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## SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. Monthly Meeting.

Although many members were still away on holiday, as was evidenced by the number of apologies received, there was quite a good attendance at the Monthly Meeting, held at Swiss House on Wednesday, September 12th.

One new member, Miss Rita Abate, was elected and her admission will be particularly welcomed by the Ladies' Group.

The Chairman, Mr. J. J. Boos, read letters of condolence addressed to Mme. Thurnheer and the Swiss Minister on the occasion of the death of our late Minister, Dr. W. Thurnheer, as well as the replies received thereto. The President paid a high tribute to the deceased for his great work and self-sacrifice in the fulfilment of his duties. The assembly rose to pay the usual silent tribute.

Mr. W. Meier, Vice-President, reported on the progress of Evening Classes, i.e. French Circle, Italian and Russian Classes, etc., but unfortunately no further news could be given regarding the start of the Day School.

The President appealed to the members to support the 57th anniversary celebration on October 20th at the Dorchester Hotel, especially as this will be the first social function arranged by the Society since the outbreak of war. (Vide special announcement by one of our Past Presidents).

Finally, Mr. Boos extended a most hearty welcome to Dr. Escher, Chargé d'Affaires, promising him the collaboration and support of the S.M.S. in his difficult task. He said he did not doubt that Dr. Escher in turn would do all he could for the S.M.S. and particularly urged him to endeavour to obtain an early concession from the British Government to enable the Society to restart the Day School. The many letters recently received from prospective students prove how eager many of our young Swiss are to come over to perfect their knowledge of English.

Dr. Escher then addressed the meeting, expressing his pleasure of having had this early opportunity of meeting the members of the S.M.S. He promised to do all in his power to assist us in our work, especially as he himself had been a student at Swiss House and was therefore fully cognisant of the importance of the educational activities of the Society. Dr. Escher replied to various questions asked by members, explaining amongst other matters present travelling facilities to Switzerland.

The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Swiss

House on Wednesday, October 10th, and will be followed by a talk on Anglo-Swiss trade by Mr. A. J. Staehelin, London representative of the OSEC (Office Suisse pour l'Expansion du Commerce). Mr. Staehelin will enlighten the members on his mission and this should prove a most interesting and instructive evening.

WB.

## SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. Luncheon — Tea and Dance.

The Swiss Mercantile Society has decided to hold, on the occasion of their 57th anniversary, a Peace celebration and Reunion, to which all members and their friends are cordially invited.

This enterprising Society is thus the first amongst the many Swiss institutions in the Colony to celebrate Peace. I understand that the idea of commemorating the victorious conclusion of the world war by a "Victory Banquet" has been abandoned for two reasons, firstly on account of catering difficulties and secondly, it was considered too much of a strain on the Ladies to spend their own and their husband's clothing coupons on new evening attires. This is a very sensible idea, and will have the whole hearted support of all those who might have been deprived of some valuable assets.

The Swiss Mercantile Society is one of the lucky institutions which possesses not only a fair number of youngish members, but also a considerable body of members, who, for a great number of years, have faithfully paid allegiance to the Society. It is the wish and intention of the committee that both young and old shall meet on Saturday, October 20th, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, in a congenial and friendly atmosphere.

There will be Luncheon and Tea served. The announcement, which is before me, says, that the management of the Dorchester Hotel have promised a good luncheon and tea, and as I have no doubt that this promise will be honoured, it should be an inducement to all those whose "dancing days are over" to attend this function.

The excellent Dorchester band will provide the dance music, and it is expected that the many charming Ladies who will, no doubt, be present, will be successful in enticing their partners "to take the floor", and I for one, will give a promise to be "enticed" and sincerely hope that all my friends and fellow members will be as susceptible to female charms as yours

ST.

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