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REUNION DINNER OF THE 73rd FIGHTER SQUADRON R.A.F.

On the 27th January the First Reunion Dinner of the 73rd Fighter Squadron R.A.F. was held at the Royal Bell Hotel, Bromley.

The survivors of the famous squadron were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. René Marchand and this was surely one of the nicest tributes a father and mother could pay to the memory of their son, Pilot Officer Roy Marchand, who gave his life in the service of his country on the peak day of the Battle of Britain on the 15th September, 1940.

René Marchand, a born master of ceremonies, understood how to create immediately that cordial atmosphere which resulted in the success of the evening. Reminiscences were exchanged everywhere and after a hearty welcome in the Hotel Lounge, the guests adjourned to their dinner, an excellent repast.

We should like to express to Mr. and Mrs. Marchand our congratulations on such a happy thought and our thanks for the excellent way in which he carried through this reunion, and all present, we are sure, feel indebted to them for the opportunity to renew old friendships.

During the evening a telegram was received from another member of the Swiss colony, well-known to us all. The telegram speaks for itself —

“ Best wishes for enjoyable evening from one who as a survivor of the Lancastria well remembers the 17th June, 1940 stop Many thanks for untiring efforts against overwhelming odds stop Remembrances too for my old friend Roy Marchand and others who paid the supreme sacrifice that we may remain free stop God bless you all. ”

Oscar Boehringer ex-Sgt. Royal Artillery.”

We certainly remember and honour the self-sacrifice of those who gave their all, and Mr. R. Marchand can rest assured that we, members of the Swiss Colony, appreciate this act of hospitality which undoubtedly will help to cement the friendship between our two nations.

W.M.

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“ SCHWEIZERBUND ” (SWISS CLUB).

The Annual General Meeting of the “ Schweizerbund ” (Swiss Club) took place on Saturday, January 28th, 1950, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Mr. W. Schneeberger, was in the Chair, and there were about sixty members present.

The President made a full report about the activities of the Club during the last six months, and Mr. E. Ritzmann, the Hon. Treasurer, went through the Balance Sheet item by item.

We are glad to report, that, after many setbacks, and unfortunate occurrences, which seriously affected the financial position of the Club at the time, a turn for the better has now taken place.

The catering arrangements seem to be in good hands and with the help of the members and the Swiss Colony as a whole, a new and better era should be in store for the Club.

The term of office of the Committee having lapsed, new elections were held, during which Mr. W. Meier, very efficiently acted as President *pro tem.*

The following members were unanimously elected to form the new Committee:— President: W. Schneeberger; Vice-President: H. Ellenberger; Hon. Treasurer: E. Ritzmann; Hon. Assist. Treasurer: S. Jeker; Hon. Secretary: E. Schorno; Members: Mrs. M. Schneeberger; Mrs. H. Ellenberger; Messrs. H. Heimberger, A. Bossert, A. Issenschmid, H. Bloch, R. Schorno, D. Caluori, M. Bachofer; Arbitratores: J. Manzoni, N. Leuzinger, H. Caluori.

CONFRERIE VAUDOISE.

A full report of the Banquet and Ball of the Confrérie Vaudoise, which took place on Saturday, February 4th, 1950, at the Dorchester Hotel, will appear in our next issue.

HANS BUSER †.

We deeply regret to announce the passing away of Mr. Hans Buser, of “ Weggis,” Sea Lane, Goring-by-Sea, Sussex, at the age of 79. The Cremation took place in Brighton on Wednesday last.

With Hans Buser, the Swiss Colony has lost one of its oldest members, and a true and faithful Swiss.

The deceased came to this country at the early early age of twenty, and for many years was in business in Gutter Lane in the City, as London representative of the firm Buser and Keiser, Manufacturers of Ladies Underwear, in Laufenburg (Ct. Aargau). He retired from business in 1935.

In his earlier years, Hans Buser took a great interest in the life of the Swiss Colony in London. He was a member of the Swiss Mercantile Society for more than fifty years, and for many years (since 1924) belonged to the City Swiss Club.

All those who have known this kindly and congenial man, will keep him in good remembrance, and we are tendering our deepest sympathy to his widow in her sad bereavement.