

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: - (1952)
Heft: 1184

Artikel: Assembly of presidents of the Swiss societies
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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-691269>

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ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS OF THE SWISS SOCIETIES.

The Presidents held their 16th Meeting on June 5th at the Swiss Legation. Professor J. P. Inebnit (Yorkshire West Riding Swiss Club) was in the Chair, and the Swiss Minister was represented by Dr. E. Bernath, First Counsellor of Legation, and Dr. E. M. Bircher, Secretary of Legation.

A Leaflet drawn up by Monsieur P. Clottu, Attaché Social of the Swiss Legation, in co-operation with Miss M. Wolfer, Secretary of the Welfare Office for Swiss Girls in Great Britain, was read and will shortly be issued. This Leaflet contains advice which should be of great value to girls about to take up work in the British Isles.

Dr. H. W. Egli (Nouvelle Société Helvétique) reported on his discussions with various personalities in Switzerland regarding the creation of a Swiss Youth Centre in London. Based on the opinions he obtained he outlined the practical steps to be taken. A small Committee was appointed from amongst the Presidents for the purpose of finalizing the draft scheme already prepared by Dr. Egli. This sets out the social needs of the large number of Swiss, mostly girls in domestic employment, who are generally here for about a year. It stresses the desirability of establishing a social centre and it lists the essential requirements regarding location, amenities, accommodation, staff, etc. It also gives an estimate of the funds needed to equip and maintain the centre. — If the scheme commends itself for adoption, it is proposed to launch an appeal for funds in Switzerland during the latter part of this year.

In connection with the "Journée des Suisses de l'Etranger" on the Bürgenstock from August 29th to 31st it was resolved to express the Presidents' Assembly's strong hope that the "Expertenbericht für Auslandschweizerfragen" which was presented to the Federal Council in December, 1950, be acted upon at an early date. Also, to draw attention to the Declarations issued by the Presidents' Assembly in June, 1951, the recommendations of which are still a matter of urgent necessity.—The Chairman expressed the hope that many Swiss from Great Britain would find it possible to attend the "Journée".

The next Meeting of the Presidents was fixed for Thursday, July 3rd, at 7 p.m.

W.M.

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ANGLO-SWISS SOCIETY.

At the end of this year, the Anglo-Swiss Society will be five years old and readers will have seen frequently in the Swiss Observer, reports of its functions. Recent developments include the holding at Londonderry House, Park Lane, of lectures and film shows, open to members and their friends without an entrance fee. A Society Christmas card was on sale for the first time last Christmas and will be repeated. Members are issued with a button-hole badge and a coloured, enamelled car badge is in course of production. The Society, founded to maintain and develop the existing friendship between the British and Swiss peoples, has now reached a membership of six hundred and details can be obtained from the headquarters of the Society, Hill House, 17, Hans Place, Sloane Street, S.W.1. (Knightsbridge 1331).

LONDON SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Meeting on May 30th was given over to an Auction with Mr. M. Waloff in the rostrum. Bidding started slowly as usual, but warmed up and there were spirited duels for the more valuable items. Altogether seventy-five lots were offered for sale covering a wide range of interests, including Air Mails, Postal History, Modern Colonials and Early Europeans, and the majority found ready buyers.

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