

Unione Ticinese

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OBITUARIES**Walter Allenspach †**

We announce with deep regret the death on 31st March of Mr. Walter Allenspach, of 112 Broadoak Road, Ashton-under-Lyne. He was born at Amriswil in 1887 and came to this country (Manchester), at the age of 19. He was an expert confectioner and opened the Lounge Café in Stamford Street, Ashton in 1925, having been in business at Nelson for a number of years. For 30 years he was renowned for his Swiss *pâtisserie*, and he was once complimented by the late Duke of Kent on a large sugar model of the Ashton War Memorial, exhibited at a show visited by H.R.H.

In 1953, he sold the "Lounge" and retired, spending much of his time travelling extensively in Europe and Asia, often with his car, keen motorist that he was.

He met Miss Blanche Fisher in Manchester, and they were married in 1909. It is to her and their two daughters that we express our sincere sympathy.

Mr. Allenspach was a loyal member of the Manchester Swiss community, especially the Swiss Club. The President and several members, as well as the Swiss Consul attended the funeral.

Sir Seymour Howard †

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Sir Seymour Howard, Bart., J.P., of 104 Whitelands House, Cheltenham Terrace, S.W.3. He died on 15th April at the age of 82. Sir Seymour was a former Lord Mayor of London and a great friend of Switzerland's.

Robert Lehner †

We extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Robert Lehner of 3, Thakeham Drive, Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex, whose husband suddenly died on 22nd April, at the age of 74. Originally from St Gall, he was educated in Zurich. He underwent extensive training in the hotel business in Italy, France and Switzerland and came to England in 1911, starting his career in the kitchen of the Ritz Hotel. He worked at Harrogate, in Jersey and at the Midland Hotel Manchester. Later he became *Chef de Cuisine* at the Queen's at Hastings and then Catering Manager at St. Ermin's, S.W.1. After a spell of management at Buxton, he became General Manager at the Queen's at Hastings in 1947. Seven years later, he joined Vandervells' (canteens and caravan catering). Next he worked in Africa, in Lagos and Buea, and in 1961 he took over the Beach Hotel at Worthing.

Mr. Lehner, F.H.C.I., F.C.F.A., was interested in all things to do with catering, and it was his wish that there should be no flowers, but that donations could be sent to *Réunion des Gastronomes*, 5 Staple Inn, W.C.1, for Culinary Art.

"SWISS OBSERVER" PUBLICATION DATES

The "Swiss Observer" is published every second and fourth Friday of the month. Our next issue will appear on 26th May. Articles and reports should reach us not later than Tuesday, 16th May. Only short news items can be accepted after that date.

The next issue but one will be published on Friday, 9th June. Contributions for that number should be to hand not later than Tuesday, 30th June.

Would all subscribers who are in arrears with their subscription payments *please remit without delay*.

BIRTHDAYS

We wish many happy returns of their birthdays to all our readers who will be celebrating during the next fortnight, in particular to Mrs. F. G. Sommer and Mr. G. Friberg (76) on 15th and Mr. W. Schedler (63) on 24th May.

* * *

We have just heard that Mr. F. E. Brunner of "Clavadel", 24 Collingwood Close, Rockend, Torquay, celebrated his 75th birthday on 31st March. Belated, but sincere good wishes.

GOLDEN WEDDING

We wish to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. C. Crausaz, of 49 St. John's Drive, Harrogate, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 23rd April. Mr. Crausaz (from Lutry, Vaud) ran a successful toy business. With their five daughters and eleven grandchildren and their many friends, we wish them many happy returns of the day.

WITH THE UNIONE TICINESE AT THE DORCHESTER**Tea Dance attended by 550**

On Sunday, 30th April, the Unione Ticinese held their Spring Tea Dance at the Dorchester Hotel. If it was a record attendance, it was also an anniversary for Harry Vardon's Band which had played at these annual events for 21 years. Dancing started immediately, and the frolics went on until 11 p.m., when "Auld Lang Syne" came far too soon for most people. Great energy was displayed by young and old, *very* young and *very* old indeed. The youngest couple repeatedly on the dance floor can't have been more than five years old. The oldest was over eighty. The "Can-Can" was danced with the same delight as "Knees up, Mother Brown". The "Gay Gordons", the still-popular twist and ever-green sentimental tango vied with fast and slow waltzes and exhilarating quicksteps.

Should anyone have desired a breathing space, a cabaret provided the break: the fine singing voice of a young man related to a Ticinese, the brilliant accordion playing of Miss Ph. Gillingham, no newcomer to the Swiss community, and, of course, the homely tunes of the Corale Ticinese under its conductor Mr. Bruni. In his introduction, M.C. Mr. de Maria, warned the audience that some of the voices had been left behind the previous day when Chelsea with their Ticinese goalkeeper Bonetti had won an important football match. But it proved unnecessary, as the choir was in good voice and spirit and looked extremely attractive in their Ticinesi national costumes.

The Tombola was well provided with attractive prizes, such as a camera, a hair dryer, a coffee percolator and many good bottles.

The President, Mr. V. Berti, had welcomed several guests earlier in the evening, the Swiss Ambassador and other members of the Embassy (especially the Consul and Madame Tosio), the Warden of the Swiss Hostel for Girls, Miss H. Siegrist, and the Editor of the "Swiss Observer". Monsieur Long expressed his pleasure at being with the Unione Ticinese for the first time and that he was thoroughly enjoying the evening. By his appreciative words, he voiced the sentiments also of the other guests.

MM