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SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

"Grümpelschiessen" Dinner at the Glendower Hotel, Glendower Place, S.W.7, on Friday, 4th Dec. 1959.

"Christmas comes but once a year", we say, and so does the "Grümpelschiessen" dinner of the Swiss Rifle Association — to both of which one looks forward with pleasant anticipation. Whilst the former is principally a family affair, the latter can be termed a festival of friendship and good sportsmanship.

About seventy members and guests assembled at the Glendower Hotel on Friday, 4th December, to celebrate the close of the rifle shooting season with an informal dinner. After the company had been duly fortified with a variety of cocktails, the members and guests adjourned to the dining room, where a sumptuous dinner was awaiting them, consisting of: Consommé Double au Sherry, Suprême de Sole Frite, Sauce Remoulade, Dinde rôtie aux Chipolatas et Marrons, Rippli, Epinard en Branche au beurre, Pommes purée, Coeur de Laitue, Coupe glacée aux fruits Chantilly, Café.

Shortly before the last dish appeared, Mr. Alfred Schmid, President of the Swiss Rifle Association, proposed the customary Toasts, and afterwards extended a cordial welcome to H.E. the Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur A. Daeniker, and the following official guests: Mr. G. H. W. Brown, of the Surrey Rifle Association, Dr. M. Vogelbacher, 1st Secretary of Embassy, Dr. H. Rast, and Mr. A. Stauffer, editor of the "Swiss Observer".

In his short address the President voiced his satisfaction with the results obtained during the last season, complimenting especially the younger members, but said that even "the old guard" had not done too badly, for instance, that old veteran Mr. Peter Odermatt.

The Swiss Ambassador expressed his pleasure at being once again in the company of the shooting fraternity, and referred in his address to the resignation, at the end of the year, of four Federal Councilors, which, however, he said, was not due to any political change-over.

Mr. J. C. Wetter, Vice-President, expressed on behalf of the members heartiest thanks to the President for his work, and especially for always looking after the material wants of the members so well. He also paid a sincere tribute to Mr. F. Magnin for his continual good services rendered to the Association. Referring to the recent passing away of Mr. Louis Chapuis, he said that the Society had lost a member of many years' standing, and one who would always be remembered with affection.

On the conclusion of the speech-making, Mr. Magnin announced that the Society, as is customary, would like to present the official guests with a little gift, and amid great acclamation he handed over to the Ambassador a substantial hamper, whilst other guests received bottles of wine, spirits and cigarettes.

The prize-giving and announcing of the results in the various competitions at Bisley was again in the hands of Mr. Magnin. He announced the following top winners: *Grümpelschiessen*: J. J. Zingg (56 points), F. Magnin (54 points), J. Hess (53 points). *Handicap Competition*: J. C. Wetter (60 points), Hermann Schmid (58 points), M. Bucherer (57 points). *Eidg. Feldschiessen*: F. Berger (84 points), P. Fischer (82 points), M. Bucherer (82 points), Alfred Schmid (76 points), J. Hess (74 points) — all received medals. *Zürcher Spezialstich*: M. Bucherer (56 points), J. Hess (56 points), J. J. Zingg (53 points) — all received medals. *St. Galler Fernwettschiessen*: M. Bucherer (89 points), W. Rüeger (87 points), J. J. Zingg (86 points), P. Fischer (83 points) — all received medals. *Challenge Cup Competition*: W. Rüeger (319 points), Runner-up: M. Bucherer (311 points). *Major Talbot-Smith Cup*: J. Wetter (55 points), Runner-up: P. Fischer (53 points). *Highest Score of the year*: M. Bucherer (57 and 58 points). *Best Average Result*: W. Rüeger (52.73 points), M. Bucherer (52.27 points).

After the prize-giving followed a "gemütlicher Abend", a young Tyrolean, Willy Schreiber, well known in the West End as an entertainer, the guest of Mr. Adolf Schmid, sang and played on his zither a number of Tyrolean yodels and Swiss songs which were acknowledged with great applause.

A most successful and agreeable evening conspicuous by its congenial atmosphere thus came to a close, and will remain in the pleasant memory of all those who were present.

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