church collections, income tax recovered under Covenants, a £75 donation from the City Swiss Club and accrued bank

interests had yielded a total income of £829.16, against an expenditure of £885.62, thus resulting in a surplus of £3.54 for the year.

The accounts were passed by the meeting with thanks to the Hon. Treasurer.

In his Report, the Chairman said that the Society, following up the steps already taken prior to the 1971 AGM to register the Society under the Friendly Societies Acts and to the Charity Act in order to be exempted from income tax, had formally written down its rules, aims and objects.

Mr. Grob said that the Committee had been given to understand that the wording "Benevolent Society" included in the Society's title would be helpful in securing acceptance as a charity by the Charity Commissioners. But in order not to jeopardize a legacy in abeyance made in favour of the Society's old name ("Committee of Swiss Catholics in London") and possibly other legacies left to it, and not to give the impression to a third party that the new Society had changed its aims and objects, it was decided simply to add the words "Benevolent Society" to its old name.

Mr. Grob was pleased to report that the new rules had been accepted by the Registry of Friendly Societies and said that the "Committee of Swiss Catholics in London Benevolent Society" was registered on 16th June, 1971 under the Friendly Societies Act 1896 as a Benevolent Society. After some minor amendments to its constitution passed at a Special General Meeting on 30th January, 1972, the Society entered in the Central Register of Charities (No. 262722) under the Charities Act 1960.

It had been previously decided at a Special General Meeting on 26th November, 1971 to dissolve the old Society, "Committee of Swiss Catholics in London" as from 16th June, 1971 and that all its assets, including any legacy, and liabilities, should be transferred to the new Society in the name of "Committee of Swiss Catholics in London Benevolent Society".

Immediately following this meeting, the first AGM of the new Society

had adopted the new Rules as submitted for Registration to the Registrar of Friendly Societies.

According to these rules the Committee of Management consists of the following officers: Two Trustees, a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, a Treasurer and a Secretary.

The following were elected: Messrs G. Bartholdi and E. Kaufeler as Trustees. Mr. O. Grob as Chairman. Mr. E. Bonvin as Vice-Chairman. Mrs. K. A. Grob as Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. P. Siegfried as Hon. Secretary.

In addition to the officers of the Society named above, all the members of the old Committee as elected at the AGM of 9th May, 1971 are Foundation Members. It was resolved that Mr. Sidney B. Stray, C.I., A.C.I.S., be appointed Hon. Auditor of the Society to audit the accounts for the period ended 31st December, 1971.

Another milestone recorded by Mr. Grob was the closing of St. Ann's Church, Abbey Orchard Street, on the 17th January, 1972 and the subsequent transfer to *John Southworth Centre*, 48 Great Peter Street of the place of worship of the Swiss Catholics in London.

Its Chaplain, the Rev. Fr. Paul Bossard, then summed up the activities of the past year. He recalled that, after having enjoyed the facilities of the Westminster Ballroom for nearly 10 years, the Swiss Catholic Youth Club had been forced to seek new premises by an increase from £10 to £20 per evening of the rent of the ballroom. Early in 1971, it was decided to start a new Youth and Community Centre at the John Southworth Centre and the Chaplain of the Swiss Catholic Community was invited by Mgr. Canon F. Bartlet, Administrator of the Westminster Cathedral, to join its Management Committee. The Swiss Catholics obtained the use of the premises on all Sundays of the year for a rent of £1,000 per annum. They also agreed to invite the English members of the Westminster Cathedral Youth Association to their activities, in exchange for which the John Southworth Centre will eventually be opened

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