

Unione Ticinese : Sezione femminile

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UNIONE TICINESE — SEZIONE FEMMINILE.

The Annual General Meeting of the Ladies' Section of the Unione Ticinese was held at the Swiss Club, Charlotte Street, W.1, on Sunday, the 30th January, 1944. The attendance was a very good and encouraging one and a sure indication that, in spite of the many handicaps and difficulties created by the War, our Ticinese women had not been deterred from retaining their active interest in the Society.

The usual formalities of the meeting having been concluded the President, Mrs. T. Lunghi-Rezzonico, addressed the members.

She thanked the Committee for its support and unceasing efforts during the preceding year and added that the Society might well congratulate itself on having achieved as much as it had. She spoke with gratitude of the hospitality enjoyed by the Ticinesi in Great Britain and of the freedom and privileges they had always received here. The War was now entering upon its fifth year and one's thoughts were constantly turning to "il nostro caro paese nativo," but it was satisfying to know that the opportunities the Society had offered to its members of frequently meeting and conversing in the Ticinese tongue and of exchanging reminiscences of the homeland had, in some measure, compensated for the long enforced exile.

Mrs. Lunghi then referred to the various activities of the Section during the preceding year, of which a ramble in Surrey during the summer, a film-show, a "tea party," a Thé-Dansant at the Dorchester Hotel (this in collaboration with the Men's Section) were but

a few items. She was happy to announce that the Section had again been industrious and had been able to send a large parcel of knitted contributions to the Red Cross Comforts Fund; it was further contemplated that in the near future yet another parcel would be sent to this well deserving organisation. The proceeds of a successful Christmas Draw had also been sent to the Swiss Benevolent Fund.

The President also spoke of the monthly social meetings at Swiss House, Fitzroy Square, which had proved such a success and which had been the means of renewing many old and founding many new friendships.

1944 promised to be a very active year for the Society, plans were now being "hatched" and it was hoped that all members would continue to co-operate as much as possible.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the President for her guidance and untiring energies during the year and, in fact, ever since she had founded the Society in June, 1939. It was noted with pleasure that Mr. and Mrs. Lunghi had but recently celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary and the members of the Society had, therefore, been afforded the truly "golden" opportunity of expressing their appreciation, thanks and affection to Mrs. Lunghi for all that she had done for the Society. It was hoped that she would continue to be its President for many more years to come.

The 1944 Committee was then elected and it was an appreciative gesture to the 1943 Committee that, apart from one retirement, all members were re-elected. The Entertainment Committee and the auditors for the year were also elected.

After a very successful and agreeable afternoon, the meeting then terminated. R.A.

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Applications for membership or for particulars of the Unione Ticinese Sezione Femminile should be addressed to its Secretary at 17, Bryanston Mansions, York Street, W.1.

NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE.

The London Group of the N.S.H. gave a film show at Conway Hall on Saturday, February 5th, featuring the Swiss Red Cross film "Flag of Mercy," as well as some of the latest Ministry of Information films.

Members of the British and Allied Red Cross Societies in London were invited and were present to the number of about 300, the rest of the audience being made up of compatriots.

Miss Warner, O.B.E., Director of the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross, addressed the audience, expressing the thanks of the visitors and speaking most appreciatively of the work of the International Red Cross Committee.

The Monthly Meeting of the N.S.H. was held at Swiss House on Saturday, February 19th. Mr. Gottfried Keller, who was to have given his usual talk on "Current Events," was unable to be present. The President, Mr. A. F. Suter, stepped into the breach by giving members a *résumé* of the report for 1943 of the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger, as well as an account of his visit to the Manchester Swiss Club. Dr. H. Revilliod also imported some interesting information recently received from Switzerland, which concluded a well attended meeting. WB.

