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MONSIEUR SALVADOR de MADARIAGA at the CITY SWISS CLUB.

At the Monthly Meeting, which took place on Tuesday, January 15th, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, Monsieur Salvador de Madariaga was the guest of honour.

Mr. Ch. Gysin was in the Chair, and the company numbered about 70. Considering the eminent position Monsieur de Madariaga enjoys in world affairs, and as an intellectual, the attendance must be described as "modest", and all those who stayed away missed a great opportunity of listening to an address which will not be quickly forgotten.

The President, in introducing the guest of honour, to whom he extended a cordial welcome, declared that he was somewhat at a loss to enumerate all the important posts which Monsieur de Madariaga occupied at one time or another, in the diplomatic, political and intellectual spheres. He mentioned, however, that he was Spanish Ambassador to the U.S.A. in 1931, Spanish Ambassador to France from 1932 to 1934, Permanent Spanish Delegate to the League of Nations from 1931 to 1936, Hon. Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford. He said that numerous Universities, amongst them those of Liège, Lille, Poitiers, Princetown, etc., have conferred honorary degrees on him.

Mr. Gysin stated also that Monsieur de Madariaga was a resident in Geneva for five years (1921-1926) and is well informed as to Swiss affairs. "In the world of Journalism", he said "he occupies an eminent position and his periodical articles and essays in the 'Neue Zürcher Zeitung' are read with great interest and appreciation. No less well known is he as an author, and his books, amongst them 'Essays with a Purpose' (1953), 'Rise and Fall of the Spanish American Empire' (1947), and 'Portraits of Europe', are widely read." It may be mentioned here that Monsieur de Madariaga has also several times appeared on Television. (Brains Trust.)

The subject of his lecture was "The part played by Switzerland in International Life". It was the wish of the speaker that his address should not be reported in the Press, and I, therefore, propose to touch only slightly upon various aspects in his *exposé*. Monsieur de Madariaga spoke at length on the different conceptions of neutrality and world co-operation and the European Federation.

The latter theme was of special interest to the writer, having during the last few years on many occasions written on this subject in the "Swiss Observer", and I take leave to requote a few concise quotations made at the time.

* * *

"It seems to me that the trouble is that various nations are each blessed with a Government, and that the latter thinks that the safety and interests of its own particular nation is its foremost task. Granted in a way, but they forget, or nearly all of them forget, that that aim can be achieved *only* if the safety and interests of the other Nations, all of them, are also considered and secured.

"You cannot have a United League of Nations

(or whatever you like to call it) between States enjoying full and separate sovereignty. A 'League' means banding together. As in private life you cannot be a true friend unless you surrender something of your own personality, as you cannot be a partner unless you surrender something you had into the partnership, so it is not possible for Nations to band together without surrendering some of the exclusivity of their status as individual Nations.

"Instead therefore, of slapping the face of anyone who proposes some measure, which in time might lead to a real League of United Nations in the full sense of the word, in which the individual Nations play their part, but are conscious that their individual interests come *after* and not *before* the interests of the League, it would be better if we tried the old way and followed the old exhortation, to fall in with our adversary when he is in the mood".

* * *

Monsieur Salvador de Madariaga, on concluding his address, was loudly cheered. He was followed by H.E. the Swiss Minister, who thanked the speaker for having so kindly consented to address the members of the Club.

The Minister then quoted a number of passages of Monsieur de Madariaga's books enlarging on the various points made therein and during the address.

Finally, after a short discussion, the President associated himself with the Minister's expression of thanks, and closed the meeting at 10 o'clock.

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