

Swiss catholics

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**GENERAL MEETING OF SWISS CATHOLICS,
28th APRIL, 1946,
AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL HALL.**

Prior to the General Meeting a Service was held at St. Peter's, Palace Street, when the Very Rev. Bishop Myers preached and gave solemn Benediction. In his sermon the Bishop referred to the wonderful Easter atmosphere and feeling that usually prevails in the valleys, hills and dales of Christian Switzerland, with bells ringing telling of the glorious resurrection of "Our Lord."

He appealed that we should also be filled with the spirit of Easter, of the triumph over death, the real christian spirit of tolerance and forgiveness, giving our Lord's example with St. Peter, who also denied "His Master" thrice, was forgiven and became the leader of the Christian Church.

The mixed Catholic Choir rendered the hymns during the Benediction.

After tea was served, the General Meeting, in the absence of Colonel Bon, Hon. President, and Mr. C. Schumacher, Chairman, presided over by Mr. C. Berti, was opened at about 5.30 p.m., the Very Rev. Bishop Myers being a guest of honour and saying the opening prayers.

Mr. Berti gave a hearty welcome to his Lordship and thanked him for his moving sermon in the Church and for being with us at the Cathedral Hall.

Mr. Boos then read the Chairman's, Mr. Schumacher, Annual Report.

In the report the Chairman was able to state that the year was one of successful activities, that the services at Easter, National Day, "Bettag" and Christmas as well as the various socials were well attended and appreciated; that the financial position was satisfactory.

He thanked all those who had helped to make the work of the Chaplain and Committee a success, singling out in particular Colonel Bon, the President, Mr. Steinmann, Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. Boos, Hon. Secretary.

Some 166 contributed towards the expenses but he expressed the hope that many more of the 500 compatriots to whom the appeal was sent would respond in 1946 so that we could do even better in the present year.

The report was accepted with applause.

Father Lanfranchi gave a general survey of his

work during the year, saying that he officiated, amongst other functions, at 6 funerals, 9 weddings and 7 baptisms during the year. His chief work was amongst the sick, poor and aged which are distributed all over London and further afield. He also referred to some Swiss Catholics' departure for Switzerland and asked that those who knew of Swiss Catholics who had not yet been notified should be reported to him.

The Chaplain also gave notice of the plans to send needy Swiss children for a 6-9 weeks' holiday to Switzerland under the auspices of the "Pro Juventute" organisation.

By hearty applause the audience gave Father Lanfranchi thanks for his work and report.

Mr. Vögtli then in a few well chosen words thanked the Committee for the work done in the past year and proposed that all be re-elected and Mr. H. Marfurt added to the Committee. Mr. Bonnetti seconded this proposal, which was accepted unanimously.

Mr. C. Berti thanked the meeting for the confidence bestowed and called upon Mr. Mordasini, the Vice-Consul, to say a few words.

Mr. Mordasini first thanked Bishop Myers for his presence at Church and at the meeting and said that the Swiss Minister, who was still in Switzerland on an official mission, had asked him to give his special greetings and good wishes to this assembly.

In our three national languages he dwelt on the great work of re-construction, both moral and material, that awaited the world and in which the Swiss Nation and individuals, can and must take their part for the good of mankind.

A social evening followed at which the mixed Choir sang three beautiful songs. The "Sectione Chorale" of the Unione Ticinese brought the sunshine and smiles of our "Sunny Ticino" in songs and music in our midst.

Both Church Service and the Annual General Meeting were not so well attended as in previous years. The cold and unsettled weather may have kept some away. They missed a most inspiring Service at the Church, an interesting General Meeting and an enjoyable social hour.

J.J.B.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

W. Huber, W. Gysler, P. Hatz, Mrs. M. G. Hilt, O. Wuest, J. Togni, H. Oswald, M. Bachmann, Miss A. Albrecht, R. E. R. Zurbrugg, Ch. Clark, Miss M. Straub, W. Renz, E. E. Jornot, A. Paris, J. H. Ungricht, Chas. Strubin, Paul Lambert, G. Jenne, Union Helvetia, A. Wettstein, G. H. L. Legeret, G. M. Bell, A. Bolla, Miss M. Jsely, O. Schoenholzer, C. Rutz, H. Wasmer, Omega Watch Co., J. J. Eberli, E. Evans, R. A. Strahl, Mrs. L. Coulston, P. Bucher, J. E. Wettler, A. Rappard, G. F. Adam, J. Oltramare, F. Mathey, P. Steffen, V. Umbrecht, E. Barbey, H. Reymond, V. Kraus, E. Bryner, F. G. Ebbut, H. Bally, E. F. Burger, A. J. Portman, E. Gallizia, P. Bornand, W. de Bourg, M. Mauch-Modica, W. Flory, Veglio Silvio, J. Keller, M. A. Leuba, C. H. Reymond, Miss R. Vergen, E. Fischer, A. Lob, J. Arstadian, W. Seiler, Mrs. E. M. Foster, G. E. Suter, E. de Graffenried, Mrs. L. Fautley, J. Guignard, E. Alder, P. A. Duvoisin.

(To be continued.)

SWISS BANK CORPORATION,

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