

# 45th anniversary for Svenska Civilekonomerna

The Svenska Civilekonomföreningen i New York, the Society of Swedish Civil Economists, held its 45th anniversary meeting on April 17. At that time Barbro Ehnbohm, who has been the chairman for the past 15 years, retired and was succeeded by Per-Åke Sjölund.

Special guests for the evening were Peter Wallenberg, one of the Sweden's most important figures in business and industry, and troubadour Sven-Bertil Taube. Congratulations were received from Professor Staffan Burenstam-Linder of the School of Economics in Stockholm who has been one of the speakers at other meetings, held three or four times each year.

The first meeting of the group was held at the Hotel Pierre just after the end of World War II. Since then there have been many illustrious speakers and many lively meetings.

The original requirement was that a person must be a graduate of one of the Schools of Economics in Stockholm or in Gothenburg but the restrictions have been somewhat relaxed in recent years. The addresses have been illuminating but the atmosphere somewhat informal.

Among those present this year who had been active in the early days were Lars Rådberg and Tom Jahn, both previous chairmen. The recent death of Allan Kastrop, a veteran active member, was noted with regret.

The number of illustrious people who have addressed the group over the years is a Who's Who of Swedish industry. It has also included politicians, and many of those



*Barbro Ehnbohm, retiring chairman, with her successor, Per-Åke Sjölund.*

in public service and trade.

Ambassadors Jan Eliasson, Anders Ferm, and Anders Thunborg have been guests, with Jan Carlzon of SAS, Pehr G. Gyllenhammar, Jacob Palmstierna, Peter Wallenberg, Anders Wall and Hans Werthén among the giants of industry. Ian Wachtmeister, another leading industrialist, has now become better known as the leader of a new political party in Sweden.

## Barbro praised

Barbro Ehnbohm was praised for her 15 years of leading the group, presented with a plaque and a bouquet of roses, among other tributes. Her careers in New York has spanned 20 years of involvement with business and high finance, particularly related to the pharmaceutical and beauty fields.

After graduation from the

Stockholm School of Economics she did post-graduate studies and taught commercial law at her alma mater for three years. Seeing New York as a challenge she emigrated in 1969, on a special research assignment at Columbia and later as marketing and products manager for two American drug companies.

From market analysis she moved into Wall Street and became a securities analyst. It has been with the cosmetic industry, when for five years she was promoting Swedish Secret, a Swedish

product line, and with investments, both with Argosy Capital and at present with Du Haan Inc, of which she is president. She is a member of the Board of the Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce and many organizations, including SWEA. She is chairman of the American-Scandinavian Theatre Company in New York.

Per-Åke Sjölund has long been active in industry and trade in this country. He has served on both coasts and as Swedish Trade Commissioner in Chicago. Presently he heads his own company, ON-LINE, which assists Swedish companies in finding connections in the United States and Canada, and vice versa Professor Burenstam Linder has proposed a meeting of the Civilekonomföreningen in Sweden sometime in the summer months.