

Mrs. Irene Drees †

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MRS. IRENE DREES †

The sad news of the death of Mrs. Irene Drees of 72 Woodside Road, N.22, came as a great shock to all those who knew her. She was not Swiss, but devoted to the Swiss Church in London where she had played the organ loyally and reliably for 42 years. It was through her brother-in-law, one of the founders of the German-speaking Community, that she got in touch with it (Mr. Muller).

A very difficult period had preceded her arrival in England in 1921. German-born, Irene Lange married a German national who lost everything in the inflation. But worse still, he died after only nine months of married happiness. Irene, undaunted in adversity, proud and courageous, made ends meet by playing the piano in inns and pubs in Germany and never lost her faith and sunny nature.

Then she came here and established herself as a piano teacher and opened her hospitable house to young students, many of them Swiss.

It was a sad day when Mrs. Drees had to give up her organ, for she gradually lost her sight. But she was still able to thoroughly enjoy her last visit to Switzerland, presented to her as a token of gratitude for her loyal service to the Church.

We who have had the privilege of knowing her, are mourning a fine, upright, generous woman whose warm heart and sympathetic understanding was always there for others. Our thoughts are particularly with Miss Bond, her friend and companion. MM

OBITUARY

We announce with deep regret the death of Mr. Arthur Herbert Marfurt, of "Montana", Bonchurch-Ventnor, I. of W. He was 73.

Mr. Marfurt came to this country at the beginning of the first world war and held positions as *chef de cuisine* in many first-class hotels. He will be remembered by many of the older compatriots in the hotel trade in London; he was a member of the Union Helvetia and the Swiss Club in Charlotte Street.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife and family.

* * *

We regret to announce the death of Dr. Anna Woessner of 34 Fortis Green Avenue, N.2, who had been a faithful member of the Swiss Mercantile Society since 1927.

We have only just heard of the death last October of Mr. E. Wehrli, of 19 Dovercourt Avenue, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

We extend our deep sympathy to the families of the two deceased subscribers.

BIRTHDAYS

Mrs. A. Berti celebrated her 77th birthday on 15th March.

The following old subscribers will be celebrating their birthdays during the next three weeks:

Mrs. Nina Pfendler will be 79 on 29th March, Mr. J. F. Ammann 81 on 30th, Mr. Fred Streit 69 on 2nd April, Mrs. H. Kriesi 75 on 5th and Mr. Leo Krucker 71 on 11th April.

We wish them and any other readers whose birthdays fall in the near future many happy returns.

SWISS WELCOME TO USE THE "DISPENSIRE FRANÇAIS" IN LONDON

It was announced last August that the French Hospital in London, founded in 1867, would probably have to be closed, as the number of beds available were not used to the full. The expense in upkeep was out of all proportion to the use made of the accommodation.

At the end of December, the Ministry of Health took over the hospital. Provisions have been made, however, to keep the "Dispensaire" (Out-patients Department) in the building, and a small part of the ground floor has been reserved for patients attending (Entrance at No. 10 Monmouth Street, off Shaftesbury Avenue).

The "Dispensaire" (French-speaking) will continue to function with nearly the same medical staff as before, and complete services of consultation and physiotherapy are at the disposal of patients. Various consultants, physicians, surgeons, a gynaecologist, dentist, oculist, dermatologist, an orthopaedic surgeon, an osto-rhino-laryngologist and a psychiatrist are available on appointment, and all consultations, medicines and treatment are completely free of charge.

This should prove an attraction for any Swiss to attend the "Dispensaire", and it is hoped that full use will be made of the services which will be of the high standard always associated with the French Hospital in London.

SWISS EXHIBITS AT MODEL RAILWAY SHOW

For the third year, Mr. Heinz Keller and Mr. Ernst Schuppli, both of Winterthur, will be showing models at the 42nd Model Railway Exhibition of the Model Railway Club. This will be held from 25th to 31st March at the New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, S.W.1.

The models the Swiss exhibitors will be showing are three goods wagons in 1/45 scale of the Swiss and German origin and an S.B.B. electric express locomotive of 1921 type A^e 3/6 in 1/82 scale. Amongst the many other items on show will be some S.B.B. and B.L.S. locomotives and rolling stock and a section of a railway which represents a part of the Canton of Berne all to a scale of 1/76. The latter belongs to one of our readers, Mr. B. H. Harper, a member of the Model Railway Club.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We wish to thank the following subscribers for adding donations to their subscriptions and/or for taking out gift subscriptions for friends or old-age pensioners:

Mrs. D. C. Delaney, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur O. Long and Messrs. W. Allenspach, J. W. Bonjour, O. J. Brunner, R. Chappuis, J. A. Compagnoni, A. Engelbert (Lausanne), J. Eusebio, Ch. Fruh, O. Grob, K.S.G., H. Humbel, R. Kaiser, H. E. Messmer, J. H. Moser, J. Muller, G. Roesch, H. A. Schmid, Ch. E. Wietlisbach.

We are most grateful for their kind and welcome support.

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