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It is the custom at these Colony Meetings that the chair is taken by a president of one of the participating Swiss Clubs in rotation, but as this was the first appearance of our new Consul at a "Landsgemeinde" it was felt fitting that as he is the official head of our various colonies he would be our ideal chairman. Consequently, on rising, Mr. Büchi received a very warm welcome from the whole gathering.

He extended a special welcome to Mrs. Davidson, President of the Swiss Relief Society in Liverpool, and to Dr. Schweizer, President of the newly formed Swiss Club in Nottingham, who joined us for the first time. He then greeted the Presidents of the Bradford, Leeds and the Manchester Clubs, Messrs Illi and Monney respectively. He also expressed appreciation of the visit from our old special friend, the late President of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, London Group, Mr. A. F. Suter and Mrs. Suter.

Mr. Büchi spoke of his and our regret at the absence of Prof. Inebnit, who has been the life and soul of all our "Landsgemeinden", but was very glad to see Mrs. Inebnit and her two daughters amongst us. Finally he specially welcomed the chairman of the Hebden Bridge Urban Council, Mr. Lord, and Mrs. Lord, who kindly had accepted our invitation to join us for tea.

In a few sentences Mr. Büchi then referred to the significance of the "Landsgemeinde", which stands for the purest and most direct democracy and said:—

"that if today's gathering has afforded us the opportunity of meeting many of our compatriots, of renewing friendships and of making new friends, and if it has given rise to the feeling of unity amongst us as well as a renewal of the bond that ties us to our beloved fatherland, then indeed has the purpose of this unique meeting on foreign soil been achieved".

He then asked the gathering to sing a verse of "Oh, mein Heimatland".

Following, Mrs. Davidson was asked to address the meeting, and she was followed by Mr. Suter and Dr. Schweizer. Finally the Chairman of the Hebden Bridge Urban Council, Mr. Lord, expressed his pleasure at our visit to his native place and mentioned that he was only sorry he had not been able to show us himself some of the historic places of the district.

All too soon the evening drew to its close and after all the farewells had been said, everyone left Hebden Bridge with the fervent wish that the next "Landsgemeinde" will give us a further opportunity to spend a happy day amongst the Yorkshire hills and our friends from all over the North.

Ebro.

SWISS CLUB, DUNFERMLINE.

A reception and supper in honour of Consul and Madame M. E. Buechi was held on the 19th June. Our compatriots came to Castleblair Works Canteen on Tuesday 19th June 1956, to meet our Consul.

On behalf of the members, our President Mr. Frick extended a most warm welcome to Consul and Madame Buechi and also to our Honorary Members, Consul Hofstetter and Mr. W. O. Bosshardt.

After a delicious supper, Consul Buechi addressed the company and expressed his delight at meeting the compatriots of Dunfermline. He assured us that he will give his help and assistance to anyone should we ever require his advice. "It is my desire to keep in close touch with 'my Swiss Family'" said Mr. Buechi. Through personal contact and exchange of views we shall get a friendly and happy atmosphere.

Both Consul Hofstetter and our President replied and thanked Consul and Madame Buechi for the trouble they have taken to come so far North to meet the small "flock" at Dunfermline. All members were most delighted to meet them both. It is hoped that we shall have them with us again some day soon.

Many discussions on personal matters followed between Consul Buechi and our members. A few Swiss Songs and a solo recital by Mr. Rudi Lussi rounded off a very pleasant evening.

B.

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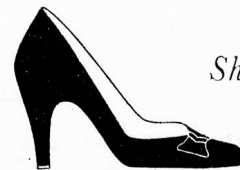
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