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THEO. SCHAERER †.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. Theo. Schaerer, architect, which occurred last December at his home, 1, Louis Botha Avenue, Johannesburg, S. Africa, at the age of 74.

Theo. Schaerer, was a well-known personality in the Swiss Colony, during the many years which he spent in this country, and the news of his passing away has come as a great shock to his numerous friends.

The deceased was born in Zurich in 1874 and was educated at the Technical School in Winterthur, in Stuttgart as a structural engineer and at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and the School of Fine Arts in Milan, as an architect.

He was appointed Officier de l'Academie des Beaux Arts in 1919, and travelled extensively in Europe as superintendent of works on hotels being erected by the International Sleeping Car Company in Warsaw, Moscow, St. Petersburg (Leningrad), Constantinople and Monte Carlo.

One of the earliest engineers to work with M. Hennebique, the French inventor of reinforced concrete, Mr. Schaerer was a pioneer of the "Systeme Hennebique."

He went to South Africa in 1907, and was consulting architect to the Victoria Falls and Transvaal Power Company until 1914, supervising the erection of the Rosherville, Simmer Pan, Brakpan and Vereeniging power stations and the housing schemes associated with them.

He won a number of open architectural competitions.

Mr. Schaerer left South Africa for Europe in 1914 to serve in the Swiss Army (Frontier occupation) and afterwards practised in London until 1934, being for many years architect to the Aerated Bread Company.

He was responsible for the erection of their main bakeries and more than 300 teashops in London. He was also architect to the Selection Trust Group of companies, designing their head offices in London and the staff quarters and hospitals for the Roan Antelope and Mufulira copper mines in Rhodesia.

Mr. Schaerer was responsible for the plans of the then new Swiss Legation, at 18, Montagu Place, London, W.1.

On his return to South Africa he took a keen interest in Johannesburg's town planning and traffic problems.

During the past 30 years he acquired a fine collection of Old Masters, as well as furniture and other *objets d'art*.

The deceased was, for many years a generous supporter of the "Swiss Observer."

Mr. Schaerer is survived by his widow and two sons, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

ST.

MUETTER

Wohl gseht's gar still und eifach us
Das Hüsli dert, im Lampe-schyn,
Doch isch es wie nes Gotteshus;
Drinn bättet mit tief frommem Sinn
A liebi Muetter für ihr Chind.
So viel ernsti, schwäri Stunde
Sy mit Angst und Sorg vorby.
Die lange Nächt, die grabet Wunde
Die, we me allei, viel grösser sy;
Und doch find jedes Morge-graue
D'Muetter früh bim schaffe a,
Mit frischem Muet und Gottvertraue,
Fangt sie die Tagesarbeit a
Und loht a keini Seele ahne,
Wie schwär sie glitte het dür d'NACHT,
Fasch isch's als ob vo höhere Bahne
Sie schöpfi neu Läbes-chraft
Und all das Kämpfe und Entsaue,
Ihr neue Muet zur Arbeit schafft.

Und ietz, wo d'Muetter vo us g'schiede
Dänk i a sie doch Tag und Nacht
Und föhl ihr Härz isch no hie-niede,
Es het by ihre Chinde "Wacht".
Sis Sorge bringt us lutter Säue,
Isch üs zum Heil, zum Vorbild mir,
"Du hesch mi gfuehrt uf gueti Wäge,
Jed' edli Tat, verdank i "DIR".

H.E.

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(To be continued.)