

John Henry Buchi †

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JOHN HENRY BUCHI †

John Büchi, one more of the all too numerous members of our Colony swept away by this cruel winter, was of the modestly retiring kind, little known beyond his closer friends and colleagues, but much loved by them as a faithful fellow-worker and compatriot. He was born in March 1892 in the Canton of Thurgau, the son of a peasant family, and had most of his schooling at Weinfelden in preparation for a commercial career. But after a few years of commercial employment in Switzerland and Hamburg his interest turned to Trade Unionism and Silvio Gesell's Freigeld-Movement. For a considerable time he was secretary of an Engineering Union in Zürich, where he married Elisabeth Kern.

In 1923 he came to England to work at Schroder's Bank while also attending courses at the London School of Economics. In the early thirties he turned to journalism and became London correspondent of the "Hindustan Times", for whom he continued working also as business manager until his retirement in 1959. He was co-founder of the Commonwealth Journalists' Association, whom he served loyally in various capacities, including a few years as President, and whose treasurer he remained until his death. In 1933 he published a book on "Free Money" based on Silvio Gesell's ideas and theories which have found practical application in Canada and various other countries without, however, leading to the hoped-for millennium of prosperity. Lately he did some part-time work at the London office of Escher Wyss. Death by heart failure came to him painlessly at his place of work, on 11th February.

For many years John Büchi was a faithful member of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique in London, whom he also served on the Council and on one or two occasions as a lecturer on Swiss Constitutional History. His fellow-councillors miss a dear and ever cheerful friend now that he has so suddenly been called away. Our deepest sympathies go out to his widow, and his two sons, one an engineer in Yorkshire, the other a metallurgist in Staffordshire.

E.

The Cremation took place at Golders Green on Monday, 17th February.

SWISS CLUB MANCHESTER

At the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Club in Manchester on 12th February, the following members were elected on to the Committee: Mr. B. Simon, President; Mr. E. Berner, Vice-President; Mr. H. Monney, Hon. Secretary; Mr. J. Sohm, Hon. Treasurer; Miss Alice Rietmann, Hon. Assistant-Secretary; Mrs. L. Themans and Mr. J. Scheiwiller.

SWISS RELIEF SOCIETY MANCHESTER

On 16th February, Mr. Ermanno Berner was elected President in succession to Mr. E. Kuebler, who retired to Switzerland a few months ago.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Every Sunday 7 to 11 p.m. — The Swiss Catholic Youth Club — Social at Westminster Cathedral School, 48 Great Peter Street, S.W.1.

* * *

Every Thursday, from 6 to 7.30 p.m. — Discussion Circle in English — Young men specially invited. Tea from 6 to 6.15 p.m. Swiss Y.M.C.A., London Central Y.M.C.A. Building, Great Russell Street, W.C.1.

* * *

Every Thursday from 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. — Unione Ticinese — meets at the Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9 Belsize Grove, N.W.3. All Ticinese welcome. The "Corale" rehearses from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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Every 1st Wednesday at 7 p.m. — Swiss Social Meeting at 2 Sussex Place, Widcombe, Bath.

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Every 1st Wednesday in the month — Secours Mutuels des Suisses à Londres — meeting at Swiss House, 35 Fitzroy Square, W.1, at 7 p.m.

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Monday, 11th March, 7.45 p.m. Mr. Guy Bovet, Organist from Geneva — ORGAN RECITAL — Hyde Park Mormon Chapel, Exhibition Road, S.W.7.

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Wednesday, 13th March, 7 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — MONTHLY MEETING — Swiss House, 34/35 Fitzroy Square, W.1.

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Tuesday, 19th March — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING — Swiss Hostel for Girls. (Particulars to follow).

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Friday, 22nd March, 6 for 6.30 p.m. — Schweizerbund (Swiss Club) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING — Glendower Hotel, S.W.7. Dinner at 7.30 p.m. Reservations for dinner to Mr. J. Schmid, Hon. Secretary, c/o SNTD. Tel: WHI 9851.

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Wednesday, 8th May — FETE SUISSE at Central Hall, Westminster.

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Saturday, 19th October — Swiss Mercantile Society — 75th ANNIVERSARY DINNER — Dorchester Hotel. (Particulars to follow.)