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ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL CITY SWISS CLUB.

Friday, November 15th 1957, at the Dorchester Hotel.

How many times have we been told, and how many times has the warning been given, that the Swiss Colony in Great Britain is slowly dying, and that in a few years' time will have ceased to exist altogether?

Whilst I agree that the stringent immigration regulations badly hamper a most necessary rejuvenation of our Colony, I do not as yet despair, nor do I feel inclined to commission anyone to compose so soon a funeral march for the last Swiss leaving this country.

Casting a look back over the last two or three years, there have been few signs noticeable of an early demise; quite the contrary, the activities of the many Societies have, in fact, been almost as lively as in pre-war days.

A more alarming factor I consider is at present the indifference which a large number of our compatriots, with many years' residence in this country, are showing towards the efforts so gallantly made to keep the Swiss community together, and to make them feel that although living in a foreign land there is yet left a little corner which will remind them of their own country.

One so often hears the excuse when asking for support for some of the various arrangements which are made "I am getting too old", or "I have done my share in the past".

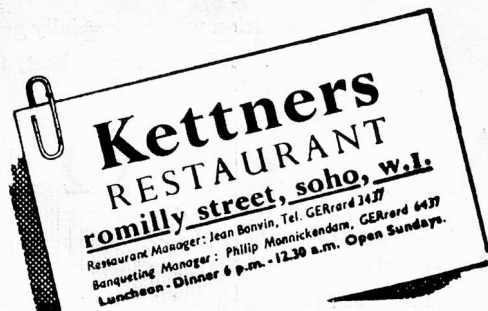
Well, of course, we are all getting older, whether we like it or not, that cannot be helped; but surely that should not mean, providing we are still enjoying reasonably good health, that we must stand aside becoming merely onlookers. As for having "done our share in the past", I may say that many of us have done so willingly and with enthusiasm, and yet continue to do so because we know that by doing so we have rendered and still render service not only to our fellow countrymen, but also to our homeland.

As I mentioned before, the immigration laws are still a great handicap to an increase of our Colony, and we can but hope that the efforts which are continuously made by our Government to ease the position will eventually be successful. In the meantime, if we wish to keep the Colony alive and active, we must fall back on our older generation even — if they have "done their bit in the past"!

The various Swiss societies in this country have

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Capon,
Roast Aylesbury
Duckling
served every day



for many years been a useful link to knit together our friendly relations with our English friends. By their work they have made ourselves and our country known to them, but often, all too often, their efforts for a closer and more intimate collaboration have met with lukewarm support or indifference.

I do not, of course, mean that only a Swiss who joins a Swiss Society or subscribes to the "Swiss Observer" is a good patriot, but member or no member, subscriber or no subscriber, I consider that whilst remaining Swiss he also owes something to his country. This duty he can fulfil in showing an interest in the life and activities of the Swiss community, by attending some of the functions, be they lectures, film shows, concerts, sports events, patriotic demonstrations or social events.

And why not make a start by attending the Annual Banquet and Ball of the City Swiss Club, which will take place on Friday, November 15th, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1 (see advertisement).

The said Society, which last year celebrated the 100th anniversary of its foundation, needs no introduction, and without undue praise has done more than most Swiss Societies in fostering friendly relations between this country and ours.

As mentioned in our last issue, the committee of the City Swiss Club is most anxious that this year's Banquet should be a real Swiss evening to which they welcome all members and their friends, whether they are members of the Club or not.

As on former occasions a number of prominent personalities in this country will be the guests of the Club, and the Swiss Ambassador, accompanied by Madame Daeniker, will be in the Chair.

Those Ladies who have some misgivings with regard to a new frock need not worry; they are most cordially invited to come along in the same attire as last year, which we then admired so much, and which we should love to see again.

I feel sure that this evening will be an enjoyable one, giving us all a welcome opportunity of meeting old and new friends,

"Au revoir" then at the Dorchester!

ST.

CITY SWISS CLUB

Will members kindly note that the next
MONTHLY MEETING

takes place on Tuesday, October 29th, 1957.
at 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m. at the **Dorchester**
Hotel, Park Lane, W.1. (Stanhope Room).

AGENDA

Minutes of the last Meeting.
Admission — Resignations.
Election to the Committee.

Members wishing to be present should send their slip to the Manager of the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, to reach him not later than Monday, October 28th 1957.

TH. von SPEYR.

Hon. Secretary.