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Also gratified with presents were Mrs. Grob and Mrs. Knoll, to whom Mrs. Gyssler gave what appeared to be a set of records wrapped in bright-coloured gift paper as a token of appreciation for their many years of cooperation with the Welfare Office.

ERNST H. TANGEMANN: NEW PRESIDENT OF THE CITY SWISS CLUB



During its last AGM, which was held on 17th April at the Dorchester Hotel, the City Swiss Club elected its new President in the person of *Mr. Ernst H. Tangemann*, Manager of the Union Bank of Switzerland's City Branch. He succeeds Mr. Walter Bion, General Manager of Bally's Shoe Company in the UK, who retires from the City Swiss Club presidency after having held it for two years.

Born in Zurich in 1924, Mr. Tangemann is a citizen of that city, in which he went to school until completion of the Diploma of the Kantonale Handelschule.

After three years of training in banking and commerce in Zurich, he joined the Union Bank of Switzerland, Geneva, in 1946, and remained there until 1962. He was then transferred to the Zurich Head Office and continued his activities in Foreign Exchange and Foreign Department.

In 1964, he was transferred to the Basle Branch in charge of the Foreign Exchange Department. In 1967, he was transferred to the newly-opened London

Branch, where he was responsible for Euro-currency operations and Foreign exchange. Promoted at the end of 1971 as Manager, he was put in charge of the Branch on 1st April, 1972. The London Branch of the UBS is now classified as a main branch.

Mr. Tangemann's first stay in this country dates as far back as 1948/49. It was during this time that, as a student of English in a language school, he met a young Finnish lady, Stina Meyer, whom he married in Helsinki in 1951. They have one daughter, Christine, who is studying at Basle University.

We should like to extend our warmest congratulations to Mr. Tangemann and wish him many enriching years as President of the City Swiss Club.

P.M.B.

Swiss Rifle Association

The Swiss Rifle Association held its Annual General Meeting at the end of March at the Glendower Hotel, Kensington. For technical reasons, it was not possible to enjoy a meal at the end of

the meeting and the twenty members who were in attendance had a snack.

The Committee was re-elected by acclamation under the chairmanship *pro tem* of Mr. Adolf Schmid, co-founder of the Society, and former President.

Mr. Marcel Bucherer, the actual President, reviewed a highly successful year with the usual ten competitions and two outside matches. The Association could make continued use of the Siberia Range at Bisley. More participation was urged from members, particularly as regards marking of targets, a task hitherto entrusted to a few junior and dedicated members.

The Association welcomed 17 new members but lost 22, mainly through departures, so that its membership now stands at 74. Shooting activity last year was at the same level as the previous years with not far from 6,000 rounds of ammunition being fired.

This shooting year, which began on 29th April at Bisley, will see two outside matches. The Swiss Rifle Association will meet the Kensington Rifle Club and the Surrey Rifle Association on 1st July and 16th September respectively. Shooting sessions will take place on the Long Siberia Range at Bisley on 13th May, 3rd June, 17th June, 1st July, 26th August, 16th September and 7th October.

Swiss Benevolent Society

The Swiss Benevolent Society held its Annual General Meeting on 9th April. A fair attendance accepted the Annual Report, which we re-print below, and the accounts of the Society. In the absence of the President, Mr. Schneebeli, called abroad on business, proceedings were conducted by Mr. M. Rothlisberger. The main event of an otherwise routine meeting was the resignation of Mr. J. Oertli and Mr. X. Speckert, both of whom had served on the Society's Committee for very many years.

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The people with whom we are in touch either apply to us directly or they are referred to us by the Embassy, the Swiss Churches, Hospitals and Social Workers. Last year, we were in touch with 356 persons (100 men, 185 women and 71 children). Some of them we managed to see, with others we maintained contact through letters and telephone calls. A total of 687 interviews included 159 visits to people who could not come to our office owing to illness and age or because the distances were too daunting for them. In November, the Secretary spent a couple of days in Bournemouth to meet personally a number of pensioners and other Swiss people who had contacted us for various problems. This journey showed once again how important the direct contact is. In one case in particular,

the correspondence had conveyed a completely wrong picture of a person's situation because, through age and illness, she had become incapable of expressing herself adequately. Much more appropriate action could be taken once her needs were established.

The number of pensioners remained fairly stable at 57 against 54 the previous year. They still receive the largest share of financial help and, in addition, for some of those in receipt of the Swiss Old Age Pension, we continue arrangements whereby we pay them regular two or four-weekly instalments, depending on circumstances and needs. To them it is a much appreciated help, especially if, during their working lives, they were used to weekly incomes and find that managing comparatively large amounts can be fraught with difficulties.

To pensioners and others, we have had to give more casual grants for specific needs than in the past, as the cost of living kept rising steadily. The elderly in particular are finding things very difficult and during the year we have realised that a number of them, some of whom we used to know as quite cheerful people, were battling against a strong feeling of futility and depression.

It may be coincidental, but more people are considering returning to Switzerland. Whilst understanding that desire, we feel obliged to discuss all this

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