

**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:** - (1957)  
**Heft:** 1291  
  
**Artikel:** Fête suisse Anglo-French Ball  
**Autor:** [s.n.]  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-687924>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

**Download PDF:** 15.05.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

### FETE SUISSE ANGLO-FRENCH BALL.

The fact that quite a number of the members of the Colony are going to the Ball at the Dorchester on Thursday, April 4th, but would like yet to attend at least part of the Fête Suisse, has caused some embarrassment. The matter has been discussed and it is suggested that both Ladies and Gentlemen should attend the Fête Suisse in *Evening Dress* which can only bring some charm and dignity to our Fête. Realising, however, that some might feel embarrassed, the President will announce at the beginning of the Fête why some people are in full dress, informing the audience also of the honour conferred on the "Chanson de Gruyère" to appear at the Dorchester in company with well-known international artists.

It is also suggested that a certain number of seats could be reserved downstairs at the Central Hall, so that those attending the Ball will be together. Will those intending to come in Evening Dress please state this when applying for tickets if they desire to be with their colleagues.

*Comité de la Fête Suisse.*

### UNUSUAL ACTIVITY AT THE LEGATION.

Unusual activity could be witnessed at the Legation on Saturday, 16th February.

Post Office engineers arrived early in the morning and were busily engaged outside and inside the building, laying additional cables for a direct connection between 18 Montagu Place and Broadcasting House. On their heels came BBC engineers with mysterious grey steel boxes, rolls of cables and wires, stands, microphones, mixers, batteries, telephones, hooks, and ladders, and quickly installed a sub-station. The reason was that Mr. Haller of the Swiss Broadcasting Company had arranged on behalf of Studio Basle a live broadcast from London to Switzerland. The Swiss audience were to hear, in the Swiss version of "In Town To-night", a 1½ hours' programme on how Swiss in London would pass a Saturday evening.

The programme started with the arrival of a Swissair machine at London airport. Then followed a cultural-gastronomical talk at the Elizabethan Rooms in Kensington where Professor Leonard Forster of the University of London discoursed in perfect "Basel-Dytsch" on customs and menus in

the times of Elizabeth I. The next item on the programme was a contribution by two Swiss musicians living in London, Miss Huggenberger (3 Brahms Waltzes) and Mr. Ferber (Prelude by Rachmaninoff, and Toccata by Debussy). In order to give a proper background to this Concert, the Minister and Madame Daeniker had very kindly lent the reception rooms at the Legation and invited some members of the Colony to act — as Mr. Haller informed the Swiss audience — as "claqueurs". The Minister himself gave a short interview before the microphone and was followed by Mr. H. P. Hort from Basle who accompanied himself on the guitar and gave the audience a foretaste of the Fasnacht by singing a typical Basle "Schnitzelbank". The invited audience did its duty nobly although several of them confessed that the very subtle allusions in broad Basle dialect were beyond their comprehension.

Then followed an interview with our compatriot Mr. Käufeler, the Grand Chef of the Dorchester, a Rock'n'Roll visit to a coffee bar, and a glimpse of late-night gaiety in the Dorchester Restaurant.

It was the first time that so elaborate and so lengthy a programme had been arranged for direct transmission and broadcasting in Switzerland. It needed months of preparation by Mr. Haller and the experts from Studio Basle. It required not only days of work by BBC technicians, but also an unusual amount of goodwill and consideration from the BBC administrators and engineers. The whole major operation went without a technical hitch and was in every respect a grand success.

*E.B.*

### THE ANGLO-SWISS INSURANCE & REINSURANCE AGENCY LTD

29/30, High Holborn, London, W.C.1

Telephone: CHAncéry 8554

is at the disposal of all members of the Swiss community to advise on any insurance matters in this country or abroad.

## M·A·T TRANSPORT LIMITED

FORMERLY MACHINERY & TECHNICAL TRANSPORT LIMITED

INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING & FORWARDING AGENTS

LING HOUSE, DOMINION STREET, LONDON, E.C.2

Telephone: MONARCH 6040 (20 Lines)  
Telex: LONDON 8404 - MACANTECH.

Telegrams: MACANTECH, PHONE, LONDON

### ALLIED HOUSES:

#### BASLE

M·A·T TRANSPORT A.G., Peter Merian Strasse 50  
PHONE : 351800. TELEX : BASLE 62216 - MATTRANS

#### ZURICH

M·A·T TRANSPORT A.G., London House, Bahnhofstrasse  
PHONE : 258994 TELEX : ZURICH 52458 - MATTRANS