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UNIONE TICINESE.

Tea Dance at Dorchester Hotel, on December 5th, 1948.

The crystal chandeliers of the Dorchester ballroom lighted a gay scene on Sunday when over 500 people attended the Tea Dance given by the Unione Ticinese. A gay and happy crowd filled the tables or danced to the music of Harry Vardon's band, while raffle tickets were sold by members of the Unione Ticinese in their bright Ticinese costumes.

The tea was excellent and it was not until after 6 o'clock that the President, Mr. C. Berti, rose to say a few words. He was given a great ovation when he mounted the platform, and he replied by welcoming all who had come to help make the evening a success. He said how glad they were to have so many friends there and extended a very cordial welcome to Dr. Egli, President of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, Mr. Boos, past President of the S.M.S., and his wife, Mr. Siegrist, President of the Schweizerbund, Mr. Weist, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, and his wife, and Mr. Albertoli as one of the oldest members of the Unione Ticinese. Mr. Berti then made a spirited appeal on behalf of a *Swiss Centre* for London and asked all those present to support any scheme that might be proposed. He ended by saying that he felt sure such a Centre could be founded if everybody bore in mind the idea of service embodied in Swiss democracy "One for all and all for one."

Signora Berti then spoke as Head of the Ladies' Section of the Unione Ticinese, and welcomed all those present, hoping that they would enjoy themselves in every way.

The Master of Ceremonies then introduced the first performers of the Cabaret, Karinska and Vadie, whose dancing held the attention of all. Their grace and fluidity of motion was only surpassed by the acrobatic skill they displayed and when they returned later to give a Spanish dance from the Province of Andalusia there was a storm of applause.

Bobby Clanford, the Comedy Accordionist, gave an excellent show, and surprised all by his extraordinary voice. At times one could imagine there were two people — one bass and one tenor — on the stage.

Madame Papacini, well-known in the Unione Ticinese, gave two songs, grave and gay and received a well-deserved ovation which was only exceeded by that which followed the songs given by the Corale "Unione Ticinese." Their bright costumes gave a splash of vivid colour to the platform, and under their able Conductor, Mr. P. de Maria, they gave a most enjoyable programme of Ticinese songs, gay and sentimental, ending with their signature tune "Ciau."

Harry Vardon and his band returned to play and soon the floor was filled with happy couples dancing their way through the evening to tunes old and new. A well stocked bar had opened at 7 p.m. and a cheerful crowd gathered in the refreshment room to chat and drink the health of one another and success to yet another delightful evening such as is always associated with the name of *Unione Ticinese*.

R.W.

SPORTS EVENTS.

The International Soccer Game between England and Switzerland took place on the Arsenal Ground at Highbury on Thursday, 2nd December, and ended with a Swiss defeat, the score being 6:0 for England. The game had to be postponed from the 1st to the 2nd December owing to fog. This, however, did not help our Swiss players very much who arrived in this country by plane on the last day of November, but could not land at Northolt because of bad visibility. They had to be diverted to Bournemouth from whence they took the train to London which was involved in a minor accident. 48,000 spectators watched the game which was quite spectacular in the first part during which the Swiss succeeded in making some very nice and dangerous attacks against the English goal. In the second half, however, the English team played a brilliant game and found itself constantly in front of the Swiss goalkeeper. It must be said that the British football professionals played really clever football and it was a pleasure to follow their marvellous passings; against this the Swiss amateurs fought very hard but unfortunately without avail.

The Swiss players and officials as well as their English friends, the F.A. officials and many journalists were received after the meeting at a Cocktail Party given by the Swiss Minister and Madame de Torrenté

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