

Notice to societies

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this moment when we are about to engage in delicate negotiations in regard to the Swiss Centre, is most opportune and only last week we enjoyed the benefit of his vast experience during a talk he gave us on matters affecting the Swiss abroad. I am confident that Dr. Halbheer will give the Swiss Colony every assistance in reaching its objective and I should like to take this opportunity of wishing him a pleasant and profitable stay in this country."

Dr. Halbheer replied for the guests and the ladies, the latter having been accorded a specially charming and hearty welcome by the President. In Dr. Halbheer we women had a very able and attractive spokesman. He brought greetings from Switzerland, amongst them from National Councillor Arnold Meier-Ragg, Secretary-General of the S.K.V., our parent society, and a great friend of the S.M.S. He also congratulated the Society on "the marvellous work accomplished by many members present on a completely voluntary and disinterested basis". He referred to his visit to the College which had impressed him greatly. He assured the gathering that he would take back happy memories of stimulating hours spent within the Swiss Colony, and also valuable and lasting impressions of London and the British way of life. He quoted Dr. Johnson "to be tired of London is to be tired of life".

To this I feel inclined to add that loss of interest in the S.M.S. would be synonymous with lack of belief in the future of the Swiss Colony. No loss of interest was noticeable at the Society's Annual Dinner. There was gay and energetic dancing by young and old. The atmosphere was happy, carefree, marked as usual by the absence of too much formality but abounding in good fellowship. If the "they are jolly good fellows" spontaneously accorded to the President and Mrs. Jaccard at the end was tinged with regret, it was only because midnight came too soon and most of us would have liked the successful evening to go on. But here I must leave off, or I am in danger of appearing to cadge another invitation . . .

Mariann.

* * *

List of guests and specially welcomed members and friends:

The Swiss Chargé d'Affaires and Madame de Stoutz; Monsieur and Madame Heimo; Consul and Mrs. Tosio; Vice-Consul and Mrs. Burgunder; Dr. H. J. Halbheer, Director of the ASS; Mr. V. Berti, Chairman Presidents' Assembly, and his daughter; Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Westcott, "The Times" Football Club; Mrs. Mariann Meier, "Swiss Observer"; The Rev. Father Scherer of the Swiss Catholic Mission; Pasteur and Mrs. Jacot of the Eglise Suisse; (apologies received from Pfr. Kaegi of the Schweizerkirche); Mr. J. J. Boos, President 1939/47, Honorary Member of the S.M.S. and of the Central Society, Trustee; Mr. L. W. Krucker, Vice-President, Chairman of the House Committee, Honorary Member of the S.M.S. and of the Central Society, Trustee, who generously donated several prizes during the evening; and the following four additional Honorary Members: Mr. W. Burren, Secretary and former Chairman of the Education Committee; Mr. R. Chappuis, President 1961/62; Mr. O. Grob, President 1958 to 1962; Mr. A. Stauffer, President 1918; Mrs. J. Pfaendler; Mr. C. Slade, Principal, Mr. E. W. Makin, Vice-Principal, both accompanied by their wives; Miss Beier and Miss Rhyner (office staff); Mr. A. Faes, Chairman of the Education Committee, to whom a Gold Badge was presented which he could not be handed at the Jubilee Dinner due to absence overseas.

NOTICE TO SOCIETIES

In order to prevent any clash of meetings and other functions, the Societies are asked to inform the Editor as soon as possible of all forthcoming events, even though they may not be open to outsiders. Dates are regularly published under "FORTHCOMING EVENTS", and this should be of great help to societies and individuals.

OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will be published on Friday, 28th February. We shall be grateful to receive reports and contributions not later than the first post on Wednesday, 19th February. Short news items only can be accepted later.

WELFARE OFFICE FOR SWISS GIRLS IN GREAT BRITAIN

11 Belsize Grove, London N.W.3.

(Nearest Underground Station: Belsize Park)

RECEPTION HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday
2 p.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment

Telephone: PRImrose 4260

The Committee regret to announce that Miss Hilde Sieber gave up her post as Secretary of the Welfare Office on the 17th January last. Miss Sieber joined the Staff in February 1960 and besides proving herself an excellent correspondent quickly adapted herself to the demands of the Welfare Office. During the past four years she has rendered invaluable service to girls seeking advice and assistance, sparing no effort to understand their problems. Although not a fully qualified welfare worker Miss Sieber was from time to time called upon to run the Welfare Office singlehanded and this she did very successfully.

Miss Sieber is taking up another form of employment in Switzerland and the Committee wish her every success in the future.

Nouvelle Société Helvétique

London Group

Tuesday, 25th February, at 7.45 p.m.

Swiss Hostel for Girls,

9/11, Belsize Grove, N.W.3

OPEN MEETING

Dr. Alfred Roetheli

Chief Justice, Olten

will speak on the

administration of justice in Switzerland

All Swiss and Friends are Welcome