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CHARLES L. CHAPUIS

70 Years Old.

On Monday, September 24th, Mr. Charles L. Chapuis, of 24, Queen Court, Queen Square, W.C.1, affectionately known by his large circle of friends as "Carlo", celebrated his 70th birthday anniversary, and we are delighted to tender him, on behalf of our readers and the entire Swiss Colony, our sincere congratulations on this happy event.

When the writer came to this country, some 39 years ago, he had the privilege of meeting the "Jubilar" at a social function of the Swiss Mercantile Society, in which Society Mr. Chapuis held, at the time, the post of President of the Entertainment Committee.

This early acquaintance lead subsequently to a friendship which, I am happy to say, has never been troubled nor interrupted to this day. We might have, at one time or another, disagreed on various matters but these temporary differences of opinion never affected our close relations, and it is, therefore, a special pleasure for me to voice my sincere appreciation and thanks for the many years of happy friendship and for the untiring services he has rendered to the Swiss community in this country.

Few have shown so much devotion and worked so hard, over a long period of years, in the interest of their compatriots, as our friend Carlo has done.

* * *

Charles L. Chapuis was born at Lausanne on September 24th, 1881, and on becoming an orphan at the early age of ten, he arrived in London, together with his elder brother, Louis, in December 1891, he can thus look back on sixty years of residence in this country.

He continued his schooling in London until the age of fourteen when he commenced his business career as a shop boy in his uncle's firm, Henri Comoy, the pioneer of the Briar Pipe industry in England, which in the course of years became the world famed concern of H. Comoy & Co. Ltd. By sheer hard work and tenacity he became a Director, many years ago, of the firm of which his brother Louis is the Chairman and Managing-Director.

In spite of heavy business responsibilities, Mr. Chapuis found time to take a very active part in the Swiss Colony's affairs. He served on numerous com-

mittee's where his sagacity, fair play and sound views were much appreciated and frequently acted upon.

For over thirty years he has been one of the prime movers of the "Comité de la Fête Suisse" holding the offices first as Assistant Treasurer, then Hon. Treasurer and of later years (until 1950), President.

In 1911, our friend joined the City Swiss Club of which Society he became President in 1930.

Perhaps the major part of his manifold activities was devoted to the Swiss Mercantile Society, the London section of the "Schweizerischen Kaufmännischen Vereins" of which he became a member in 1908 and in which Society he held the office of President of the Entertainment Committee for eleven years. For fifteen years he was also a member of the Council and is still on the Advisory Board of the Employment Department of the Society. For the great services he had rendered, he was, a few years ago made an Honorary Member, a distinction which he richly deserved.

Mr. Chapuis is an ardent Freemason, Past Master of the Helvetica Lodge, and at present occupies the office as Almoner of this Lodge, he is also a Founder Member of the Rotary Club of Finsbury.

But not only has he given his services freely to the Swiss community, but also to the country which has given him its long hospitality. He became a Publicity Officer of the "National Savings Movement", a member of the "Air Training Corps Committee" and the "Advisory Board" Ministry of Labour", etc., etc.

It is also worth recording that Mr. Chapuis was awarded the "British Red Cross" war medal after the 1st World War 1914-1918.

He is a well-known personality in the Borough of Finsbury, where his firm's works and offices are situated, and although an "Alien" he has taken great interest in local social affairs, particularly during the last war.

Although Mr. Chapuis spent practically all his life away from his native country, he has remained faithful to the soil from whence he came, he has remained to this day an ardent lover of Switzerland and his canton of Vaud.

In 1917, our friend married, and the writer had the privilege of attending his wedding as representative of the Swiss Mercantile Society. It is an open secret, that the union with Germaine, a compatriote of ours, has proved a most happy one. Her charm and cheerfulness have endeared her to everyone, and she has been a great help to him in all his undertakings.

* * *

On this his 70th birthday our Carlo can look back on a life full of achievements and success; may a kind Providence grant him many more years by the side of his life's partner and in the midst of his many friends who have enjoyed his company for so long.

Thank you, dear Carlo, for all you have given us and

AD MULTOS ANNOS!

ST.