

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: - (1955)

Heft: 1247

Rubrik: Swiss Club Manchester

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: 26.11.2024

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

SWISS CLUB MANCHESTER.

Lecture by Mr. W. R. Renfer on "Indian Cotton — from Grower to Spinner" on Thursday, March 10th, 1955.

In the Chair: Mr. H. Monney, President.

Two years ago we initiated a series of talks by our members on the subject of "My Job". This is the third of the series. As for the previous two lectures, the first by our Consul, Mr. O. Schneider on "The Consular Service" and the second by Mr. E. Berner on "The Manufacture of Velvets", Mr. Renfer has succeeded in making of his subject a really enjoyable evening. The audience is unanimous in proclaiming it a great success.

The ultimate impression is that the speaker knows his subject in its most intricate details and could convey it to his audience in a fluent and expressive language, pleasing to the ear and easy to understand, all this in an impeccable English.

After a few comments on the Cotton plant and its cultivation and varieties, followed by an inkling of statistics, he took us through the Cotton fields of India and Pakistan and we could visualize the picking of the cotton, mostly by girls of 7 to 8 years of age. Child labour is illegal but the Indian is an adept at dodging the Government Inspectors by an effective method of signalling.

We were told of the ginning (cleaning), the packing and the means of transport, of the sensitivity of the Cotton plant to varieties of soil and variations in the weather and of its effects on quality. Mention was made of the plans elaborated by the Indian and Pakistan Governments for the improvement of the

growth and of the staple of the fibre. We heard amusing incidents of Indian merchants with their inveterate speculating failings and their belief in astrologers, etc. Then, of course, we were initiated in the secrets of the merchandising of Cotton and the immensity of the job, with cables and telephone calls at all hours of the day and the night, and of the methods elaborated for the settlement of claims for variations in quality, a procedure based on trade customs and agreed to automatically.

The interest of the audience can be gathered by the number of questions and comments after the talk, all very sensible and showing that the subject had been understood and appreciated.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. M. Lichtensteiger and seconded by Mr. A. Bebié.

H.M.



**for the best food
in ZÜRICH**

THE MAIN STATION & AIRLINES
TERMINAL RESTAURANT

SWISS BANK CORPORATION

(A Company limited by Shares, incorporated in Switzerland).

**99, GRESHAM STREET, E.C.2
and 11c, REGENT STREET, S.W.1.**



Capital and Reserves s.f. 226,000,000



**NEW YORK AGENCY
15 NASSAU STREET.**

*Branch Office: 49th STREET OFFICE
10, WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK 20, N.Y.*

Affiliated Company in Canada :

SWISS CORPORATION FOR CANADIAN INVESTMENTS LTD., MONTREAL.

**BASLE · ZÜRICH · ST. GALL · GENEVA · LAUSANNE
LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS · NEUCHÂTEL · SCHAFFHOUSE · BIENNE**