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NEWS FROM THE COLONY



JEAN SCHEUERMEIER †

The Swiss Colony in London will note with regret the passing away, at the age of seventy-nine of JEAN SCHEUERMEIER on 18th April 1964.

The deceased hailed from the Canton of Zurich. He was born on the 8th January 1885 in Dübendorf, where he received his early education. He served his apprenticeship as florist with a firm in Zurich and to gain further experience, he subsequently spent some time at Baden-Baden, Germany.

He came to London in 1908, at the age of twenty-three and took up employment with a firm of florists in Bond Street, London W.1. In 1910, the then Board of Directors of Frascati Restaurant Ltd., having recognised the promising and outstanding qualifications of the young floral artist, engaged his services as floral decorator at their renowned West End Restaurant, a post which the deceased discharged with great distinction for over forty years and until the Restaurant closed its doors in 1954. During all these years, in addition to the regular and outstanding floral decorations at Frascati Restaurant, the late Jean Scheuermeier invariably and personally also carried out all the varied and greatly admired floral decorations of the Fête Suisse and the Swiss Church.

From his early youth, Mr. Scheuermeier was a very staunch supporter of the Y.M.C.A. movement and for twenty years he served as President of the Swiss Y.M.C.A. in London. During that time he took a very keen interest in young compatriots who came to England temporarily in order to study English and British business methods. Many are the young men who found an ever open house in Cromwell Avenue, Highgate, later in Mill Hill and until the outbreak of the second world war in Canons Park, Stanmore, where they were not only regally entertained, but also, where they received sound, friendly and understanding advice in all their problems.

For many years, the deceased was also a member of the Swiss Church and the Nouvelle Société Helvétique.

With approaching age, Mr. Scheuermeier retired to Studham, Beds., where he died. After a funeral service at the Parish Church of Studham, the earthly remains of our friend were interred at the Church Cemetery on 21st April 1964.

Throughout his long, fruitful and blessed life, the deceased retained Swiss Nationality. Although he had lived fifty-six years in England, a country he dearly loved, he remained a true and faithful Swiss at heart.

He leaves a widow and two daughters to whom we express our deepest sympathy in their sad loss.

F.G.S.

FÊTE SUISSE 1964

No doubt to many members of the Swiss Colony the arrangements made for the celebration of this year's Fête Suisse "on the water" came as a surprise. But considering that our country's ships are now sailing on the high seas and Switzerland has joined the world's maritime nations — thus killing once and for all the old joke of the "Swiss Navy" — I think it is a splendid and original idea.

The Colony has already been duly informed of the arrangements by an illustrated pamphlet and an article by the Editor of the "Swiss Observer" in the paper's last issue. There is, therefore, little to be added, but as Press Reporter of the City Swiss Club, I would like to make a fervent appeal to its members to support this new venture, by not only attending in full force, but by also bringing along their English friends. The expenses involved in chartering the M.V. "Royal Sovereign" are fairly high, and in addition a certain amount for covering entertaining costs will be incurred. In order not to saddle the enterprising committee with a financial loss it is absolutely necessary that every effort should be made to fill the boat to its capacity.

The committee has studied the question as to entertainment very carefully, catering for all tastes, making this river trip not only an enjoyable but also an interesting one.

It would greatly ease the task of the committee if tickets were applied for as early as possible; they can be obtained from Fête Suisse Committee, 35 Fitzroy Square, London W.1, Swiss National Tourist Office, Swissair, Swiss Embassy, Swiss Bank Corporation, Swiss Mercantile College, or at Tower Pier before departure. Applications by letter should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope. Prices of tickets: Adults 15/-, Persons under twenty-five 7/6, Children under twelve free.

May I again ask my fellow-members to give themselves *rendez-vous*, on Friday, 12th June, on board the M.V. "Royal Sovereign" to spend a happy evening in congenial company.

A. STAUFFER,
Press Reporter, C.S.C.

HOW TO JOIN A SWISS SOCIETY

The Editor is occasionally asked by newcomers to the Swiss Community in Great Britain why the "Swiss Observer" does not carry a list of all the Swiss Societies and their activities. Seeing that there are two score and more, it is not possible to include such a list in the limited space available. Anybody interested should apply to the Editor who will be happy to give the necessary information.