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UNIONE TICINESE.**General Meeting.**

Unusually well attended was the first general meeting for the year 1954 of the Unione Ticinese held on Sunday afternoon, February 14, at Swiss House, within a week of the 80th anniversary of the foundation of this important society. Four score years! A milestone, indeed, but paling into insignificance before a sister society's two and half centuries! Yet what an eventful period this has been. Not a vestige remains to-day of Messrs. Gatti's Electric Hall in Denmark Street, W.C. where on Sunday, February 8, 1874 the 101 founding members met to approve the Rules and appoint the following Committee: President S. Gatti — V. President M. Pagani, Treasurer S. Dell'Oro, Secretary V. Piazza, Members: Messrs. G. Veglio, F. Brentini, D. Trongi, R. Vanina, S. Bruni, F. Gallizia and G. Monico.

But we must not reminisce; let us return to the meeting of 1954. It was declared open by the youthful Vice President, Mr. Peter Jacomelli, who extended a warm welcome to Dr. Guido Lepori of the Legation, and then proceeded in moving terms to commemorate the late President, Mr. Peter De Maria, whose untimely death robbed the Unione Ticinese of one of its most able and devoted members.

The minutes of the previous general meeting and also the accounts for the past year were approved unanimously.

The secretary, Mr. Ernest Berti, gave a painstaking report on the Committee's stewardship in 1953 to which members listened most attentively, but one almost heard a sigh of disappointment (was it a groan), when it was explained that the "rent" had been increased by 150% (some turn to the inflationary spiral!) Torrent of eloquence then flowed in connection with the delicate question of a consolidation with the Ladies Section, and on the suggestion of the honorary member it was decided to leave the matter over for the next meeting.

Under the capable chairmanship 'pro tem' of Mr. Lepori the new Committee was elected as follows:

President: Peter Jacomelli — Vice President: Carlo Berti, Secretary: Ernest Berti — Vice Secretary: Mario Diviani, Treasurer: Virgil Berti — Collector: Frank Bassi.

Members: Messrs. Filippo Bonetti, Louis Bruni, Ernest Camozzi, Frank De Maria and J. Eusebio.

The new Committee was then invested with the task of suitably commemorating the Society's 80th birthday. It was further decided to leave unchanged for the present year the sickness benefits payable to members and the various donations to hospitals and charities.

Mr. Eusebio was elected one of the Trustees, and the meeting was informed that Mr. Louis Bruni had taken over the leadership of the "Corale".

It was directed that a letter of thanks be sent to the heirs of the late President for a generous donation.

The Librarian, Mr. V. Berti, reported on generous gifts of books that have reached the Society through the Legation from the Cantonal Education Department, and Publishing Houses at home.

We join in offering Mr. P. Jacomelli, whom the colony already knows for his brilliant achievements on the athletic field, our heartiest congratulations and sincere good wishes for a successful term of office.

J.E

"SCHWEIZERBUND" (SWISS CLUB) (Annual General Meeting.)

The annual general meeting of the Schweizerbund took place on Saturday, 30th January. Only about 35 members turned up and many of them evidently had mistaken the hour announced (3 p.m.) for four o'clock. At least it was nearly that hour when the President, Mr. Schneeberger was able to open the proceedings.

In presenting the accounts and report for the past year the President had to draw attention to the fall-off in revenue owing to a drop in consumption both at the bar and in the restaurant. To some extent this no doubt was due to the general hardening of money which, quite naturally, would affect social clubs like ours very quickly. However, a few more frequenting members and a few more frequentations by members would restore the picture. As it was, we were just about working even.

After a few questions on detail had been asked, and answered by the auditor, the accounts were accepted unanimously with a vote of thanks to the Committee.

Mr. Schneeberger then offered the resignation of his committee and, after stating categorically that he and Mrs. Schneeberger would not accept nomination for a further turn, relinquished the Chair to Mr. Manzoni who had been appointed to conduct the elections. Due thanks were paid to Mr. Schneeberger and his wife for their work for the club over the five years he had presided. Unanimously the meeting elected Mr. Delaloye as President, Mr. Caluori as Vice-President and Assistant Treasurer, Mr. J. J. Keller as Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Weist as Hon. Treasurer.

Jo.H.B.

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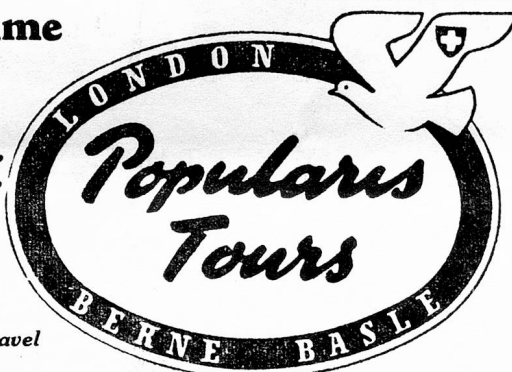
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