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UNIONE TICINESE. Annual General Meeting.

Some thirty members braved the blustering weather to gladden Committee members' hearts by putting in an appearance at Swiss House on Sunday afternoon, February 12th, for the Annual General Meeting of the "Unione Ticinese."

Indeed such good attendance might have evoked not only gladness in some directorial breasts but also a justifiable expectation, having successfully discharged their duties during an eventful year, of a few extra Sundays relaxing with feet on the mantelpiece or buried in the depths of the ever recurring garden weeds. But as nothing succeeds like success, when it came to the point, the grateful members could not see their way to lifting the burden off such willing shoulders and with one exception, under the benign chairmanship of Mr. Vincenzo Ratti, voted the outgoing "Direzione" back into office by acclamation, as follows:

President: Carlo Berti. *Vice-President:* Peter De Maria. *Secretary:* Ernest Berti. *Vice-Secretary:* Peter Jacomelli. *Treasurer:* Virgil Berti. *Collector:* Luigi Biucchi. *Members:* Frank Bassi, Louis Bruni, Ugo Darani, Joseph Diviani and Giuseppe Eusebio.

Being so engrossed in election matters we overlooked to mention that the minutes of the previous general meeting were read and approved; that an excellent Auditors' Report, read by Mr. Ernesto Genini, was adopted, and that all present gave a friendly hearing to a maiden Secretary's report by Mr. Ernest Berti.

Mr. Carlo Meschini, an honorary Vice-President of the Society, who was present was elected to a vacant

seat on the Board of Trustees while Messrs. Carlo Berti and Peter De Maria were re-elected to hold office for a further 3-year period.

With regard to forthcoming functions the President indicated that tentative arrangements had been made for two Tea Dances, one for mid-May and the other early in October.

The meeting then voted for the maintenance during the present year of sickness benefits, as well as the usual donations to hospitals and charities at the same rates as last year.

With a view to objectivity we shall refrain from reporting on lively debates on such eternal topics as the following:

topic 1 — why is there always such poor attendance, where are all the members, including past Presidents and Vice-Presidents?

topic 2 — why is something not done to compel members to pay their subscriptions regularly?

topic 3 — Why are there so many "Ticinesi" who do not belong to the "Unione"?

and we must not forget the plaint: "Don't nominate me, Sunday is my only day off."

All present were introduced by the President to Dott. Guido Lepori, the newly arrived member of the Legation who responded to the address of welcome by Mr. Berti, by expressing his satisfaction at the opportunity of meeting so many of his "conterranei" within a week of his reaching his new post.

In closing we would congratulate Mr. Carlo Berti upon his re-election, and wish him the best of luck for his fourth term.

J.E.

A CALL TO SWITZERLAND.

A call to Switzerland is the cowbells tinkle, with the unique alphorn. Its plaintive notes of music, echoing from mountain to mountain of whitest snow.

In the meadows the majestic sweep of varied coloured flowers strewn numberless along stretches of the plain.

Watch towers and church steeples' move the clouds away. Jolly yodlers in cap and gay coat, add to the priceless picture. Chalets, the country's emblem cool and quaint. The thought of Swiss friends' kindness.

The wide-flung sky and azure blue lakes dancing with diamonds in the sun. And there — a thousand memories re'new — A call to Switzerland.

Mary Brandwood.

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