

Chas. Hagenbach & Sons, LTD and the Festival of Britain

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CHAS. HAGENBACH & SONS, LTD. AND THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN

During the last 31 years the names of many of our compatriots, or their descendants, who have distinguished themselves in various spheres outside the frontiers of our country, have appeared in this paper.

By bringing them to the notice of our readers, we wished not only to pay a tribute to their great achievements and the tenacity and integrity which has brought them success in their respective callings, but to act as an incentive and example to our younger generation, showing what hard work and initiative can still achieve in spite of great difficulties.

These men of enterprise deserve the thanks of their countrymen; by their work they have spread the good name which our country so happily enjoys abroad.

It was our good fortune to meet recently in Man-

chester, Mr. Arnold Hagenbach, Chairman and Managing-Director of Messrs. Charles Hagenbach & Sons, Ltd., of Chald Lane, Wakefield, one of the biggest multiple catering firms in this country, and chief catering concessionaires for the Festival of Britain, at the South Bank Exhibition in London.

Mr. Hagenbach had, at once impressed us by his outstanding personality, and through his courtesy we are able to present to our readers the history of this important concern from its inception.

Hagenbach's regard it as no small honour to be carrying the banner of British Catering at this important Festival which is attracting visitors from all over the world, and in seeking to provide standards that will win the approbation of the multitudes, they are conscious that their roots have a Swiss origin. In that conscientiousness, they will strive to achieve standards of food preparation, presentation and service that will be worthy of the country from which the founders came. The total number of catering workers engaged in this enterprise alone, is over five hundred.

* * *

The firm of Hagenbach's was founded in 1903 by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hagenbach, and from small beginnings blossomed into a large multiple organisation. The founders, with untiring energy, concentrated their work on producing goods of a high quality at competitive prices rendering at the same time excellent and courteous service to their customers.

At the beginning of this century the Swiss were already noted throughout the world for their impeccable work as confectioners and caterers, and the originators of this firm truly lived up to this reputation, nothing was left to chance. So much toil and hard work was bound to lead to success, and to-day the firm has a large number of shops and restaurants in all the main Yorkshire towns and villages.

Mr. Arnold Hagenbach, who took over the parental business, is a man of vision, and has worthily carried on and enlarged the concern which was founded on such praiseworthy principles.

Though of Swiss origin, Hagenbach's to-day is a British Company. The large staff is overwhelmingly British, but a number of Swiss technicians are employed.

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We are proud to relate that this important business was started by compatriots of ours and carried on with such outstanding efficiency by the second generation of the family, and we wish them every success in their undertakings which they so richly deserve.



MR. ARNOLD HAGENBACH.

ST.