

# Louis Haussauer †

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**LOUIS HAUSSAUER †**

We deeply regret to announce the passing away, on 19th December 1960, of Mr. Louis Haussauer. He was born in Geneva in 1895. He finished his schooldays at the Ecole Professionnelle of Geneva, after which he joined a well-known Geneva firm of manufacturing jewellers, where he learnt all he could of the watchmaking and jewellery trade, working at the bench. In his leisure, he was a very keen mountaineer and skier, and several of his London friends spent happy days in his company in those far-off days, on the tops of mountains or by the ski slopes.

At the beginning of the first world-war, this luxury trade being seriously disorganised, he, like many other well-trained craftsmen, decided to come to England. He arrived in London early in 1916 and soon found work, starting a small workshop in Queen Victoria Street, with Emile Meyer, watch importers, and later on a larger one in association with Carey & Clemence.

After the war, he launched out and started importing high-class Swiss electrical apparatus; but when heavy duties were suddenly imposed in England he took the initiative to start assembling, and later on entirely manufacturing, electric water-heaters and thermostats; to-day, the factories he created — Sadia Works at Northolt and at Salisbury, Wiltshire — are many times the size of the original one, and the Company counts amongst the largest, if not the largest, of English firms producing electric water-heaters exclusively. He has constantly improved the models by taking out

new patents (he was always trying new ideas on experimental benches), and some years ago a branch factory was opened at Johannesburg for the South African trade, and another branch is now being developed in the Low Countries to serve the Common Market of Europe. At present more than 750 persons are employed.

He travelled extensively all over the world, after the war, in order to study the markets and arrange contacts; and the firm enjoys a great reputation thanks to the high quality of their production, due in no small measure to the hard and painstaking efforts of Louis Haussauer.

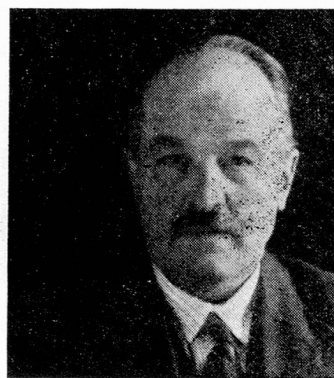
Louis was a member of the Helvetica Lodge, but since the war was not often seen in Swiss circles, due to his absorbing interests which left him little leisure. He was a very keen golfer, associated with the Sudbury golf club, which he captained for a time.

His last few years were spoiled by failing health, and he knew some time ago that doctors could not help him further; but he remained staunch in the face of adversity, and slowly and gradually retired from his normal active life. He leaves behind two sons and two daughters, and the sons are now carrying on with the help of the devoted staff of the factory.

He has shown by his example what can be achieved by hard work and perseverance, and we offer his widow and his family our deep sympathy in their great loss.

Farewell, old friend: we shall meet again when our time comes.

A.B.



**FRITZ WESPI †**

Another veteran of the Swiss Colony has gone from us — Mr. Fritz Wespi. We are very sorry to report that he died at his home in Potters Bar on Friday, 16th December 1960, after a prolonged illness.

Mr. Wespi was born on 18th January 1884 in Aarau, and after finishing his schooling at the Kantonsschule there he entered the Aargauische Kantonalbank as an apprentice. In 1905, like so many young men, he followed the trek abroad and went to Milan, where he worked for three years with the Banca Com-