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SWISS OBSERVER 21 YEARS AGO.

We give below a summary of the events which have taken place in the Swiss Colony twenty-one years ago (January—December 1926).

January, 1926 :

The death is reported of Mr. Alfred Buhler, who was a prominent member of the Union Helvétia.

The Swiss Gymnastic Society in London wins the Desborough Challenge Cup for 1926 for wrestling.

The death occurs of Mr. G. A. Simona at the age of 92. The deceased was one of the founders of the Unione Ticinese.

M. Ch. J. Mottu dies at the age of 79. M. Mottu was for several years Manager of the Société Générale in London and afterwards Manager of the Anglo-Foreign Banking Corporation. He took a great interest in the Swiss Colony and was a member for many years of the City Swiss Club.

General Meeting of the Swiss Club (Schweizerbund) Mr. Jules Tresch is elected President.

February, 1926 :

Annual Banquet and Ball of the Swiss Mercantile Society at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras. Principal guest, the Swiss Minister and Madame Paravicini. (President : A. C. Staehelin.)

The firm of Volkart Brothers celebrates their 75th anniversary of the foundation of the firm at Pagani's.

March, 1926.

Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Mercantile Society, Mr. A. C. Staehelin is re-elected President. M. Henri Martin, Commercial Attaché at the Swiss Legation is elected Hon. President of the Education Department.

Social evening of the Unione Ticinese at the "Schweizerbund," in the Chair Mr. W. Notari.

Annual General Meeting of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, Mr. J. Baer is re-elected President.

Annual Dinner of the "Schweizerbund" at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1. Principal guest Monsieur de Bourg, First Secretary of Legation. (President : Mr. J. Tresch.)

April, 1926 :

Annual Banquet and Ball of the Unione Ticinese at Monico's Restaurant. In the Chair : Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister. (President : W. Notari.)

Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Y.M.C.A. Mr. J. Scheuermeier is re-elected President.

Annual General Meeting of the City Swiss Club at Pagani's, Mr. G. Marchand is elected President.

Annual Dinner of the Société de Secours Mutuals at the "Schweizerbund." In the Chair : Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister. (President : Mr. Colomb.)

Concert of the Swiss Choral Society at Mortimer Hall. Soloist : Mr. R. Gaillard.

Concert of Mlle Violette Browne at Wigmore Hall.

May, 1926 :

M. Henri Martin, Counsellor of Legation leaves London for Turkey on a special mission.

June, 1926 :

Swiss Sports at Herne Hill under the Chairmanship of Mr. Ch. Barbezat, and in the presence of the Swiss Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini.

57th "Fête Suisse" celebration at Caxton Hall.

The death is reported of Mr. Willian Rappard at the age of 73. The deceased was Proprietor of the firm C. Hoffmann & Co., ship and insurance brokers, and a member of the Baltic Shipping Exchange. He took a great interest in the Swiss Colony and was one of the oldest members of the City Swiss Club.

July, 1926 :

Piano-Recital at Wigmore Hall of Madame J. Wihi.

August, 1926 :

1st of August Celebration at Caxton Hall, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister, was presiding.

September, 1926 :

Special General Meeting of the Swiss Mercantile Society, regarding the purchase of a lease at "Swiss House," Fitzroy Square.

October, 1926 :

A Fund is opened amongst the members of the London Colony in favour of the victims of the Cyclone which swept over the Western part of Switzerland. Result £308.7.6.

November, 1926 :

Unione Ticinese, Annual Concert and Ball at the "Schweizerbund" in aid of the Fonds de Secours.

December, 1926 :

City Swiss Club, Annual Banquet and Ball at the Hotel Victoria. Principal guest : Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Swiss Minister. (President : G. Marchand.)

Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Choral Society. Mr. J. Manzoni is re-elected President.

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO SWITZERLAND.

The following message was broadcast to Switzerland on New Year's Eve by our compatriot, Mr. C. Campart :—

"Mes chers Compatriotes,

Cette fin d'année permet à un vieux Suisse de Londres de s'adresser à vous.

Mon nom : César Campart, né le 1er janvier 1875, à Mont-la-Ville, originaire de Lausanne et Genève, j'ai le rare privilège de vous souhaiter une bonne et heureuse année.

Domicilié à Londres depuis près d'un demi-siècle et actuellement ingénieur au Bureau Technique de l'une de nos grandes maisons suisses de construction, soit, un bureau qui a été miraculeusement épargné lors des bombardements.

Comme bon nombre de mes compatriotes enrôlés au Service de Garde du Feu, c.à.d. de la défense passive de la capitale, Je ne puis oublier les longues heures d'attente et de veille, durant lesquelles nous songions souvent à notre cher petit pays et à nos familles.

La plupart l'ont revu l'été passé ce cher pays, plus beau que jamais, si heureux et prospère.

Donc, au nom de tous, je présente à nos familles, à nos amis, enfin à tous ceux que nous aimons, les voeux les meilleurs pour une nouvelle année de paix, de bonheur et de sécurité."

