

Golden Jubilee of the Swiss Club Birmingham

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LONDON SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

2nd Annual General Meeting.

As last year, the members of the above Society met at the Glendower Hotel for their Annual General Meeting, on the 27th January.

Mr. F. Streit, Vice-President, who acted as Chairman, opened the proceedings by reading a letter from the President of the Society, Mr. P. F. Boehringer, expressing regret that his state of health not only prevented him from attending the meeting, to which he had been looking forward, but compelled him, to his great regret, to relinquish office.

The Chairman mentioned that after only two years of existence, the total membership stood at 63. The "baby" Society of the Swiss Colony had rapidly overcome its "teething troubles" and was creating a name for itself not only in Swiss, but also in English circles; it was now looking forward to the time when relations with similar Clubs abroad could be established and, if possible, affiliation with the Union of Swiss Philatelic Societies arranged.

Mr. Streit paid a warm tribute to the excellent work done by the Committee and particularly thanked Mr. Burren, the Hon. Packet Superintendent, for his untiring efforts.

He pointed out that, in spite of increased enemy action against "Southern England," there had been no break in the monthly meetings thereby proving that stamp collectors were "stickers" in more senses than one! A further accomplishment was the publishing of a Club journal, which had created a most useful link with the numerous country members.

As for the Society's aims in 1945, Mr. Streit trusted that the anticipated return of more normal conditions would give a new impetus to the Club's activities and result in an even better attendance at the monthly meetings, which it was hoped would be enlivened by short talks and displays of material by members.

The Balance Sheet submitted by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. O. Grob, disclosed a very healthy financial situation and the Hon. Packet Superintendent reported that the sale of member's stamps through the Exchange Packets was proceeding very satisfactorily.

The meeting took note with regret of Mr. Boehringer's decision to give up the office of President, in which he will be succeeded by Mr. F. Streit, and carried with cheers the proposal to elect him Hon. President and send him a telegram conveying the best wishes of all for a speedy recovery. Mr. J. J. Schneider was appointed Vice-President and Mr. F. G. Ebbutt, Hon. Sec., whilst the remaining Committee members were re-elected.

The remaining business was left over till the next monthly meeting and the proceedings terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

An adjournment was then made to the dining room, where the members were joined by a number of guests who, although of the "fair and weaker" sex, had been 'man'-fully combatting the pangs of hunger and in spite of the lateness of the hour (15.15 B.S.T.!) were far from being in a state of collapse! The excellence of the luncheon, which was expeditiously served, can be best gauged by the fact that, thanks to the "Stimmung" which it created, the proceeds from the Tombola and auction which followed, in aid of the Swiss Benevolent Society, exceeded all expectations.

Not being satisfied with the result of the Tombola, some members put up for auction the stamps which they had won and finally many contributed sixpence each for a peep at a lot which had been bought "blind." In this way the total raised for the Swiss Benevolent Society was carried to £12. 12. 0 and all concerned were warmly thanked for their generosity by Mr. Rothlisberger, Treasurer of that Society and member of the L.S.P.S.

F.G.E.

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Stamp collectors desirous of extending their contacts by joining the London Swiss Philatelic Society, should apply to the Secretary (Mr. Fred. G. Ebbutt, 174, High Street, Aylesbury) for a copy of the Society's rules.

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE SWISS CLUB BIRMINGHAM.

Just fifty years ago to-day,
A bold young man was on his way,
Through days of peace and days of strife,
To make the best he could of life.

Once settled in his own 'wigwam',
He formed the Swiss Club Birmingham,
Where, in congenial company,
Men might forget their nostalgia;
Obtain good 'tips' and sound advice,
Learn to be healthy, wealthy, wise.
Small disputes, which might be about,
Could be weighed up and straighten'd out;
Last, but not least, and all the while,
Help any lame friend 'cross a stile.

In days gone by the Club did well,
The times were good, the meetings 'swell';
Those dances, grand balls and dinners
Are well remember'd still to-day.

The worthy members who remain
Still form a strong, unbroken chain;
May all Good Fortune that there be
Attend this Golden Jubilee!

H.E.

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