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GENERAL HENRI GUISAN

We deeply regret to announce the passing away on 8th April of General Henri Guisan, commander in chief of the Swiss army from 1939 to 1945.

An Obituary will appear in our next issue.

NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE

The Annual General Meeting of the London Section of Nouvelle Société Helvétique took place on 15th March at the "Schweizerbund," 74 Charlotte Street, W.1.

Mr. W. Renz, last year's President, was in the chair, and presided over a fairly large gathering of members.

The minutes of last year's annual general meeting were confirmed without comment. Both the annual report and the Treasurer's accounts were accepted with thanks to their authors. There was a small "surplus" of income over expenses which induced the meeting readily to agree to the proposal of the Council, to leave the subscription for 1960 at one pound.

Consul E. Ribi was then asked to, and did, preside over the election of Council and Auditors. All the members of the outgoing Council agreed to stand again and were duly elected. Mr. R. E. Baumann was elected an additional member. The Hon. Auditors were also re-elected and were specially thanked for their continued service.

The Council for 1960 consists of the following:— L. S. R. Ash, P. Bessire, Mrs. Bessire, R. E. Baumann, A. C. Boller, J. H. Büchi, A. L. Chapuis, Dr. H. W. Egli, Miss A. Gretener, Th. Haller, A. Kunz, Mrs. M. Meier, H. Mock, Miss R. Preiswerk, W. Renz, M. Vogelbacher, M. Wiesendanger.

The formal business having been transacted in record time, those present took the chance to refresh themselves at the bar and to indulge in friendly gossip until it was time to sit down to dinner.

Mr. Renz faced about sixty members and friends from his place at the top table. Amongst the special guests he could greet H.E. our Ambassador. Mme. Daeniker was unfortunately unable to attend. We also had with us the four "Seelsorger" and, of course, Mr. Stauffer, the Editor of the "Swiss Observer", and his lady.

The dinner in the now rather friendly-looking hall was worth a compliment to the new Manager and his wife, M. and Mme. Vuistiner. A slight hitch with the coffee was, we hear, not really the fault of the management.

The mental dessert consisted of two films shown by courtesy of the Swiss National Tourist Office. The first, "Panorama 1959", was a rather disjointed amateurish affair which might have been improved by reducing the number of items and re-editing of the rest. The other film was a real tempter wanting to make us wish to travel east via India, etc., to Japan. Some of the shots (all were in colour) were really beautiful — not the least some of the female beauties shown.

Jo.H.B.