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Nachruf: Guido Masina †

Autor: JE.

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY

FIRST OF AUGUST WITH THE SWISS OF THE NORTH

The day has arrived again when members of the Swiss Club Manchester, reinforced by an imposing contingent of the Yorkshire Swiss Club and many good friends from our host-country, were able to meet in joy and thankfulness to celebrate the 674th birthday of our homeland. We remembered not only the few men who freed us from foreign tyranny and bondage but also the people who at home were gathering around the fires or other meeting places and in so doing we all felt very near to Switzerland. Greetings were received from Mr. E. Kuebler, a stout friend and for many years President of our Club. He is now residing in Winterthur.

The evening started in a most happy way, the Cottons Hotel near Knutsford receiving us in its usual hospitable way. One side of the richly decorated rooms was made even more attractive by the display of a huge Swiss Flag from the Consulate of Switzerland, kindly lent to us for this special occasion. The fare was, as usual, excellent and contributed in no small way to the success of this patriotic function, attended by more than 160 people, a function with a particular Swiss flavour. Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Mettler and the generosity of the Swiss Air a rich assortment of "Schueblig" from Glarus were waiting for us, sausages presented and flown over directly, reaching us in the nick of time. At the end a large quantity of lovely strawberry tarts of Mrs. Sohm contributed further to this very happy evening.

The President of the Manchester Swiss Club then greeted everyone present, thanking specially the members of the Yorkshire Swiss Club, led by their Secretary Mrs. Lerch from Leeds who acted in the absence of Prof. Inebnit; they did not fear the long way over the Pennines, bringing with them the wood for our bonfire. The President continued reminding us that a Swiss true to his character should always be prepared for the difficulties of our times, to face the less brighter side of life, feel alive to our duties, keep together, give help where needed, not grudgingly but with much goodwill and this foster friendship and fellowship.

He appealed to everyone to support wholeheartedly their clubs and in doing so to give encouragement to their committees which with much personal sacrifice and patriotism are trying to keep our societies prosperous and alive. In this connection he expressed thanks to our Hon. Secretary Mrs. Monney who works so hard for us all and contributes to a great extent to the success of our meetings and functions.

He concluded by reading the message of Bundespräsident H. P. Tschudi, which was well received by the assembly and warmly applauded.

Our President was then followed by our Consul Monsieur G. A. Brunner, who found some very warm words of greetings for everyone present, and expressing his appreciation for the work done within the Yorkshire and Manchester Swiss Cubs. He then explained to us in some

detail the problems confronting Switzerland, whose authorities are endeavouring to find a solution to the various problems of economic, technical and scientific nature and how Switzerland wishes to fit in harmoniously in the ever changing pattern of world affairs, indeed a divided and restless world, and in doing so not endanger its traditional neutrality.

He told us how the Confederation is furthering science and schools, to keep our homeland in the forefront of progress and thus assuring continuity of work and prosperity, and some figures mentioned gave us a very vivid picture of the magnitude of this effort.

Finally, he reminded us of some aspects of this year's Assembly of the Swiss Abroad in Solothurn, thanking at the same time our British Friends for their friendly feelings towards Switzerland and wishing us all a safe journey home.

Our Consul's address was followed with great interest and duly applauded.

Eventually old and young gathered outside the hotel, around our huge 1st of August fire, singing our "Schweizerpsalm": "Trittst im Morgenrot daher . . ." and admiring the final display of fireworks, arranged by our indefatigable Treasurer Mr. Scheiwiller, helped along by a few willing members and friends. So came to an end a most impressive and enjoyable evening which will be treasured, by many of us, for the rest of this year.

E.B.

Obituary

HENRI CORRODI †

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Henri Corrodi. He was born in 1878 and hailed from the Canton of Zurich. He was one of the oldest members of the Swiss Club Manchester, which he entered as far back as 1913. A few years ago, he was made an Honorary Member. He had a most lovable character and was a very loyal supporter of the Club's efforts. His loss is greatly felt by the many friends he had.

E.B.

GUIDO MASINA †

We regret to announce that, while visiting his friends Lehrian at Hendon, Guido Masina passed away suddenly, aged 75 years. Hailing from Grumo di Torre (Val Blenio), the deceased had come to London on completing his studies in the Ticino and had taken up a career as hotelier. He saw service at the Savoy, Cecil and for many years at the Berkeley. Of a jolly, but retiring disposition, Guido Masina had many friends in the Colony. He was a member of the "Unione Ticinese". To his widow, Giuse née Odoni and his many relatives both here and at Home we tender our sincere condolences.

JE.