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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

The importance of the Agenda of the Extraordinary General Meeting of March 12th attracted over 60 Members. The President, Mr. Paschoud, when declaring the proceedings open, expressed his delight at seeing many of the older brigade still taking an active part in the Society's functions.

In view of the new constitution of the House-Committee, which is in charge of the administration of Swiss House, some alterations of the rules were necessary. Both the Secretary-Treasurer and Assistant Secretary of the said Committee are now to be paid officials and a motion that the word 'honorary' be deleted in each case was carried unanimously.

As some of the retiring officers could not be replaced at the preceding Annual General Meeting, an election to complete the Committee took place. The President was pleased to inform the Members that he had been able to induce Mr. A. Pfister to take over the Chairmanship of the House-Committee. It was gratifying to know that Mr. Pfister, who has always taken a keen interest in the activities of the Society, was prepared to fill this post, should the Meeting appoint him.

Mr. A. Rosselet-Droux having tendered his resignation as Auditor and Member of the Select Committee, it was proposed and seconded that Mr. H. C. Meili should take his place on the said Committees. Mr. A. Stauffer, Hon. Member and late President of the S.M.S., gave a concise account of the work Mr. Rosselet has rendered to the Society not only as Auditor for a period of 12 years, but formerly also as Chef de Cours. The Meeting reluctantly accepted the resignation. Mr. Meili pointed out that he thought it advisable that he newly elected Secretary of the Society should take over his office as Secretary of the Select Committee in order to acquaint himself with the intricacy of the work done by that Committee. The next important question was the appointment of a Secretary to the various Committees.

The President, Mr. M. Paschoud, informed the Members that there were three suitable candidates of about equal qualifications for the post. He emphasised, however, that one of them had the advantage of superiority in age and experience, having been the manager of a fairly large firm, but as the article manufactured by this firm did no longer find a ready market, on account of the changing fashion, he was seeking employment elsewhere. The gentleman in question is aged 49 and is not only skilled in handling men, but has also a good amount of tact, two factors which besides his other qualifications gave him preference over the other candidates, who on the other hand had been Members of the S.M.S. for a large number of years.

Lengthy deliberations ensued and the opinions voiced by many Members that it was a question of efficiency rather than doing a good turn to one of our Members seemed to decide the vote. Mr. Paschoud reported that the candidate proposed by the joint Committees, Mr. J. J. Schneider, received a clear majority of votes at a combined Committee Meeting held prior to the Extraordinary General Meeting. The credentials had been scrupulously examined. Mr. Paschoud also informed the Members that teaching qualifications were no longer necessary, as the teaching of Short-hand had in the meantime been taken up by the Asst. Secretary, Mr. W. Burren.

It was therefore merely a question of business experience and qualifications.

In order to come to a decision two scrutineers were elected and a ballot was taken which constituted the various offices as follows:

General Committee :—Vice President (Chairman of the House Committee) : Mr. A. Pfister. Secretary : Mr. J. J. Schneider.

House Committee :—Chairman : Mr. A. Pfister. Secretary-Treasurer : Mr. J. J. Schneider.

Auditor :—Mr. H. C. Meili.

As Delegates of the London Section to the Delegates Meeting in Zurich on May 10/11th were elected : Mr. M. Paschoud, President; Mr. J. Pfaendler, Hon. Secretary, Education Committee; Mr. J. J. Boos, Hon. Member. The Meeting could not have chosen a better contingent than these three Members who have a vast experience and no doubt will safeguard the interests of the London Section.

The Meeting then had to perform a very pleasant duty. It was proposed and seconded that Messrs. A. Rosselet-Droux and J. J. Boos be elected Honorary Members of the Swiss Mercantile Society in view of their services rendered during many years, the former as Auditor for 12 years and Chef de Cours, the latter as Secretary-Treasurer of the House-Committee. The motion was approved with acclamation.

The Members were informed that the 10th Anniversary of the appointment of our Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, will be celebrated by the Swiss Colony at the Café Monico on May 31st and as the number will be restricted it is advisable to reserve this evening as early as possible.

For the Annual 'Swiss Sports Meeting' at Herne Hill, which will be forthcoming on Saturday

day, May 24th, subscription lists will be circulated as usual among Members and Students of the S.M.S. We hope to be able to compete with a strong team.

A letter received from the Nouvelle Société Helvétique asking the S.M.S. to arrange for a lantern lecture next autumn in conjunction with the N.S.H., Professor Dr. Schröter, from Zurich, an eminent botanist in Switzerland, will deliver a lecture on 'The National Park of Switzerland' at Cambridge, and it was suggested that the same lecture should be given in London under the auspices of the N.S.H. and S.M.S. The cost would be approximately £15. The matter was referred to the Education Committee to make the necessary arrangements.

This brought the Extraordinary General Meeting to an end at 11 p.m., followed by the Ordinary Monthly Meeting.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Mr. J. Niggli, Samaden : "The Romansh Language." Mr. H. Mühlenthaler, Wangen a/A : "H. Holbein The Younger." Mr. L. Thomann, Geneva : "Is the League of Nations a vital Institution?" Miss E. Bringolf, Rorschach : "Greenland and her Population." Mr. P. Bindschedler, Uetikon : "Farewell Speech." Mr. A. Fattori, Biel : "Swiss Pencil Industry." Mr. O. Fröhlich, Zurich : "Railways and Motor Cars." Mr. P. Renz, Basle : "English Humour." Mr. A. Mahler, Zurich : "The Difference between Spain and England." Mr. L. de Torrerte, Sion : "Few words about the organisation and business of the Swiss National Bank." Miss R. Sahli, Zurich : "The English Working Hours." Mr. H. Mohrlin, St. Gallen : "Machines and their influences." Mr. C. Humbert, "Swimming." Mr. G. Pernet, "Skiing." Mr. Fischer, "Cycling." Miss E. Schlenker, "Tennis."

The debating classes dealt with the following subject:—

"Are you in favour of Prohibition?" Proposer : Mr. E. Fröhlich. Opposer : Mr. P. Renz.

A very interesting and instructive lecture on "Some famous Belgian Towns" was delivered on Friday March 21st by Sir Cecil Hertslet, K.B.E., late H.M. Consul-General for Belgium, which was enthusiastically received by the Students.

Many excellent slides were shown illustrating the extent to which the Belgian Towns were damaged by bombardment during the Great War and the rapid progress made in the re-building of these towns.

Sir Cecil Hertslet gave a very lucid and able talk, which was warmly applauded at the close.

An added interest was given to the lecture by the fact that during the War, Sir Cecil was appointed Consul-General to Switzerland and he suitably referred to his admiration for that Country and to the many friends he had made during his sojourn at Zurich.

On Saturday March 22nd the Students were taken to the "Wallace Art Collection."

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

(The figure in parentheses denotes the number of the issue in which the subscription expires.)

H. C. Meili (488), E. Baumann (487), A. C. Baume (479), Union Chrétienne (483), J. Donat (479), L. Wildi (487), F. Delaloye (487), A. J. Keller (488), A. Bruderer (489), F. Stüber (463), F. E. Wegmann (463), Swiss Legation (479), P. Mathys (459), Miss R. Müller (460), C. A. Aeschlimann (438), Ch. Stabin (489), Dr. M. Wyler (463), Miss J. Gex (490), R. Keller (491), H. Fritzsche (489), Consulate of Switzerland, Glasgow (491), R. Bessire (480), A. Wyss (476).

WEINGARTNER IN LONDON.

The celebrated Basle conductor Felix Weingartner who conducted the London Symphony Orchestra at the Queen's Hall last Monday made a great personal success of it. This it what the "Times" wrote about it:

"It was possible at Queen's Hall last night, as it usually is when Dr. Felix Weingartner conducts, to hear the whole of what the London Symphony Orchestra was playing, not merely a tune here and a blare of brass there, but subjects, counter-subjects, decorations, and figures of accompaniment, which, incidentally, were played in correct time, triplets as triplets, and doubly dotted notes as doubly dotted notes. The reason is that Dr. Weingartner seems not to regard the orchestra as a single instrument on which he is to play, as on a glorified piano, but as an *ensemble*, almost as a glorified chamber-music party, in which the balance of the different instruments is the chief object of attention and the most acute and delicate source of musical pleasure."

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CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

L'Assemblée Générale Annuelle

aura lieu le MARDI 8 AVRIL au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Gt. Portland Street, W.1 et sera précédée d'un souper à 7 h. (prix 6/6).

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard St. E.C.2 (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 9555).

ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.	Rapport des Vérificateurs des Comptes.
Admissions.	Election du Comité.
Démissions.	Divers.

Divine Services.

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Dimanche 30 Mars 11 h: M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 6.30 h: *Culte Spécial de Consécration*, présidé par M. le Pasteur FREDDY DURRLEMAN, de Paris; suivi de Ste. Cène.

Invitation très spéciale à chacun. Collecte en faveur de "la Cause."

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc, prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6 (Téléphone: Archway 1798).

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2
(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 30 März 1930.

11 Uhr vorm.: Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst und Chorprobe.

Dienstag, den 1. April 1930.

Nachm. 3 Uhr.: Nähverein im "Foyer Suisse."

Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen und Religionsunterricht sind erbeten an Pfr. C. Th. Hahn, 8, Chiswick Lane, W.4. Telefon: Chiswick 4156. Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche. Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."

DEUTSCHE KATHOLISCHE KIRCHE

47, Adler Street, Commercial Rd., E.1.

Sonntag, den 30. März, morgens—hl. Messen um 9 Uhr, 10 Uhr und 11 Uhr.

Deutsche Predigt um 9 Uhr und 11 Uhr.

Abendgottesdienst um 7 Uhr mit deutscher Predigt.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Monday, March 31st at 8.30 p.m.—CERCLE VALAISAN: Fifth Soirée Familière at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

Wednesday, April 2nd, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIÉTÉ DE SECOURS MUTUELLES: Annual General Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Tuesday, April 8th at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual General Meeting at Pagani's (see advert).

Saturday, May 24th.—SWISS SPORTS at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

Thursday, June 19th, at 7 p.m.—FÊTE SUISSE at Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1.

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