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NEWS FROM THE COLONY

AN EVENING WITH THE SCHWEIZERBUND

The Swiss Club held its annual meeting on 25th May in the "Little Ship Club" in Bell Wharf Lane, overlooking the Thames. Some twenty members and guests attended the dinner and it was a truly congenial and informal occasion, helped along with a drop of wine to wash down the excellent duck.

Vergil Berti chaired the gathering and told the assembled party to get on with the main purpose of the social part of the evening: be sociable and get to know one another better, which everybody seemed to achieve and enjoy.

The spirit of all those many other friendly past meetings of the Swiss who had come to Great Britain in the last ten decades to build a new home and future here, seemed to linger approvingly until the assembled Schweizerbund-members dispersed.

mhbm

CITY SWISS CLUB UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

The Annual General Meeting of the City Swiss Club, held on 24th April as usual at the Dorchester Hotel following dinner, elected Mr. H. Jauslin of the Swiss Bank Corporation as President and Mr. Ch. Roth as Vice-President for the current year. Mr. Jauslin has in fact carried the burden of the Club's management already practically the whole of the previous year in his capacity as vice-president, as his predecessor, Mr. J. Seiffert, emigrated to New Zealand last summer at rather short notice. The May meeting, devoted to cards, was the last Mr. Seiffert presided, his departure being much regretted by his Committee and the Club at large.

Thus the change of presidency, nominally only now affected, changes little in fact, as the Annual Report presented by Mr. Jauslin to the A.G.M. covered a period actually already under his care. His skillful coping with the unexpected situation in place of Mr. Seiffert was duly acknowledged by Minister Dr. Fritschi, representing the Ambassador unavailably unable to attend the meeting.

The Club's delightful Summer Dance at the Compleat Angler was, as Mr. Jauslin recorded in his Report, patronised by 125 members and guests. Two further card-meetings, in September and the following January were again held in the homely atmosphere of the St. Moritz Club. At the October meeting a guest speaker from the biscuit industry gave a most interesting talk.

The 113th Annual Banquet and Ball, as always the highlight of social events in the Colony, held in November, was attended by 195 members and guests with the New Zealand High Commissioner, Sir Douglas Carter, K.C.M.G., as guest of honour. The Tombola, requiring as usual much organisational effort, brought in well over £1,250 for distribution to Swiss charities, all five of which received again £250 each.

The Christmas Dinner, attended by 84 members and guests, was as in several previous years entertained by the Choir of St. Bride's Church. In February the Club enjoyed a special Swiss buffet prepared by the Dorchester's Head Chef, Mr. A. Mosimann, who also arranged a guided inspection of the hotel kitchens. At the March meeting a stimulating talk on the uses and abuses of computers was given by a director of the largest British firm in this field, Mr. A. L. C. Humphries, C.B.E.

The continuing problem of attracting better attendances at the Club's meetings from amongst still over 200 members was again discussed at the A.G.M. as so often before. The cost is no doubt a factor, especially for younger members. It was suggested by some speakers that Swiss firms might consider assisting them in this respect. To facilitate better contact between members Father Bossard volunteered making a new members' list available and reporting on the Club's activities in the *Swiss Observer*. The Club's income exceeded outgoings last year by £237. The subscription remains unchanged at £5.

HWE

2ND MEETING OF THE "SCHWYZERCLUB SOUTH-WEST", SATURDAY, 2ND JUNE IN TAUNTON

It was another happy and memorable day when we all met at Mrs. Katra Haskell's home. She spoilt us with a wonderful lunch, followed by "Birchermüesli", "Schwarzwäldertorte" and "Aargauer Rüeblitorte".

Two of our members had come by train all the way from Bristol. Our youngest member had brought her gorgeous, 10 days old baby with her. We were happy to welcome two new members, both "Zürcherinnen". The afternoon was spent by chatting about our latest and next visits to Switzerland; and most of us will go there this summer. There was indeed a Swiss atmosphere all round. We also enjoyed a competition which involved guessing popular Swiss places, broadening our knowledge of Swiss geography considerably.

We have already planned our next meeting in December. Would you like to join us then? Uf Wiederluege!

Ruth Cole
34, Dillons Rd,
Creech St. Michael
TAUNTON/SOM.



Founder members of the "Schwyzerclub South-West" from left to right: Regina Kerr, Irma Guppy, Anny Goddard, Ruth Cole, Katra Haskell, Dorothea Chiverton, Ida Pike.

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