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NEWS OF THE COLONY.



PIETRO JACOMELLI
Chairman
Presidents' Assembly, 1958 to 1959.

On the occasion of the Meeting of the Presidents' Assembly, which was held on Monday, 2nd June 1958, at the Swiss Embassy, Mr. Pietro Jacomelli was elected Chairman for 1958 to 1959.

The newly elected Chairman was born in England, the son of Ticinese parents who immigrated to this country some fifty-five years ago and started a family catering business here. Mr. Jacomelli received his education in England and Switzerland. He is now principal Director in a catering concern in Richmond (Surrey).

For the last four years he has held the post of President of the Unione Ticinese, having previously been for some years Hon. Secretary and Vice-President of this Society.

Mr. Jacomelli is a keen sportman, and was at one time one of our star turns at Swiss Sports Meetings. He served for six years in the British army during the last war, and was taken prisoner at Corsino.

We extend to him our best wishes for a successful year of office.

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PRESIDENTS' ASSEMBLY.

The Presidents of Swiss Societies in Great Britain held their Meeting on Monday, 2nd June, at the Swiss Embassy, 18 Montagu Place, W.1.

The Swiss Ambassador attended, in the capacity of Honorary President, accompanied by Madame Daeniker as representative of the Hostel for Swiss Girls. There were also present Dr. E. M. Bircher, Press Counsellor, and M. F. Ansermoz, Secretary, of the Swiss Embassy; Mr. A. Stauffer, Editor of the "Swiss Observer"; and Miss M. Wolfer, of the Welfare Office for Swiss Girls. Mr. A. Gandon (Société de Secours Mutuels) was in the Chair.

During the election of the new committee the Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur A. Daeniker, took the Chair *pro tem.* Mr. P. Jacomelli (Unione Ticinese) was elected Chairman; Mr. W. Wiesendanger (Swiss Economic Council), Vice-Chairman; and Mr. E. Kuebler (Swiss Club Manchester), Hon. Secretary.

Dr. E. M. Bircher, of the Embassy, in the absence of Dr. R. Faessler, Commercial Counsellor, gave a very interesting *exposé* concerning the "Swiss Fortnight" which is going to be held in the autumn of next year. He also spoke to the Meeting regarding the "Pestalozzi Village" which was founded some time ago in this country, and envisaged a "Charity Ball", to be held next year, to give the Colony an opportunity to assist in this matter.

Mr. V. Berti ("Schweizerbund") acquainted the Meeting of the serious financial position of his Society, and made a strong appeal for closer collaboration in the social sphere between the various Societies, and for the eventual creation of a Swiss Social Centre.

M. F. Ansermoz (Swiss Embassy) talked at some length, concerning the ways and means of bringing about a badly needed rejuvenation of the Colony.

At the conclusion of the Meeting the Swiss Ambassador paid a warm tribute to Miss M. Wolfer, who during the last few years has been in charge of the Welfare Office for Swiss Girls — and who is shortly relinquishing her appointment — for the devoted and efficient services she has rendered in this capacity.

The Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

ST.

CORRECTION.

In our Obituary Notice of the late Mr. F. Kibiger, two errors have unfortunately occurred. Mr. Kibiger died on 8th May (not 9th), and he leaves a widow and two daughters (not one).

ED.

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