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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

Considering the foggy night, the monthly meeting held on 12th December, 1951, enjoyed a fair attendance.

The President again had the sad duty of reporting the death of yet another of our active and contributing members, Mr. August Müller, Secretary of Czarnikow Ltd., in whose memory the meeting stood in silence.

Mr. A. Wälterlin, of the World Transport Agency, was made an active member of our Society and was welcomed as such by our President. On the other hand, we had to accept the resignation of Mr. A. Gallusser.

Mr. Meier then gave us a report on the various activities of the Swiss Colony in London and kindred matters.

He had attended the quarterly meeting of the Swiss Benevolent Society which showed a deficit in its working and was still in need of funds.

The 1st of August celebration at Central Hall, Westminster, was a great success. The cash in hand before the meeting of £40 now stands at £80.

Messrs. W. Burren, John E. Schneider and W. Meier were elected as our representatives for 1952 on the Swiss Sports Committee.

The Fête Suisse reported the handsome surplus of £120 on its festival evening last June. It donated 100 guineas to the Swiss Church for the purchase of a vicarage for the German-Swiss Community, and £10.10.0 to the Swiss Benevolent Society.

Mr. Meier mentioned that Pfarrer H. Blum will return to Switzerland at the end of the year and he paid a warm tribute to his work in London during the last six years.

A legacy of frs :500.— was left to the London Section by a Mr. Max Junge, who died in the early part of the year in Switzerland. The money was credited to the College Re-establishment Fund and will be needed in 1953 when we take over the building next door.

Our luncheon and dance will be held on February 9th, at the Dorchester Hotel. We may have the pleasure of Mr. Schmid-Ruedin's presence. If he can come over he will address the members on the Swiss Parliamentary System a day or two before the social occasion.

Mr. W. Burren, Chairman of the Education Com-

mittee, gave his quarterly report on the College, which, having started the term with 150, still had 140 Students. There were already 30 applications for next summer term. We have found that advertising in the Zentralblatt is quite adequate for our present needs.

The evening classes are attended by 185 Students, of whom 158 are women. We are running a special course of six months to prepare members for the Cambridge University of Proficiency in English examination. Most of the members of this course are working at the Swiss Bank Corporation. — Mr. Pattison, a member of our teaching staff, left us for reasons of health, and has been replaced by Mr. Gibson, B.A. London.

The official part of the meeting having thus been terminated, we were shown five films by the courtesy of our member, Mr. H. O. Ernst, Manager of the Swiss National Tourist Office: "A journey down the Aare from its source to the Rhine", "100 Years of Peace", "Swiss Town Series: Lausanne", "Winter Holidays in Switzerland", "Children of the Mountains". The first three were a distinct improvement on earlier Swiss films, since they did not only show mountain scenery and peasant life, but trade, and Commerce multifarious activities of the ordinary life of the densely populated plains. The last two films, which were given as an extra, are always sure of success because they have a unique charm which always appeals.

E.H.S.

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