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REPORT ON INTERIM GENERAL MEETING OF THE UNIONE TICINESE,

held on the 19th December, 1943,
at the Swiss Club, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

The President, Mr. C. Ferrari, called the meeting to order and the minutes of the last General Meeting held in January, 1943, were read by the Vice-Secretary, Mr. E. Genini, and passed unanimously.

The report on the Festa Familiare held at the Dorchester Hotel, on 31st October, 1943, was then given and a vote of thanks accorded to the Entertainment Committee for the success achieved.

The next item on the agenda was the appointment of three auditors to inspect the Society's accounts for 1943, Messrs. A. Notari, G. Giuliani and I. Bassi, being elected to perform this important function.

Three new members were admitted to the ranks of the Society and pleasure was expressed at this occurrence.

The Secretary, Mr. P. DeMaria made a statement on the progress of the Ladies Section of the Society which was received with warm approval. Thanks and gratitude were extended to the ladies for their devoted and untiring efforts.

The President asked for any further suggestions and Mr. C. Berti, seconded by Mr. O. Gambazzi, proposed that the matter of admitting the ladies to participation in the Mutual Aid Fund open to all male members should be studied. After a lively discussion, a resolution, with one against, was passed that an opportunity should be given to all members to ventilate their ideas at the next General Meeting, consequent on which a decision should be taken to empower the Committee, or otherwise, to investigate this matter and present its proposals.

The proceedings were wound up by the President, who thanked all present for their co-operation.

The Christmas Draw held in aid of the Swiss Benevolent Fund followed and a substantial success was announced. The numbers of winning tickets in order of priority are appended for the information of all interested.

1st No. 2116; 2nd No. 275; 3rd No. 2110; 4th No. 271; 5th No. 2391; 6th No. 936; 7th No. 2515; 8th No. 1144; 9th No. 2380; 10th No. 35; 11th No. 885; 12th No. 320.

Consolation prizes:— Tickets Nos. 594; 2399; 2588; 1019; 1349; 1223; 613; 866; 1132.

The Society regrets to announce that one of its oldest members Signor Giovanni Battista Poncini, native of Ascona, Canton Ticino, has passed away at the French Hospital, Shaftesbury Avenue, on the 1st of January, 1944, and offers its sincere condolences to the family.

V.B.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

The Monthly Meeting was held at Swiss House on Saturday, January 8th.

This being the first meeting in 1944, the Chairman, Mr. J. J. Boos, took the opportunity of wishing all present a happy New Year, and also conveyed to them

seasonal greetings from Headquarters in Zurich through National Councillor Ph. Schmid-Ruedin and Mr. W. Baumgartner, Chief of the Employment Department.

Three new members were elected, viz. Mr. M. Hauwyler, Miss S. R. Hengstler and Mr. G. E. Suter, which augurs well for the year.

The President mentioned that the Swiss Minister had kindly sent two beautiful calendars from Switzerland, published by the Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger. These calendars used to be very popular in London before the war, when they were sold in large numbers. As probably very few members are in the happy position of having one in their own home to-day, one of the calendars received will be used to adorn the members' room.

The President also gave interesting news regarding activities in the Colony and referred to the efforts which are being made here to co-ordinate arrangements for education and employment in the post war period with preparations made in this direction in Switzerland.

After some discussion, the meeting decided to arrange a luncheon to precede the Annual General Meeting to be held at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, W.1, on Saturday, February 12th. Luncheon will be served at 1 p.m. sharp and the meeting will commence at 2.30 p.m.

Members will no doubt be anxious to hear the reports on the year's activities, accounts, etc., as well as plans for the future.

The Council and the Committee hope that members will be present in large numbers to give them their support. Please, therefore, reserve February 12th for the S.M.S.

WB.

CITY SWISS CLUB. (Monthly Meeting.)

Owing to circumstances beyond the control of the Committee, the "Bierabig," which was arranged to take place on Tuesday, January 11th, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, had to be postponed; it will take place on Tuesday, February 1st, at the Dorchester.

The usual Monthly Meeting took place on January 11th, at Brown's Hotel, W.1. M. Anton Bon was in the Chair, and there were seventy members present.

1 Admission, 1 Resignation.

The Meeting was preceded by an excellent dinner, consisting of *Velouté Monte Carlo*, *Choucroute Garnie St. Galloise*, *Jambon Fumé*, *Pommes Vapeur*, *Carottes à l'eturee* and *Profiterole Suchard*, and our members, Messrs. Wallimann and Bartholdi, are to be congratulated on looking after their colleagues so well.

The President announced that a *Thé Dansant* will be held at the Dorchester Hotel, on Saturday, February 19th.

After the Meeting, Sir Angus Gillan, a member of the British Council and a valued friend of the City Swiss Club, addressed the gathering on "The Growth

and Development of the British Colonial Empire." Sir Angus treated this vast subject in a masterly manner, giving a concise *resumé* of the development of British Colonial expansion during the last three centuries.

M. Bon, on behalf of the City Swiss Club, thanked Sir Angus for his very interesting address, expressing the hope that he would again give a talk to the members in the near future.

Close of the Meeting 9.30 p.m.

ST.

SWISS CATHOLICS IN LONDON.

The Christmas and New Year's Service on January 2nd at St. Peters Church, Westminster, was well attended. Father Lanfranchi preached and assisted by Father Würms gave solemn benediction, the mixed choir rendering carols before and after the service.

The Childrens and Christmas party at the Cathedral Hall which followed was a huge success, nearly 600 compatriots being present. Thanks to the generous donors all children up to 16, about 80 in all, received toys or useful presents, whilst the grown ups had tea provided, supplemented by cakes and pastries graciously supplied by Messrs. Bachmann (Kencakes), Webber and Aubonney.

On the nomination of the Most Rev. Bernard Griffin as Archbishop of Westminster, the Committee sent on behalf of the Swiss Catholics congratulations and assurance of our prayers for his success, and His Grace replied giving thanks and his blessings to all.

SWISS CHURCH IN LONDON.

Every Sunday at 11 a.m.

SERVICE IN FRENCH at the Eglise Suisse, 79, Endell Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.

SERVICE IN GERMAN at "Oak Room," Kingsway Hall, Kingsway, W.C.2.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Members are informed that a

THÉ DANSANT

has been arranged for **Saturday, 19th February, 3.30 p.m. till 6 p.m.** at the **Dorchester Hotel, London, W.1.**

Tables of eight and ten persons can be reserved and it is suggested that parties up to these numbers are formed. Chapman and Dorchester Hotel Band will be in attendance.

Admission is by ticket only at 5/- each including gratuities, obtainable from the Hon. Sec., P. A. Moehr, Imperial House, Kingsway, W.C.2, or from any member of the Committee, but not later than Monday, 14th February.

Kindly send remittance with order.

THE COMMITTEE.

PERSONAL.

The many friends of Mr. A. Stauffer will be delighted to learn that he has made a complete recovery; he entered a nursing home on the 16th inst for a minor operation and hopes to be back at his office shortly.

* * *

We regret to hear of the passing away in Lausanne on the 6th January of Madame A Girardet, beloved mother of M. Alexandre Girardet, Swiss Chargé d'Affaires. We extend to M. Girardet and to the Members of his family the expression of our deep sympathy in their sad bereavement.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED Cook General for Swiss living in comfortable house, Central heating, Lift. Prepared to pay high wages for efficient service. Box 77, Swiss Observer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

REQUIRED — Swiss Domestic Help, good home and wages. Every consideration. Please write particulars to: Miss M. Ivens, Fawsley House, 25, Hillmorton Road, Rugby, Warwickshire.

SWISS Lady requires General Help, Sleeping in; Modern flat, small child at day school. Good Wages. Mme Russell-Roberts, 9, Stafford Court, W.8.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Union Chretienne de langue française (French-speaking Y.M.C.A.) 9, Soho Square (Eglise Française), Réunion chaque mardi à 5.45 p.m. Invitation cordiale à tous.

Tuesday, February 1st, 1944, at 5.30 for 6 p.m. — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting preceded by a "Bierabig", at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

Saturday, February 5th, 1944 — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Film Show at Conway Hall, at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., in conjunction with the British and International Red Cross Societies.

Saturday, February 12th, 1944, at 2.30 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Annual General Meeting, at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, W.1, preceded by a Luncheon at 1.0'clock p.m.

Saturday, February 19th, at 2.45 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting, at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1, followed by Mr. G. J. Keller's usual talk on "Current Events."

Saturday, February 26th, 1944, at 2.30 p.m. — London Swiss Philatelic Society — Monthly Meeting, at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1. Followed by an Exhibition.