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OBITUARIES

MARTHA DAENIKER

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Madame Armin Daeniker, wife of the former Ambassador in London. She died on 27th April after a long period of suffering.

Monsieur and Madame Daeniker arrived in London early in 1955, and two years later his rank of Minister was changed, and he became the first Swiss Ambassador at the Court of St. James's. For nine years, Monsieur and Madame Daeniker worked in London, and they left a mark not only as representatives of their country, but also in the Swiss community.

Martha Daeniker, nèe Schlumpf, was born in Berne where she studied law. She graduated with a doctorate in law and was in fact the first woman in Switzerland to qualify both as a barrister and as a notary.

Madame Daeniker was an extremely energetic and busy woman. She entertained generously at the Embassy and arranged private concerts and other special parties for visitors from Switzerland. During the Swiss Fortnight, she had to look after a great many visitors from overseas, and she organised the major part of the work in connection with the collection undertaken for the British Pestolozzi Village at Battle in Sussex. She also worked indefatigably in the Swiss Community. She was president of the Council of Management of the Swiss Hostel for Girls, before this was opened officially. She was Hon. President of the Welfare Office where she took an active part, and she was a regular member of the *Frauenverein* which received 24 pairs of socks every year knitted by her and much appreciated by the old men who get them at Christmas!

At the end of November 1963, the Daenikers left London and retired to Switzerland. They have lived at the Sonnenhof, Jolimontstrasse 2, Berne, ever since.

The Swiss community in Great Britain remember Madame Daeniker with gratitude and express warm sympathy to her husband in his sad bereavement.

M.M.

RENE MARCHAND

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. René A. Marchand, of "Chez Neus", 16 Hachrain, 2572 Bienne. He died on 29th April at the age of 86.

René Marchand was born in Bienne, son of a renowned watchmaker. He was to follow him in his trade, and he trained extensively at home and abroad. He came to London in 1910 and joined a watch wholesalers' business. Soon he was made sales representative for Great Britain. In 1913, he and Mr. Léon Jobin, another well-known Swiss, founded a joint business, Marchand and Jobin Ltd., which soon proved successful, and branches in other towns were opened.

During the First World War the Company was engaged in producing munitions and René himself was appointed by the Ministry to take charge of a Chiswick factory engaged in producing fuses. He was, at the conclusion of hostilities commended by the Ministry for his "unfailing courtesy and energetic assistance".

Also during the war years various business ventures were founded, Simplex Watch Cases Ltd., Birmingham; Marchand, Jobin & Chumas, London, General Stampings Ltd.; Chiswick and Platinum Watch Cases, Hatton Garden.

After the war René Marchand became very involved in numerous business projects which took him to America where he founded Marchand & Jobin Ltd., New York, in addition his interests in Switzerland were further extended.

Added to all his business interests connected with the watch industry, Mr. Marchand became the proprietor of the Royal Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent and in 1948 founded the René Marchand Wines Company, Bromley.

René Marchand married Miss Connie Dean in 1916 at the Swiss Church in London. Their son Roy became a famous fighter pilot in the war and tragically crashed with his Hurricane

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