

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1953)
Heft: 1203

Artikel: Anglo-Swiss coronation ball
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-689965>

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THE YORKSHIRE SWISS CLUB IN THE ICE AGE.

Dr. Richard Muller who addressed our monthly meeting on 14th April, found a most natural and interesting way of linking together our native land and our country of adoption. The laws of nature have a way of their own; they ignore the subtleties and dangers of man-made political boundaries and so the process of erosion can be followed in the Swiss as well as in the English mountains since the Ice Age and through the centuries. Instructive and beautiful lantern slides made by the lecturer himself took the audience to and fro across the Channel from the Rhone valley to the Yorkshire Dales and from the Lake District to Interlaken or Bellinzona. Dr. Muller has the gift of putting a scientific case with the objectivity and clearmindedness of a geologist and the warmth and enthusiasm of a poet. Furthermore he is the most self-contained lecturer one can imagine: not only does he bring with him facts and figures, slides and projector, screen and clicker, but also the most efficient and charming operator, Mrs. Muller. Who could do more? Bring his audience? Well, the seventy members present last night are already eagerly awaiting the next opportunity for hearing him.

For half an hour prior to the lecture, Mr. Schneider, our Swiss Consul in Manchester, outlined the various possibilities arising out of the Swiss Nationality Act, and later he examined privately some particular cases. It is always a pleasure as well as a great practical help to have him amongst us, and we were grateful to him also for bringing with him M. Rossier of the Swiss Consulate and his wife.

One very important contribution of our meetings is the many new contacts made between members and the provision of individual labels with names is a valuable innovation towards this. We generally find that at least two-thirds of our Swiss cantons are represented and although our young compatriots have generally come to this country to improve their knowledge of English, the various Swiss dialects can be heard at many tables, bringing a homely atmosphere to our meeting. This may explain the wide radius from which our members gather here Halifax and Huddersfield, Wetherby and Harrogate, Illey and as far as Ripon thirty miles away. Fortunately, our members have created a system of transport which puts available accommodation in their cars at the disposal of

those who otherwise might be prevented from coming whether for time or cost or health reasons. And so our difficulties are turned into opportunities and our Club gains by the contribution of the many to the common good.
J.P.I.

ANGLO-SWISS CORONATION BALL. Friday, June 5th, 1953, at Londonderry House, Park Lane, W.1.

Amongst the many festivities which will take place during Coronation time is one, which should particularly appeal to our compatriots, namely the Ball arranged by the Anglo-Swiss Society, at Londonderry House.

The crowning of Britain's young Queen is for this Empire a momentarily historical event, and it will rightly be celebrated with great rejoicings by her loyal subjects.

It was a happy idea, that this young and enterprising Society should give not only to their Swiss members, but to all members of the Colony, an opportunity to join with them in celebrating this great event together.

No better setting could have been chosen than the beautiful Londonderry House with its lovely Ball Room, fine Library and imposing stair case.

The President of the Society, the Rt. Hon. Phillip Noel-Baker, P.C., M.P., assisted by the Swiss Minister, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, will hold during the evening a reception, to welcome the members and the many distinguished personalities who have consented to be present amongst them several former British Ministers accredited to Berne.

We are convinced that this evening will be an outstanding event in the history of the Anglo-Swiss Society, and a splendid opportunity to tighten the bonds of friendship between our two countries.

Therefore, we warmly recommend our compatriots, whether members or not, to attend this gathering in great numbers, thus showing that we share with them the pride and happiness in this unique historical event.

Particulars can be seen in the advertisement published in this number, and we hope to give further details about the arrangements made in a subsequent issue.

It would be of great assistance if those who wish to take part would order their tickets as early as possible.

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