Elisabeth Bebie †

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ELISABETH BEBIE †

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Elisabeth Bébié, prominent member of the Manchester Swiss Club.

She was born in Winterthur on 11th February 1890, daughter of Adolf Wilhelm and Elisabetha Moesle. The family later moved to Zurich. As her father believed in education for women, she attended the Ecole de Commerce in Neuchâtel, and later took a *Certificat d'Etudes Françaises* and a *Diplôme pour l'Enseignement du Français Moderne à l'Etranger* at the University of Neuchâtel. Mrs. Bébié first came to England in 1913, teaching for a year at a school in Penzance, Cornwall, until in 1914 she married Alfred Bébié and came to live in Manchester. Two daughters were born, and when they had grown up a little she went back to teaching, first at Culceth Hall School in Bowdon, in Cheshire, and later at Withington Girls' School in Manchester.

After retirement from teaching, her indefatigable spirit would not accept idleness, and her life was as busy as ever. She found new interests, particularly in music; she took up the violin again (she had played it in her youth) and had many happy hours playing in a small orchestra formed by friends. For several years she spent part of the summer doing oral examining in Modern Languages for the G.C.E. examination. After the death of her husband in 1956, she also found another new talent, painting, which she took up with enthusiasm, even attending classes. She was very active in the Swiss Club, Manchester, to which her death is a grievous loss.

Health difficulties compelled Mrs. Bébié gradually to spend part of the winter out of England, and she went more and more often to Switzerland; in 1963, at the age of 73, she went to South Africa for a few months to visit a nephew and his family, to whom she became an extra " Granny ". After her return from South Africa her health troubles became worse, and even a winter spent in Locarno could not give her any permanent relief. She returned to Switzerland at the end of September, in the hopes that another winter in Locarno might help to relieve the breathing trouble which was getting progressively worse, but it was not to be, and she died there on 2nd October.

In character she was gay and lively, with enormous energy, a warm and loving heart, and a keen and lively interest in people and their problems. Her love of gardens and plants and her " green fingers " were almost legendary, and she dearly loved the things of the countryside. Her other abiding love was Switzerland, and although she was very happy in England, she wanted to go home at the end. She will be greatly mourned by her wide circle of friends, and to her children and grandchildren she leaves an abiding memory and a gap that can never be filled. *M.L.*

EUGENIA VALCHERA †

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Eugenia Valchera, widow of the late Giacomo Valchera of Malvaglia, Ticino, and last of a large family (De Maria) of Comprovasco-Acquarossa. She was 76 and died on 13th October, fortified by Rites of the Holy Church, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. Clements-De Maria, " Suisse Alpin ", 77 Ailsa Avenue, St. Margarets, E. Twickenham, Middlesex. Mr. and Mrs. Valchera were at one time owners of Valchera's Restaurant at Richmond, of Valchera's Café, Shepherds Bush, and of the Hôtel de la Gare at Acquarossa, Ticino. Since her husband's death in 1951, Mrs. Valchera continued to own Valchera's butcher's shop at Kew Gardens, which was started by her husband, and which has been managed by Mr. and Mrs. T. Keene for the past thirty years.

Mrs. Valchera leaves a son Carlino, Mrs. Lydia Clements (of the De Maria family of Lottigna, Ticino) whom she cared for like her own daughter from the age of two, a son-in-law Desmond, and many relatives and friends here and abroad who loved her very much. To her family and friends we extend our deep sympathy.

Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Elizabeth's R.C. Church, Richmond, Surrey, prior to interment on 16th October. R.I.P. " Per l'anima cara — una preghiera."

X.

OLGA WIESENDANGER †

We announce with deep regret the death of Mrs. Olga Wiesendanger of 47 The Gallop, Sutton, Surrey. She died after a long illness at the age of almost 69. She had been active in the " Frauenverein " of the Swiss Church in London and in the Nouvelle Société Helvétique. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her husband, Mr. Max Wiesendanger, her daughter and two sons and their families.

HEIDI KYBURZ †

We regret to announce the death of Miss Heidi Kyburz who was killed in a motor accident near Zagreb in Jugoslavia. There were five victims, three of whom were Swiss. One of the badly injured is Miss Gertrud Wicki whose brother was one of the dead. Miss Kyburz and Miss Wicki were with the Swiss Bank Corporation in London for two years, and they returned to Switzerland only at the end of last April and May respectively.

We tender our sincere sympathies to the bereaved families and wish Miss Wicki a speedy and complete recovery.

Nouvelle Société Helvétique

London Group

Tuesday, 17th November, at 7.45 p.m.
Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9/11 Belsize Grove, N.W.3

OPEN MEETING

Talk (with slides) on Brazil and other South American Countries by Monsieur M. FELLER, Counsellor of Embassy.

All Swiss and Friends are Welcome