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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting held at Swiss House on 8th September was not crowded by any means, no doubt partly owing to absences on holidays. Mr. O. Grob had sent in his apologies, one of his sons having just undergone an operation for appendicitis.

Mr. W. Meier reported the loss, through death, of yet another member, Mr. Jean Jacques Keller, importer of wines and cigars. Those present paid him the usual silent tribute by standing.

Mr. Ernest Burgaezzi, traffic manager of Swiss Air, London, was elected a member. On the other hand we had to accept the resignation of Mr. Oboussier, of Bally Shoe Co., Schoenenwerd, who returned to Switzerland some years ago.

The house warming party planned for September for the opening of the members-room, which is now ready, has been put off until a later meeting, when we may expect a fuller attendance. Those who have not seen it must make a point of an early visit. The panelling, the furniture of the same shade of oak, the easy chairs, the pictures, and the curtains, all lend a homely and a pleasant atmosphere to this room which will be reserved exclusively for members. There is provision for two electric heaters. The room is open to members any day except Saturdays and Sundays.

It was reported that the appeal made earlier this year for financial support of the French hospital, which also caters for quite a number of our compatriots, was highly successful. An amount of no less than £4,000 nett will be paid over to the hospital. A letter has been received from Madame de Torrénté, thanking the S.M.S. for its donation and help.

Mr. A. Schwander, head of the department for professional education in the Bundesamt für Industrie, Gewerbe und Arbeit, Berne, was shortly to come to London in connection with our College, and the arrangements for the reception and entertainment of him and Mrs. Schwander were outlined and approved.

Mr. W. L. Krucker was authorised to make a reservation with the Dorchester Hotel for an Annual Dinner and Dance on a Saturday early next February.

The meeting ended with Mr. W. Stettbacher showing us a goodly collection of excellent photographs he took during his summer holidays among the Swiss giants. One of his pertinent comments is worth recording here: "The present generation have lost the use of their legs. You hardly meet anybody on such excursions."

E.H.S.

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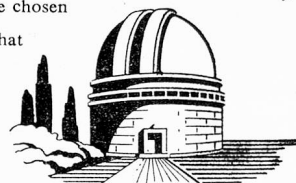
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