

# Swiss Male Choir

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C major (K. No. 330), held more than promise and I felt it was a lovely and apt ending to an evening of real delight.

*Mariann.*

### SWISS MALE CHOIR

In the earlier part of this year the Swiss Male Choir, which had at that time been reduced to a mere handful of members, decided to wind up, and the wish was expressed by some members that we should meet from time to time in good fellowship.

It was therefore in that spirit, on a recent Sunday afternoon, one of those beautiful late Summer days when all seems to be well with the world, that former members and their wives made their way to "Haverthorn", Effingham, Surrey, in response to an invitation from Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Ross.

For the benefit of the few who may not know Mr. Ross I should like to explain that he was for many years a Sub-Manager at the Swiss Bank Corporation. He had in those days, and still has for that matter, a beautiful baritone voice, and when our late friend "Johnny" Gerber persuaded him to join our ranks he was received with open arms as badly-needed reinforcement.

During the many years that he lent his support he was in turn soloist and relief-conductor, and he identified himself with us to such an extent that on one occasion, when we had gone to sing at an Anglo-Continental gathering, a stranger congratulated him on his faultless English.

"Haverthorn", a beautiful place set in fields, among trees, was a delightful venue for such a reunion, and the hospitality extended to us was, to say the least, sumptuous, as befits the lady of the house who is used to entertaining on a large scale.

Someone had brought along song books and sheet music and after tea we tried out some of the old songs. Soon we gained confidence and sang lustily, if not always with polish.

It was always a source of wonder to us how Mr. F. G. Sommer, late President of the Choir and one of the most distinguished members of the Swiss Colony, could find the time to direct our affairs in view of his duties on all sides which he performed for the benefit of our compatriots. By his guidance and counsel allied to infinite patience, he managed to steer the Choir on a smooth and steady course and we owe him an immense debt of gratitude.

As a token of our esteem and friendship and in appreciation of all he had done for us it was thought to be a suitable occasion to make him a presentation, which he accepted charmingly, with a kind word for everyone.

Flowers were presented to Mrs. Sommer, and she, too, expressed pleasure at this unexpected gift.

More songs followed, and when after supper we took leave of our host and hostess night had long since fallen and we were left with the pleasing memory of a day spent in the company of old and faithful friends.

Our thanks go to Mr. and Mrs. Ross for opening their home to us and for their generous hospitality.

*A.J.*

### CHANCE OF SKI-ING FOR YOUNG SWISS ABROAD

As in previous years, the Youth Service of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad is again arranging a skiing camp for young Swiss from abroad. It will take place at Marmorera (Grisons) from 26th December to 6th January. There will be ski-ing instruction, and in the

evenings lectures, games, discussions, films and music will be organised. The price (exclusive of travel and ski lift) will be Fr.110.—. In special cases a reduction may be granted, provided the Embassy or Consulate can confirm the need.

Young boys and girls between 17 and 24 may apply before 1st December. As the number of participants is limited applications will be considered strictly in order of arrival.

Please apply to Jugenddienst, Auslandschweizersekretariat, Alpenstrasse 26, Berne.

### CITY SWISS CLUB 98th ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL

In conjunction with  
THE SWISS ECONOMIC COUNCIL

on  
Friday, 15th November  
at the  
Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1

When the City Swiss Club, seven years ago, under the presidency of the late much regretted and well remembered Charles Gysin, celebrated its Centenary, he referred in his presidential address to the usefulness of the Club in being a close link between the Swiss residing in this country and their English hosts. Indeed, the City Swiss Club has diligently stuck to this age-long tradition up to this very day, by inviting prominent English and British personalities, in all walks of life, not only to its Annual Banquets, but also to the various monthly meetings, thus still further cementing the close and happy relations which exist between the two countries.

Again, on the 15th of November, at the Dorchester Hotel, a number of well known English people will be seated at the top table, amongst them The Rt. Hon. Lord Mancroft, K.B.E., T.D. and Lady Mancroft, and Sir Stanley Rous, C.B.E., J.P.

On this occasion, the Club will also bid farewell to its Honorary President, H.E. the Swiss Ambassador and Madame Daeniker, when a presentation, on behalf of the Colony, will be made to them.

As was the case last year, the Annual Festival will be held in conjunction with the Swiss Economic Council — one of the Colony's most prominent institutions — and it will be a "black tie" affair. In order to compensate those members who have, for one reason or another given up dancing, a cabaret show will be introduced, and a tombola with valuable prizes will take place.

The committee has spared no efforts to make this Banquet as attractive as possible, and it makes an earnest appeal to the members, both old and young, to give them their support by a numerous attendance.

All members of the Swiss Colony and their friends whether or not belonging to the City Swiss Club or the Swiss Economic Council, will be cordially invited to join, thus making it a real Colony affair.

Facilities will be given to reserve tables for intended parties (see advertisement).

A pressing invitation is extended especially to the ladies to grace, by their charm, this 98th Banquet and Ball, which promises to be a most enjoyable and happy evening.

The committee would appreciate early bookings, so as to enable them to make adequate arrangements.

*ST.*

*Press Reporter, City Swiss Club.*