

City Swiss Club : monthly meeting

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Commercial Attaché, for the valued support given to me. Thanks also to Mr. P. F. Boehringer, Editor of the "Swiss Observer," for giving us much valuable space in his paper for the reports of our activities, and last but not least, I express my thanks to the colleagues on Council and Committee and all members for their valued support during the year."

A motion that the report and accounts be adopted, printed and circulated was passed unanimously, a hearty vote of thanks being accorded to the Chairman.

Mr. R. P. Huxley, C.A., was reappointed auditor for the financial year 1945.

On the proposition of the Council, two Honorary Members were elected by the meeting, viz., Mr. E. Hardmeier, who as Vice-President and Chairman of the Education Committee for four years and as member of the Council for thirteen years had given sterling services to the Society, and Mr. E. Steiner, Manager of Volkart Brothers, in appreciation of his invaluable services as Trustee to the S.M.S. and Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Employment Department.

In vacating the Chair for the election, the President stated that the Honorary Secretary, Mr. R. Chappuis, did not seek re-election owing to pressure of work. He thanked Mr. Chappuis for his excellent services rendered to the S.M.S., which was enthusiastically endorsed by all present.

Mr. E. Luterbacher, who acted as Chairman *pro tem.* in a most businesslike fashion, expressed thanks to the outgoing Council and Committee and in particular to Mr. Boos, for having presided over the Society during six difficult years.

As a result of the ensuing election, the Council and the Committee for the financial year 1945 were constituted as follows:—

COUNCIL: Chairman, Mr. J. J. Boos; Vice-Chairman, Mr. W. Meier; Trustees, Messrs. G. E. De Brunner, W. Eichenberger, E. Steiner; Members, Messrs. W. Burren, Ch. Chapuis, R. Chappuis, O. Grob, M. Heilinger, G. Jenne, L. W. Krucker, J. J. Pfaendler, A. C. Stahelin, A. Steinmann, F. Sreit.

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE: President, Mr. J. J. Boos; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. W. Meier and L. W. Krucker; Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. Burren; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M. Heilinger; Members, Messrs. K. E. Ammann, W. Fuchs, E. M. Huber, R. Senn.

Auditor: Mr. Robert P. Huxley, C.A.; **Secretary:** Mr. J. J. Schneider, F.I.A.C.; **Press Reporter:** Mr. W. Burren; **Delegate on the Advisory Board of the Employment Dept.:** Mr. Ch. Chapuis; **Delegate to the N.S.H.:** Mr. W. Beckmann.

This terminated the proceedings, the Annual General Meeting being followed by the Ordinary Monthly Meeting, at the close of which an excellent and very welcome tea was served by the lady members.

The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Swiss House on Saturday, March 10th at 2.30 p.m., following which through the good offices of Mr. Ch. Chapuis, two most interesting films, "Born in Britain" and "Training of French Paratroops" will be shown. They are from the "Amis des Volontaires Français" (English commentary) and show the fine spirit of the Free French movement. The projection will as usual be in the hands of our member Mr. C. Fer. Please, therefore, reserve March 10th for the S.M.S.

W.B.

CITY SWISS CLUB — Monthly Meeting.

The Monthly Meeting of the City Swiss Club took place on Tuesday, February 6th at the Dorchester Hotel. Mr. A. Bon was in the Chair, and there were 120 members and friends present.

The guest of honour was the Rt. Hon. Viscount Bennett, P.C., formerly Prime Minister of Canada. Other guests were: The Swiss Minister, Monsieur P. Ruegger, Nat. Councillors Oprecht and Leuenberger, Mr. Bernasconi, General Secretary of the Swiss Trade Union Council, General Lombard of the French Army and Mr. Patteson, Managing-Director of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The President extended a hearty welcome to Viscount Bennett expressing to him, on behalf of the members, their appreciation for having consented to address the Meeting. He also voiced his pleasure at seeing two members of the Swiss Parliament in our midst, as well as the other distinguished visitors.

Viscount Bennett, after some very kind and complimentary references to our country and its activities during the war, be it as the Protecting Power or in connection with the Red Cross, gave a most interesting address on the British Empire. He likened the Empire to a partnership, and referred to the Dominions as independent partners, who were only tied to each other by their joint loyalty to the Crown.

The Crown had become the symbol of all the tradition and cultural values which preceding generations had created in the mother country as well as in the Dominions. He drew a picture of the tremendous development of Canada in the last fifty years; how he himself as a young man had gone out West, and watched the growth of a small Western community from 3,000 inhabitants to over 100,000; he showed that there is still unlimited room for expansion, and that with the small population a man need have no fear of being unemployed; pioneer conditions still prevail in a good many parts, especially up north, where modern transport devices have only now begun to give access to untold mineral wealth.

He showed how Canada, of all the Dominions of the Empire, is probably the one most similar to Switzerland in its democratic institutions and its respect for the individual, not so much for where he comes from as for what he does; and he ended his most interesting exposé on a truly philosophical level, saying neither a man's nor a people's achievements should be judged by the acquisition or success of any material gains, but on the wider basis of mankind's evolution, where each one of us has to ask himself — "Has my life been in vain, or has it contributed some slight share to the improvement of the lot of future generations?"

Viscount Bennett received a hearty ovation on resuming his seat. The President once more thanked him for his interesting address and the Swiss Minister, associated himself with Mr. Bon's remarks.

Close of the Meeting 9 o'clock.

ST.

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