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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
Swiss House, Feb. 27th, 1929.

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Mercantile Society was preceded by the monthly Supper, and it was amongst a large gathering of Members that at 8 p.m. our President, Mr. A. C. Staehelin, opened the proceedings.

He offered, on behalf of the Society, a hearty welcome to our guests, Messrs. W. Obrist, Manager of the Union des Banques Suisses, Baden; H. Blumer, son of Mr. Blumer-Brodbeck, Glarus, Hon. Member of the Central Society; E. Steinmann, Secrétaire Général, Union Chrétienne de Jeune Gens de Langue Français; and A. Schupbach, a Trustee, and all Members paid the usual silent tribute to the memory of Mr. H. Hoesli, deceased, who was a highly esteemed contributing member.

The Meeting unanimously elected as tellers Messrs. B. Bretscher and A. L. Despond.

The various Annual Reports were duly read, agreed and applauded by all Members present and Mr. M. Paschoud, chairman of the Education Committee, read a letter received from our Head Master, Mr. O. Ph. Masterman-Smith, enclosing a petition to the Society, signed by 31 Day School Pupils, requesting an extension of the classes in high Commercial subjects, which proves that the Day School is fully appreciated by all students.

The Auditors' proposal, seconded by Mr. B. Bretscher, of the adoption of the Accounts, was carried unanimously.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. G. Jenne and seconded by Mr. A. Jufer :—

"The House Committee for 1929, appointed by the Annual General Meeting of February 27th, 1929, to consist of five Members, one of whom be a paid (part time) acting Assistant Secretary without power to vote. The Hon. Treasurer to be official Secretary of Swiss House Club was unanimously agreed to."

The fact that the work connected with the Education Department has grown to such an extent that it has become practically impossible to follow closely all matters and to exercise sufficient control, has undoubtedly caused the following proposal :

"...that the Annual General Meeting be asked to appoint a Select Committee of seven members to examine and report on the advisability or otherwise to place the Educational Department of the Society under a special registered Company, with a board of control and a credit up to £5 be voted for such Committee to obtain legal advice on the matter," which was accepted by the Meeting with the amendment, proposed by Mr. A. L. Despond and seconded by Mr. Buechi,

"that the Select Committee consist of nine members and the credit be increased to £20."

The following Members were elected on this Select Committee :—Mr. A. C. Staehelin (Chairman); Messrs. J. Boos, W. Deutsch, G. Jenne, J. Pfaendler, M. Paschoud, A. Rosselet-Droux, A. Schupbach, E. Werner, and Mr. A. A. Schütz, the last to act as Secretary without power to vote.

After Mr. A. C. Staehelin, the President of the Society, had made all Members fully understand that nothing could induce him to carry on his office for a further term, and the Meeting had very reluctantly accepted his resignation, Mr. A. Schupbach was elected, with applause, as temporary Chairman. Mr. Schupbach made a few appreciative remarks about the very useful work the President, Mr. A. C. Staehelin, and his Committees had accomplished in the past year.

After the nomination of Mr. M. Paschoud as President of the Society, and also as Chairman of the Education Committee, had been duly seconded, the Chairman's proposal, duly seconded, to elect the retiring Members on the various Committees *en bloc* was, according to the Society's rules, proceeded with.

Whilst the tellers were busy counting the votes Mr. W. Deutsch paid to the retiring President, Mr. A. C. Staehelin, a very high tribute of heartfelt appreciation by all Members for his untiring efforts during the past five years in his progressive leadership of the Society's affairs, and he did not doubt that the Society would reward his self-sacrificing services in a befitting way.

The following Members were elected on the various Committees :—

Hon. President, Mr. M. Paschoud; *Hon. Vice-Presidents*, Messrs. G. Jenne and J. C. Nussle; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. H. C. Meili; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. O. Grob; *Hon. Assistant Secretary*, Mr. G. Haberstich; *Hon. Assistant Treasurers*, Messrs. W. Burren and P. W. Schoop; *Secretary (paid)*, Mr. A. A. Schütz.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE : *Chairman*, Mr. Paschoud; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. J. Pfaendler; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. J. H. Attinger; *Hon. Chef de Cours*, Mr. A. A. Schütz; *Hon. Assistant Chef de Cours*, Messrs. J. H. Buechi and E. Hardmeier.

HOUSE COMMITTEE : *Chairman*, Mr. G. Jenne; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. J. J.

Boos; *Assistant Secretary*, Mr. W. Burren; *Members*, Mrs. Lunghi-Rezzonico and Mr. J. A. Seifert.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE : *Chairman*, Mr. J. C. Nussle; *Members*, Messrs. A. Jufer, R. Chappuis, J. A. Seifert and W. Wyss. *Auditors* : Messrs. R. Schweizer, A. Rosselet-Droux and P. Mathys.

Press Reporter : Mr. A. A. Schütz. *Delegate on the Advisory Board of the Employment Department* : Mr. C. Chapuis.

Delegates on the Swiss Sports Committee : Messrs. Ch. Strubin, W. L. Krucker and Moehr. *Delegate to the Nouvelle Société Helvétique* : Mr. J. H. Buechi.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 11 p.m., after a hearty vote of thanks had been accorded to the temporary Chairman and the Tellers, and was followed by an ordinary Monthly Meeting.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week :—

P. Vidoudez, Geneva : "The History of the Violin." Miss M. Bruengger, Zurich : "The Value of Modern Languages." P. Hurni, Liestal : "The British Industries Fair." R. Kaelin, Zurich : "Women Workers." O. Studer, Berne : "Plurality of Worlds." E. Keel, Vernayaz-Valais : "Nationalism." P. Bichsel, Herbligen-Berne : "Switzerland, a Paradise for Tourists." O. Grosjean, Lausanne : "Paper Money."

The debating classes dealt with the following subject :—

"Does Suffering Improve Mankind?" Proposer, Miss E. Weinmann; Opposer, Mr. J. Kuratle.

Friday : A very interesting and instructive lecture was given by J. H. Buechi, Esq., on "Ethics and Economy in Politics."

Saturday : Visit to the Zoological Gardens.

SWISS BANK CLUB.

The Swiss Bank Club will hold their First Annual Dinner and Dance at Maison Lyons', Oxford Street, on Saturday next, 9th inst., at 7.30 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. C. J. Searle, will preside.

They are expecting a full attendance of the sports members of the Club and their friends. Carriages 12 o'clock.

THE LATE MR. HENRI HOESLI.

The funeral of Mr. Henri Hoesli took place last Friday, March 1st, at 11 p.m. at the Golders Green Crematorium. Apart from the chief mourners, Mrs. Henri Hoesli and Mr. E. C. Hoesli (son) about thirty friends were present to bid our compatriot farewell on his last journey. We noticed among those present Mr. Gerig and Mr. Zimmerman (representing City Swiss Club), Mr. Pfaendler (Swiss Mercantile Society), Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Zogg, Mr. Oswald and Mr. Boehringer.

The Rev. Carl Hahn officiated, the service being given partly in English and partly in German. Flowers were sent by the following :—Loving

Wife and Son ; Staff, 8, Love Lane, E.C.2; Brethren of the Chaucer Lodge ; The City Swiss Club ; Swiss Mercantile Society ; President and Members of the Old Friends Club ; Friends in the City ; His old Swiss Friends ; Alfred and Lionel Moir, and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Moir ; Mr. and Mrs. Boehringer ; Mr. and Mrs. Pearcey and Family ; Mr. and Mrs. George A. Briggs ; Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Stewart ; Mr. L. Widmer and family ; Mr. and Mrs. Marshall and family ; L. Ganz, A. Dodwell ; C. Guthien ; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brown ; Mrs. Robertson, Nellie and Lily ; Miss Clappas and Miss Essere ; Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Berry ; Mr. and Mrs. Zogg ; W. W. Stephens ; H. J. Atkinson ; Hobo ; Jules Kuhn, Zurich ; Mr. and Mrs. Jury ; Mrs. Griffiths.

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