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There may be things in England Ambassador Thalmann will miss back in Switzerland, but as well as memories there will be objects to remind him of his time here. He admitted to having a weakness for old English furniture and has collected some pieces which travelled to Berne with him.

Ambassador Thalmann said that he can appreciate some modern art, but on the whole prefers "the classics" in the wider sense. Sadly the painting "Theseus and Ariadne" by J. H. Füssli (1741-1825), which was a personal loan to Dr. Thalmann by the Art Museum Zurich will also leave the Swiss Embassy.

Dr. Thalmann has a very favourable opinion of the *Swiss Observer*, which, according to him offers "something for everybody". For my part I was very grateful for the support of our publication and the sympathy I experienced from Ambassador Thalmann and Mme Thalmann.

May I be allowed to say "thank you" to both of them on behalf of the *Swiss Observer* and its readers for such a gracious "reign" and the memories of so many a cordial occasion. Our very best wishes for a happy retirement go with them to Berne.

Here in London the "show must go on" as Dr. Thalmann so aptly concluded his speech on the occasion of the Annual Banquet of the City Swiss Club on 16th November.

mhm

CERCLE GENEVOIS

The Escalade dinner will take place this year at the Valchera's Restaurant, 30 The Quadrant, Richmond, Surrey, on Wednesday, 12th December, at 7.30 for 8 p.m.

The price per head is £10.00, including wine.

For any information, please ring Mrs. S. Allan, Tel. Watford 21704, or send her your cheque to 64 Woodland Drive, Watford WD1 3BZ.

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SOCIETY**

**ANNUAL DINNER AND
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ON

**Saturday, 2nd February,
1980**

AT THE

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PARK LANE W.1

6.30 pm for 7.00 pm

NON-MEMBER WELCOME

Consul General U. Karli, Manchester

NEWS FROM THE COLONY

Mario Schneebeli leaves London

Mr. Mario Schneebeli, who was an Assistant Manager of the London Branch of the Swiss Bank Corporation, left London in September for Basle after 25 years.

During his time in London he was President of the Swiss Benevolent Society, Vice-Chairman of the Swiss Mercantile Society, Vice-President of the Swiss Catholic Mission, Trustee of the Swiss Youth Club, Council member of the N.S.H. and a member of various other Swiss organisations.

Mr. Schneebeli was a very active member of the Swiss community here and we owe him a great debt of gratitude for his devoted work for the benefit of many.



Mr. Urs Karli was born in Basle but did most of his schooling in Berne. After having served a few years with the Department of Finance, he joined the Foreign Service after the war. He spent the major part of his career overseas and in English-speaking countries, with the exception of his previous posting which was Madagascar.

His wife and he are glad to be back in Europe and particularly in England, since Manchester was the post they were hoping for — they have two adult children, both married, a daughter living in Switzerland and a son in Canada.

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