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NEWS FROM THE COLONY

MISS OLGA MULLER †

It is with deep regret that we report the passing away, on Thursday, 10th January, at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, of Miss Olga Muller (" Olgi " as she was known to her family and friends), at the age of 68.

Her quite unexpected demise came as a great shock to her relations and friends. Although she had not been well for some time, and recently had to undergo two eye operations, nobody expected that she would be taken from us all so suddenly. During her stay in hospital it was found that she was suffering from a disease which would have caused her much pain and discomfort. Mercifully death came to her as a happy release. She has now entered a richer life, where there is no more pain nor suffering.

Olga Muller was born at Kloten (Zurich), and came to this country in 1921, taking up a position with Messrs. Albery & Co., Stock Brokers in London, which post she held for forty years. She recently retired from the firm to which she gave such devoted and conscientious service, her death — alas — cutting short a well-deserved retirement.

The departed, although modest, and not ever seeking the limelight, played nevertheless a useful part in the life of the Swiss Colony in London. For over forty years, she was a member of the executive committee of the Swiss Benevolent Society to which institution she rendered inumerable services, she had also been a member of the Swiss Mercantile Society since 1923. Olga Muller was passionately fond of children, and never missed the Swiss children's Christmas parties. She was kind — an endearing characteristic of the Muller family — and all those who have known her will always keep her in affectionate remembrance. A good and rich life, a life of love and devotion has now come to its journey's end, and one may well ask " Death where is thy sting? "

ST.

The cremation took place on Tuesday, 14th January, at Putney Vale Cemetery. Pastor P. K. Wipf conducted the service. The Swiss Ambassador was represented by Monsieur F. Ansermoz and Mr. J. Burgunder, the Swiss Benevolent Society by Mr. J. Oertli and Mr. M. A. Rothlisberger, and the Swiss Mercantile Society by Mr. R. Chappuis.

WALTER GUGGISBERG †

We deeply regret to announce the passing away, on the 4th of this month, of Mr. Walter Guggisberg at the age of 79. He was known in the profession, and amongst his friends as " Mr. Walter ".

The deceased was born in Berne in 1884, and after receiving his schooling in that town, entered the Hotel profession, where he made a distinguished career. He came to this country over forty years ago from Monte Carlo to take up the post as assistant Manager at the Savoy Hotel. In 1920 he was appointed General Manager of the Carlton Hotel, which post he held for thirteen years, and after which he devoted himself to his private affairs in England and Switzerland. Walter Guggisberg, when at the Savoy and Carlton Hotels helped many of our young compatriots in their career.

The departed was a brother of the late Hans Guggisberg, General Manager of the Ritz Hotel in Piccadilly, whilst another brother was General Manager at the Baer Hotel in Grindelwald. His father was head-porter at the famous Hotel Bernerhof in Berne, which was some years ago taken over by the Swiss Government for offices. A distant relation was Sir Gordon Guggisberg, at one time Governor of the Gold Coast.

During the last war, he took over the management of the Sackville Hotel in Hove, the proprietor of which was, and still is, Mr. F. Kung.

Walter Guggisberg, although he spent almost all his life away from his native land, was deeply attached to his country and his birthplace Berne. He often spoke to the writer (himself a Bernese) of — as he termed it — the good old Mutzenstadt. Owing to his professional duties he was not often seen in the Colony, he, however, for many years regularly attended the annual dinner of the Swiss Rifle Association. He was much esteemed and respected in the Hotel profession, and much appreciated by his friends. The writer remembers with pleasure a holiday spent with him and his wife at Villars, Switzerland. He will always be affectionately remembered by all who knew him. Walter Guggisberg leaves a widow and a son, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy in their sad loss.

ST.

The cremation took place at Golders Green on 8th January, Pastor P. K. Wipf conducted the service.