Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer: the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in

the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1980)

Heft: 1761

Rubrik: City Swiss Club

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Mehr erfahren

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. En savoir plus

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. Find out more

Download PDF: 02.12.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, https://www.e-periodica.ch



CITY SWISS CLUB

After dinner address by Ambassador E. Thalmann

Mr President, My Lord, Dear Friends:

On behalf of my wife and myself I should like to thank you, Mr. President, for your kind words and for your generous hospitality.

Diplomacy is not exactly show business but the two professions certainly have many things in common. Diplomats and actors have to change their costumes often and also their faces. They mostly have to play roles which have been scripted by somebody else, and both usually go to bed very late. But there is more: audiences do have their favourites but in general they do not like to see the same actor all the

time. And finally: when actors and diplomats get old they had better disappear before the critics drive them off the stage. For some of them this is quite sad.

Of course, when we retire my wife and I will miss a lot of this fascinating life. We shall miss good friends and glamorous evenings like this one. And we shall miss London and the charm of the British way of life which we have enjoyed so much.

On the other hand, it is good to go home after a long and at times turbulent diplomatic career.

And then there is something which gives us great satisfaction in winding up our last mission. We are leaving London at a moment when British-Swiss relations are so good that it's hard to imagine how they could be improved. Now, this was already the case when I arrived here almost four years ago so you may ask: why, then, do we have to have a British Ambassador in Berne and a Swiss Ambassador in London? Well, the answer is quite simple. Just as individual friendships can only be maintained by continuing contact, so, too, relations between two countries have to be constantly cultivated. But I hasten to add that the Ambassador and his staff could never do their job properly if they were not assisted and supported by a colony, which pumps the real blood into the arteries of this tissue of friendly relations between nations. In this sense you are all ambassadors. And at the moment when I am preparing for my departure as an honorary cockneyan honour which the Lord Mayor of London bestowed upon me at his last Easter Banquet— I should like to take the opportunity of expressing to all of you my personal grateitude for the great help you have given my wife and me during my term of office here, and to convey to you the sincere thanks of the Swiss Federal Council for your lasting devotion to the common interests and ideals of our two countries.

On leaving London I also have the gratification of knowing that the friendship between the United Kingdom and Switzerland will find its crowning expression in the first official visit of Her Majesty the Queen to our country next spring. My wife and I will then be ordinary Swiss citizens among thousands of others welcoming her and showing her respect and admiration.

In saying goodbye to you I should like to recommend to the City Swiss Club my successor and his charming wife. They are old and dear friends of ours and I am sure that you will be happy with the new actors in this long-running show called Diplomacy.



WE HAVE REMOVAL VEHICLES TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SWITZERLAND WEEKLY, PROVIDING DOOR TO DOOR SERVICE.

THEY ARE EQUIPPED TO CARRY UN-PACKED FURNITURE AND EFFECTS.

NO SHIPMENT TOO SMALL.

FACILITIES FOR: STORAGE & PACKING.

FOR EFFICIENT AND ECONOMIC SERVICE, PLEASE TELEPHONE

CLOWHURST LTD,

24/25, BINNEY STREET, LONDON, W.1.

TEL: 01-629 5634 629 1850

ASK FOR Mr BUGDEN.

IF IN SWITZERLAND, OUR AGENTS ARE:

WITTWER LTD.

NEUCHÂTEL. TEL: 038 25 82 82.

ZURICH. TEL. 01 844 20 44.

ALL ESTIMATES ARE FREE AND WITHOUT OBLIGATION.