

New companies in Switzerland

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nationalities, different faiths, different languages live amicably together in our own beloved country, will be able to think of a Europe in which all Europeans with their different characteristics and their different ways of expressing themselves will be able to live as members of one happy and united family. United, yes, and in spite of temporary family squabbles! Surely it is time that in a big family like Europe all family quarrels be settled "out of court" that is, without having recourse to the arbitrament of the sword!

SWISS PAINTER IN IRELAND.

On Monday, March 3rd, His Excellency the Governor-General and Mrs. MacNeil attended a private view of sculpture by Mrs. S. R. Praeger, H.R.H.A., and paintings by Hans Iten in the Mills Hall, Dublin, the public exhibition of which was continued until the 15th.

Mr. Iten, a native of Switzerland, has lived in this country for nearly 34 years. Flowers from the still life and landscapes are his subjects and the exhibition includes a number of pictures of this character. Of the former, No. 44, "Peonies," is a fine example. The brilliant colours and natural setting of the flowers in a round vase gives dignity and beauty to the picture.

The landscapes are of Ireland and Switzerland. The method of execution of the former shows that the long period he has lived here has enabled him to grasp the Irish atmosphere.

Irish Independent.

NEW COMPANIES IN SWITZERLAND.

"UNION," SWISS BUYING-COMPANY AT OLTEN.

The "Union" Company was founded in 1907 by the present director, Mr. G. Brandenberger. Its aim is to supply its members with goods that are of good quality at moderate prices. Food-stuffs and other goods required by members are imported straight from all parts of the world. Owners of open retail shops only can become members of the company.

SWISS HOLDING COMPANY.

In order to co-ordinate its several foreign manufacturing and trading interests, and with a view to their further development, the Polyphonwerke A.G. (Polyphone Works, Ltd.) has formed a holding company in Switzerland under the name of "Polyphon-Holding Aktiengesellschaft," domiciled at Bale.

The first directors of the Polyphon-Holding A.G. are Siegfried Goldschmidt, manager of the Schweizerische Credit-Anstalt, Bale, as president, Dr. Peter Schmid, lawyer, Bale, and Bruno Borchardt, managing director of the Polyphonwerke A.G., Berlin.

MUST A MAN BE BURIED?

The disciples of Rudolf Maria Holzapfel, a sort of social prophet, who died at Berne on February 8, refuse to have him buried or cremated. His corpse was mummified and is to remain laid out in state in the temple of his sect.

Holzapfel exercised a marked influence, especially on the younger generation, by his book, "Pan-Ideal," in which he tries to create a deeper and more active social and religious life. He made his "studies" in the slums of London, South Africa, and Russia, and spent his later years in Switzerland.

It is not yet known whether legal steps will be taken against his disciples, as Swiss law requests a "decent burial" for everybody.

FRICK'S ENGLISH HOTEL INSTITUTE, ZURICH.

Mr. A. Frick, a well-known member of our colony, and for many years Manager in various London and provincial hotels, has recently opened a School for instruction in hotel management and service for English speaking students. The course which is of one year's duration comprises every branch of the hotel industry. The tuition is given in English and is especially adapted to knowledge needed in British hotels.

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Doings in Our Colony.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Le City Swiss Club a donné sa dernière soirée dansante de la saison samedi passé, 22 mars, au May Fair Hotel. Soirée brillamment réussie, dont le succès remarquable et révélateur dépassa encore celui de la soirée précédente au même hotel un mois auparavant.

Il faut dire que le May Fair Hotel avait bien fait les choses. Quant à notre ami, Signor Emilio Colombo, dont les productions furent chaleureusement applaudies, et à son excellent orchestre, ils n'ont, certes, plus besoin qu'on les loue.

Cependant, une grande part du succès revient incontestablement aux participants eux-mêmes, en particulier aux dames, dont les jolies toilettes s'accordent à merveille avec l'aspect printanier du "Jardin" du May Fair. Il y a un mois, nous étions 139, samedi passé 166. Vraiment, les échos de la soirée de février s'étaient portés bien loin et si l'enchantement de samedi se propage à son tour, ces soirées dansantes vont assumer, en affluence, les proportions du grand banquet annuel; il faudra alors abandonner le "Jardin" et retenuir pour 1931 le grand salon, plus magnifique encore, réservé pour cette fonction le 28 novembre prochain!

A la fin de la soirée, on entendait répéter, parmi les expressions d'intense satisfaction, cette demande avide: est-ce bien la dernière? Hélas! oui. Rassurez-vous, cependant, chers lecteurs et lectrices, qui aimez danser au City Swiss Club: votre attente n'ira pas jusqu'en novembre, puisque nous comptons bien vous retrouver au Brent Bridge Hotel, à notre réunion d'été par un beau mardi de juillet. L'on s'y est beaucoup amusé l'année dernière. J.Z.

SCHWEIZERBUND.

The motto "A Home from Home" has always been associated with the Schweizerbund more than with any other club or institution in our Colony, and last Friday's (March 21st) Annual Dinner accentuated this well deserved appellation. Though an official function of this kind demands considerable work and preparation by those responsible for the arrangements the rigidity of the latter were in no way allowed to interfere with the comfort or curtail the fançes of those present: matters just "occurred" in a delightful manner. The official guests were received and presented in the committee room on the first floor where the alert secretary of the Club, Mr. P. Silvani, was assiduously administering the traditional "preliminaries." Time passed quickly in exchanging compliments and refreshing old memories and it was nine o'clock when it occurred to the president Mr. J. Christen, to suggest adjourning to the dinner timed for 7.30 in the large hall of the Club. The company therefore ranged itself into the customary bee-line formation according to precedence and filed into the banqueting room where they were eagerly awaited and applauded by the other less distinguished participants. Monsieur de Bourg, 1st Secretary of Legation, took the Chair and was accompanied by Mr. Hiliker, Chancellor of Legation.

After the two loyal toasts were suitably proposed and honoured, Mr. J. Christen, the president of the Club, rose and extended a hearty welcome to Monsieur de Bourg at this, the 51st Annual Banquet of the Club. He was also pleased to greet the many honorary members of the Club, amongst whom he noticed Messrs. Hohl, Wetter, Scheidegger, Durliwanger and Bernhard. The Club, Mr. Christen said, had during the last year continued to successfully fulfil its mission in the Colony. He regretted that on account of unexpected non-recurring expenses it had become indispensable to increase the prices of certain commodities but he hoped that they would soon be able to revert to normal conditions. He proposed the future prosperity of the Schweizerbund.

Mr. H. Caluori, the vice-president, in welcoming the official guests expressed the regret of the assembly at the unavoidable absence of the Swiss Minister but they had as his representative their great and he might even say their dear friend Monsieur de Bourg in the Chair. M. de Bourg had already on former occasions shown his attachment to the Club and he (the speaker) wished to assure him that they valued his friendship very highly. He was gratified to state that all the societies in the Colony had sent official delegates; they were:

Secours Mutuels: Mr. and Mrs. Martin; *City Swiss Club*: Mr. J. Zimmermann, and Mr. Georges Marchand; *Unione Ticinese*: Mr. Notari and Mr. Bicchii; *Union Helvétique*: Mr. Marfurt; *Swiss Mercantile Society*: Mr. and Mrs. Paschoud; *Swiss Gymnastic Society*: Mr. and Mrs. Schneeburger; *Swiss Choral Society*: Mr. Bommer; *Swiss Rifle Association*: Mr. Schmid; *Swiss Club, Birmingham*: Mr. P. Brun; *Schweizerkirche*: Pfarrer C. Th. Hahn; *Swiss Observer*: Mr. and Mrs. Boehringer.

M. M. Paschoud (President S.M.S.) replied to this toast. He always looked forward to the Annual Dinner of the Schweizerbund and he had this evening rushed home and nearly got his wife into hysterics by hurrying her on. When he had raced his car here and arrived at 7.50 he found his was the only car, still he hastened to the cloak room but when he found the latter devoid of the usual wares he had another look at his tickets just to make sure that he had come to the right place. However, when he reached the reception room with the array of cocktails he knew he was right. They had certainly succeeded in sharpening their appetites and he thanked the Club for their great hospitality.

M. de Bourg then rose and expressed his great pleasure at being present, a pleasure which he felt was his alone as the company must miss the presence of the Swiss Minister. M. Paravicini, whom official duties had prevented from coming along, asked him to convey to them patriotic greetings and best wishes for a successful evening, though his chief could scarcely doubt that this evening could be anything else. M. de Bourg added that an annual banquet always reminded him of a successful examination day. During the past year the committee had to work hard and study a good many subjects and he gathered from the president's speech that mathematics were their particular theme (laughter). They had earned full marks which was proved by the success of this evening. We were told, he continued, a lot about the duties of the Swiss abroad but to him the highest and the easiest was to congregate, meet together, talk about our great country and our national institutions and thus perpetuate amongst the rising generation in our Colony love and admiration for the home country. He felt there was no more suitable place for the achievement of this high task than the Schweizerbund. M. de Bourg's address was received with great applause and followed by the singing of "For he is a jolly good fellow."

Mr. P. Silvani, the Secretary of the Club, was in charge of the toast to "The Ladies." He wondered, in view of the attractive ways ladies were nowadays taught to exhibit or hide their charms, there were any bachelors left. He had evidently secured a good selection of jocular allusions but omitted to cloak them in a style suitable for the occasion. He was endeavouring to define a comparison of "raspberries and cream" but the allotment of these two attributes was too much for him and he became totally inarticulate. For a few minutes he gazed pale and sphinx-like at his audience but he recovered himself sufficiently, much to everybody's relief and delight, to propose the health of the Ladies.

Mr. Martin (President Secours Mutuels) also added a few words of thanks; he said his Society had shared the same roof with the Schweizerbund for a good many years to their mutual satisfaction and he hoped this close relationship would continue.

Mr. Pache, a former president and acting on this occasion as toast-master, enlarged on the reference in the president's speech to the Honorary Members. They had been named the "old bones" of the Club, he did not like the expression as it savoured of the mission of a familiar man in the street. "Boys of the Old Brigade" seemed to him a better designation; true, they were not associated with any historic charge but in the past they had done a good bit of fighting and saved the Club when trouble threatened. He singled out one particular member, Mr. Conrad Gentsch, who for the last 51 years was president of their Sick Society—a unique record—unfortunately illness prevented him from being present. Mr. Pache was followed by Mr. Wetter who asked the "boys of the old brigade" to drink to the prosperity of the Club.

Mr. Thommen surprised the gathering by suggesting that a joint dinner of all the clubs in the Colony should be arranged. He had learned that night that there were 14 clubs and he hoped that the respective secretaries would get busy in that direction straight away. Mr. Paschoud informed him that such a gathering was now in course of preparation and would take place on May 31st in honour of M. Paravicini, who had recently completed ten years as Swiss Minister in London.

M. Brun (Swiss Club, Birmingham) gave particulars of the International Cookery Exhibition which was being held in June at Zurich; he was arranging a special party of 500 from England and hoped that everybody present would join him. The cost of the trip was extremely moderate and he could promise a most enjoyable time.

Before concluding we wish to pay tribute to the excellence of the dinner which, considering the limited facilities at the disposal of the Steward, was no small achievement. The serried ranks of the diners rendered the approach of the waiters at times difficult and caused one of the latter to deluge himself with a shower of plates reminiscent of an air raid though the rations were little affected. However, all this was accepted in the best of spirits and enhanced the homeliness of the gathering.

Drink delicious "Ovaltine"
at every meal—for Health!