

Swiss Choral Society

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY.

CITY SWISS CLUB

AN EVENT IN THE COLONY.

On Friday, November 20th, the City Swiss Club is inviting their members and friends to participate in their 75th Anniversary festivities, which will be held at the May Fair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.

In view of the none too prosperous times, which, no doubt have affected many of our compatriots, in a more or less forcible way, we are glad to learn, that the committee has made every endeavour to keep expenses down and thus study not only the Exchequer of the Club, but also the pockets of the would be participants.

We understand that the Club has circularised its members regarding the coming Banquet, and it is therefore hardly necessary to enlarge here on the arrangements which have so far been made. We consider it however our duty, and a pleasant one at that, to bring this most important function to the notice of a wider circle, hoping that many of our compatriots will make it a point to be present at this 75th "birthday party." Many of the Swiss Societies have decided to abstain from holding their customary Banquets, and the City Swiss Club function will therefore be one of the rare "affairs" during the season, a quite justified undertaking considering the occasion, and a fact which should induce many to be present who otherwise might have considered that attending several banquets entails too much expense.

The City Swiss Club has a long and distinguished record, eminent members of the Colony have directed the destiny of the Society. Many famous visitors, both from our home—and adopted country, have been entertained by the Club, a fact which has added new laurels to the fame of the London Colony both here and abroad.

In attaining now the venerable age of 75 years, it would be a befitting opportunity to express an appreciation for the long and faithful services rendered to the Swiss community and this could best be done, by attending this gathering, which, we have not the slightest doubt, will be a most enjoyable one in every respect.

We already now extend to the City Swiss Club our heartiest and most sincere congratulations, wishing this institution many happy returns of the day, and further prosperity. The spirit of comradeship and patriotism has been through all these many years an outstanding feature and has made the Club a little corner of "Home" on foreign soil.

It is therefore our most ardent wish, that this function should be well attended thus proving it to be not only a red letter day in the annals of the City Swiss Club, but also a day well worth remembering in the history of the Swiss Colony in London.

Tickets (18/6) and any information can be obtained at the offices of the Swiss Observer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2. (Tel.: Clerkenwell 9595).

BRIDGE COMPETITION.

The following are the comparative scores, the figure in brackets indicating the number of rubbers played so far: Kaiser (8) 7.7, Schorno (8) 7, Meili (9) 7, Boehringer (10) 6, Weil (9) 5.3, Jobin (10) 4.7, Frei (6) 5, Maeder (8) 3.2, Billeter (8) 0.6, and Bernheim (2) 0.

SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Choral Society took place on Friday, October 30th at the Swiss Club (Schweizerbund) 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

The Meeting, which was well attended, was presided over by the Vice-President and Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Gerber. In opening the deliberations, the chairman extended a hearty welcome to M. de Bourg, first Secretary of Legation, and Hon. Vice-President of the Society. The annual reports of the Secretary and Treasurers, which made very pleasant reading, were confirmed with acclamation and thanks to the respective authors. A special tribute was paid to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Ritzmann, for the efficient way the accounts were kept.

A communication by the late President, Mr. F. Conrad, was read, in which he submitted his resignation as President and member of the choir, owing to business reasons. Mr. Gerber thanked the late President, who was present, for the great and untiring services which he had rendered to the Society during his term of office, mentioning, that if, the Swiss Choral Society had reached such a prominent position in the Colony, it was largely due to the incessant work and unceasing efforts of Mr. Conrad. The hearty response which greeted the words of the Chairman was a sure proof how much every member present agreed with this

well deserved tribute. Mr. Conrad thanked the Meeting for their spontaneous appreciation, saying, that when his letter of resignation as member of the Society was sent from Switzerland, he was not then certain whether he would return here, but as he is now once again a resident in this country, he would gladly withdraw his resignation as a member and would support the Society as much as he could; this announcement of the late President was heartily cheered and Mr. Gerber expressed his great satisfaction at seeing this popular member remaining in the fold.

The Chairman then asked M. de Bourg, Hon. Vice-President of the Society, to act as Chairman pro temp. during the elections of the new committee. M. de Bourg, in taking the chair, conveyed the greetings of the Hon. President of the choir, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister, to the meeting. He paid a warm tribute to the late President, Mr. Conrad, for the eminent services rendered, and made a moving appeal to all the members, to carry on in the same spirit, with the same patriotic convictions, and to try not only to hold the respected position in the Colony, but even to improve on it, if this was possible.

The names of the proposed new committee were then read out, and the following Gentlemen were unanimously elected for the ensuing financial year:

President: Mr. J. Gerber.
Vice-President and
Hon. Secretary: Mr. A. Stauffer.
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. E. Ritzmann.
Assist. Secretary: Mr. W. Fischer.
Assist. Treasurer: Mr. E. Bentele.
Hon. Librarian: Mr. Ch. Sykora.

J. GERBER,

PRESIDENT

of the

SWISS CHORAL
SOCIETY.

The newly elected President, Mr. J. Gerber, thanked the Meeting for the honour bestowed on him, in electing him President, and assured the company that he would do his utmost to maintain the good name of the Swiss Choral Society.

After a lengthy discussion in which Messrs. De Bourg, Fischer, Leibfahrt, Sykora, Domeisen, Wyss and Stauffer took place it was decided not to hold a Banquet during this season, but to substitute same with a "Buffet Dance." The committee was empowered to get in touch with the First Avenue Hotel to make the necessary arrangements for this function to be held next February. As to any other social function it was left to the committee to take the necessary steps whenever they might find an opportune occasion. The date for the Annual Concert was fixed for the month of April.

A new music commission, consisting of Messrs. Gerber, Berger, Conrad, Ritzmann, and Fischer was appointed.

Mr. Berger then expressed on behalf of the members of the Society his appreciation for the efficient conductorship of the choir to Mr. Seymour, this short and happy address met with general approval. Mr. Seymour thanked in a few adequate words, saying that it was a pleasure to conduct this choir. The question about the exact time to begin the weekly rehearsals was discussed at length and it was decided to start as hitherto at 7.30 p.m. The President hoped that every member would do his utmost to appear at the time fixed. The Meeting was closed shortly after 11 o'clock p.m.

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SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

At their quarterly meeting of October 26th, the committee of the Swiss Benevolent Society elected Mr. Maurice Rothlisberger, Hon. Assist. Treasurer in place of Mr. Hans Schmid, who has left for Switzerland. The resignation of the latter was accepted with best thanks for the excellent services rendered.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY LIMITED.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week:—

Mr. H. Graf, "The French Riviera."

Miss N. Waechly, "My Experiences as an Hotel Secretary."

Mr. K. Ammann, "A Journey from Vienna to Venice."

Mr. K. Harrer, Rorschach; "Women in Commerce."

Mr. H. Hess, "The Cinema."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"That Prohibition should be introduced."

Proposer: Miss A. Keller.

Opposer: M. W. Dietler.

Do you believe in the League of Nations?

Proposer: Mr. R. Gandon.

Opposer: Mr. P. Schmid.

That it is necessary to have Money to be Happy.

Proposer: Miss D. Blank.

Opposer: Dr. J. Faillitaz.

On Friday evening Mr. F. L. Blackaby gave a most interesting lecture on "Jerôme K. Jérôme." The lecturer proved himself an excellent actor for when reciting portions from Jérôme's works the students (or the majority of them) were able to appreciate the wit and humour.

In a few but apt sentences Dr. Faillitaz, one of the students proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Blackaby who responded. The Principal presided at this function.

On Saturday, October 24th, a large number of students under the leadership of Mr. John W. Klein, visited Rochester. We first ascended the splendid Norman Castle, surely one of the greatest of feudal monuments. A magnificent view was obtainable from the summit. Then we spent an hour in the beautiful old Cathedral, which has probably the finest Crypt in England and some of the strangest old frescoes and pictures. We were shown round by an excellent guide, who explained everything very lucidly and minutely. In the afternoon we walked through the woods and after one or two little mountaineering feats, we reached Cobham, a quaint old village with a magnificent Church, which contains the finest collection of brasses in the world. We had tea at the historic Leatherbottle Inn, where Dickens so often dined and which is full of pictures of the great novelist and his characters. Finally, at 6 o'clock, we returned to London, after having spent a most enjoyable day.

AT THE LEGATION.

The following appointments have been brought to our notice: Monsieur Charles de Jenner, Counsellor of Legation, in succession of the late Monsieur Th. de Sonnenberg.

Monsieur Walter Rüfenacht, 2nd Secretary of Legation will replace Monsieur Cl. Rezzonico and will be in charge of commercial affairs.

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