

Poetry reading by Jean Ber

Autor(en): **[s.n.]**

Objekttyp: **Article**

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

Band (Jahr): **- (1968)**

Heft 1548

PDF erstellt am: **26.04.2024**

Persistenter Link: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-693671>

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FILM SHOW WITH A DIFFERENCE . . .

Special charm and interest to this meeting of the **Swiss Club Manchester** was added by starting the show with a typical Swiss Meal consisting in the main of a *Quiche Lorraine* supplied to us by our Committee member Mr. Duerig, in whose hands rested the whole organisation of the evening which earned our admiration and thanks. It was a lovely and varied dinner, well accompanied by the usual good vintage of white Valaisan wine.

Members and their friends met in good number at our traditional Cheshire meeting place the Cotton Hotel near Knutsford and we were happy to see amongst us our Consul and Madame Brunner, as well as some committee members of the Yorkshire Swiss Club and perhaps for the first time the Secretary of the newly founded Liverpool Swiss Club to whom much of our sympathy is going, coupled with our sincere wishes that they may go from strength to strength and create for themselves and other Swiss adrift in that important sea-port a little centre and shelter where they can meet in a congenial and friendly atmosphere.

It is very pleasing for us to see that at almost all our functions and other efforts we are honoured by the presence of compatriots belonging to other organisations and we feel that such contacts of an inter-club character should be encouraged in the future.

Our President Dr. Jaggi welcomed everybody present with a few warm, witty and appropriate words, well chosen for an occasion like this, and we must say that an excellent, happy and lively feeling surrounded us and perhaps made us less critical of the second part of the evening.

The film itself was made available to us by the courtesy of the Swiss Consulate and the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad and gave us an instructive and varied view of life and activities in our home country during 1967. We hope and trust that those responsible for this type of documentary may in future put a special effort into the preparation, creation and execution of a good work of this kind and thus prove to the Swiss and friends abroad that also in this particular field Switzerland can be favourably compared with other nations.

Everybody enjoyed this lovely evening which obviously will be followed by similar ones in the near future.

E.B.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE

We are happy to announce the wedding of Miss Alexandra Denyse Burgazzi to Mr. Marc de Frischung on Saturday, 15th June. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Burgazzi, of 2 Fawley Road, Hampstead, N.W.6. The wedding will take place at the Grosvenor Chapel in South Audley Street, followed by a Reception at the Dorchester Hotel.

We wish the young couple a happy future.

"SWISS OBSERVER" PUBLICATION DATES

The "Swiss Observer" is published every second and fourth Friday of the month. Our next issue will appear on 28th June. We shall be glad to have all articles and reports not later than Tuesday, 18 June. Short news items only can be accepted later.

Our next issue but one will be published on Friday, 12th July. All contributions for that number should be to hand at the latest by Tuesday, 2nd July.

POETRY READING BY JEAN BER.

Introduced by the Cultural Attaché of the Swiss Embassy, the actor and broadcaster Jean Ber, well known for his poetry readings in Switzerland and many other European countries, made his first London appearance on 14th May under the Joint auspices of the **Anglo-Swiss Society** and the **Nouvelle Société Helvétique**. The first part of his programme consisted entirely of texts by French-Swiss writers, among which extracts from works by C. F. Ramuz were given a particularly evocative rendering. The very responsive audience equally enjoyed *Bestiaire d'humour*, an anthology of light-hearted French poems satirizing human weaknesses in animal disguise.

Jean Ber's impressive performance provided an appropriate setting for the launching of a special issue on C. F. Ramuz of the literary magazine "Adam". Under the expert editorship of Mr. Miron Grindea, British, American, French and Swiss authors joined forces to produce a collective work of literary criticism which will greatly contribute to better knowledge of the eminent Vaudois writer in this country and the English-speaking world at large.

Both M. Ber's London visit and the publication of the "Adam" number on Ramuz have been facilitated by financial support from the "Pro Helvetia" Foundation.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

The following readers will have their birthdays soon: Mr. C. Willi will be 85 on 22nd June. He retired to La Cigale, 1861 Corbeyrier sur Aigle a few years ago after a most distinguished career as a pioneer in plastic surgery. We don't know where he is the moment, for he is still an ardent traveller, and we receive greetings every few months from a different part of the world. We wish him the best of health and continued wellbeing.

Mr. L. S. A. Asch will be 60 on 24th June and Mr. Max Schneider (Basle) 63 on 26th.

Last year, we heard months after the event that Mr. Ernst Kuebler, former prominent member of the Manchester Swiss Club and the Relief Society and now living in retirement with his wife at Sulzbergstrasse 6, Winterthur I, celebrated his 80th birthday in June. We were unable to congratulate him in time, but we should like to make good the omission and send him best wishes for his 81st birthday on 24th June.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Schmid of Glendower Hotel fame will be celebrating their 52nd wedding anniversary on 16th June. To them, too, our warm wishes. Many happy returns to all these readers as well as to any others who will be having a birthday or anniversary within the next fortnight.

Talking of anniversaries, we should like to remember two good friends whose birthdays would have fallen within the next few weeks: the late Fred Stauffer (25.6.1889) and the late Willy Deutsch (28.6.1885). We treasure their memory.

The late Mr. P. F. Boehringer founded Frederick Printing Company on 21st June 1910, a few years before he became instrumental in publishing the Colony periodical "Swiss Observer". We owe much to him, as well as to his son Oscar for enabling the S.O. to carry on. We extend to Frederick's our best wishes for many more years of successful publishing and printing.