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SWISS CLUB MANCHESTER.

The meeting of the Swiss Club Manchester at the Midland Hotel on Thursday the 26th August was a most impressive occasion indeed. The purpose of the get-together of our members was to bid farewell to Mr. Oscar Schneider, who had been our Consul for almost four years, and to wish him God speed and the best of luck on his departure for Chicago to take up his new appointment as Consul General for Switzerland.

At a special General Meeting of the Club, convened after an excellent meal provided by the Midland Hotel, Mr. Schneider was unanimously elected a Life Member of the Swiss Club of Manchester, a well deserved honour in recognition of the outstanding services given to our community during his period of duty as Swiss Consul in Manchester.

Leave-taking is always a sad occasion and this meeting was no exception although we all realised that Mr. Schneider's promotion showed the appreciation by the Authorities in Switzerland of his outstanding qualities as a representative abroad of our homeland.

The outstanding impression gathered at this meeting was the sincerity of the appreciation expressed by so many of the leading members of the Swiss Club and it must have been a great satisfaction for Mr. Schneider to realise that he was not only a well liked Consul but a very real and personal friend amongst us.

As a parting gift, Mr. Schneider was presented with a silver salver and an illuminated address, signed by all the many members and guests present at this meeting, small tokens, perhaps, but showing him how much we appreciated having him amongst us not only as our Consul but also as one of us.

After Mr. Monney, our President, had bid au revoir to Mr. Schneider on behalf of the Swiss Club of Manchester and expressed our best wishes to him for the future, Mr. Ermano Berner and Mr. G. Senn, both former Presidents of the Swiss Club spoke and expressed their regret at his departure coupled with their good wishes in his new and important office, and Miss Margaret Schmid, Dr. C. A. Curtis and Messrs. M. Lichtensteiger and Themans addressed Mr. Schneider to express their tribute to him. Mr. O. Schneider, who was obviously moved, replied and thanked everybody for making his term of duty in Manchester such a pleasant one.

Telegrams were received from Milles. Rosemarie Meier, Anita Marti and Anna Messerli from Hoelstein, Baselland, Mr. Alfred Knapp, President of the Swiss Relief Society from Schwarzee, Ct. Fribourg, Mr. & Mrs. Bébié from Agno, Mrs. Monney and Mr. Kuebler from Winterthur.

It was getting on for 10.30 p.m. when a really memorable meeting finally came to a close.

W.R.R.

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