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SWISS CATHOLICS 1st OF AUGUST SERVICE.

The Swiss Catholics assembled in a good number at St. Peter's Church, Palace Street, S.W.1, on August 1st, when in the presence of the Swiss Minister, Mon. H. de Torrenté, the Rev. Mortimer assisted by four missionaries of the House of Bethlehem, sung High Mass, and the Chaplain after reading the special message of Federal Councillor Petitpierre, preached.

It was a great pleasure to see so many of our young compatriots joining in prayer on this occasion with the old guard. There were also a number of Swiss sportsmen from the Olympiad contingent present, accompanied by their Chaplain.

In the afternoon many of the Swiss sportsmen attended the reception given to the Catholic Olympiad competitors by H. E. Cardinal Griffin, and attended the special service at the Cathedral afterwards.

Our compatriots will receive the 1947 Annual Report, and those who have not yet sent their 1948 contributions are asked to do so without delay.

Will the Swiss Catholics also reserve Sunday morning September 19th, for the special "Bettag" service at 11.45 a.m., at St. Peter's Church, Palace Street, London, S.W.1.

J.B.

**SWISS SOCIETIES, INSTITUTIONS AND CLUBS
IN THE LONDON COLONY.**

- SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY (FONDS DE SECOURS),
31, Conway Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
- SECOURS MUTUELS DES SUISSES À LONDRES,
74, Charlotte Street, W.1.
- CITY SWISS CLUB, BROWN'S HOTEL, Dover Street, W.1.
- UNIONE TICINESE,
"Swiss House," 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
- UNIONE TICINESE (SEZIONE FEMINILE),
"Swiss House," 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
- SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY,
"Swiss House," 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
- UNION HELVETIA, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.
- SCHWEIZERBUND (SWISS CLUB),
74, Charlotte Street, W.1.
- NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE,
"Swiss House," 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
- SWISS Y.M.C.A., 12, Bateman Street, W.1.
- SWISS MALE CHOIR, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.
- SWISS ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
- LONDON-SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY,
"Swiss House," 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.
- RÜTLI CLUB, 86, Duke Street, W.1.
- ALPENROSEN-CLUB, St. Peter's Hall,
Westminster Cathedral, Ashley Gardens, S.W.1.
- EGLISE SUISSE,
Endell Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.
- SCHWEIZERKIRCHE,
"Oak Room," Kingsway Hall, W.C.2.

EDITOR'S POST-BAG.

Nouvelle Société Helvétique,
London Group,
18, Montagu Place,
London, W.1.
20th August, 1948.

To the Editor,
Swiss Observer,
23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

Dear Sir,

I am glad of Mr. J. J. Eberli's interest and good wishes for the "new broom" in our Colony, which appellation he is presumably applying to the recently established Presidents' Committee. Its formation should not be regarded as a reflection on the smooth working of the various societies side by side, which I am happy to say is the general rule, but rather as an assurance of even closer and more effective co-operation in the future.

I am less glad of your correspondent's failure to grasp the meaning of the "obscure discussions" about "Auslandschweizer-Affairs and their relationship with the N.S.H. and the Home Government." It is saddening to realise how one's most earnest efforts to explain difficult and imponderable issues fall short of their purpose. Mr. Eberli will not expect me to attempt to explain my previous explanations or to make up for his evident failure to follow and take part in the lengthy discussions of the problems of the Swiss abroad, which have filled many hours at meetings of the N.S.H. and other societies and many columns in the S.O.

I would, however, like to ask your correspondent to reflect that even on the basis of his own narrow interest in the question of the military tax the desirability of a stronger organisation of the Swiss Abroad, which we are advocating, is incontrovertible. To continue pressing for its abolition would have little sense and no more effect than during the last thirty years, unless more power were put behind the pressure in the shape of an organised expression of the wishes and needs of the Swiss Abroad. Such organisation could, however, not be expected to limit its concern to the one Swiss question Mr. Eberli recognises as standing in need of a more satisfactory solution.

Yours faithfully

H. W. EGLI,
President N.S.H., London.

