Ceésar Ritz prince of hoteliers

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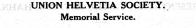
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The annual pilgrimage to the Society's graves in Hendon Park Cemetery on Sunday the 16th day of October, organised by the Society, was made by several members, their wives and rela-tions. Wreaths and flowers were placed on the graves, sent by the Territorial Administration, the London Section and the Club-house committees.

In spite of rain, which fell heavily during the afternoon, prayers were offered by the Rev. C. Th. Hahn, at the grave-sides, for those de-parted and for the living. In the address to the living — always impres-sive — those present were told of the comfort Christ gave to His disciples and that that comfort was intended for all who believed in God.

"Let not your heart be troubled. — In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. — I go to prepare a place for you. — And whither I go ye know, and the way you know. — I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." H. L. Stubbs,

Secretary.

SWISS WATCHMAKING. (A Satisfactory Period.)

The first six months of 1938 have been fairly satisfactory with regard to exports, the details of which will be given below. We cannot, how-ever, pass over the disappearance in the course of the spring of three persons who stood in the first rank among those interested in the develop-ment of the watchmaking industry: *Charles Edward Guillaume*, honorary director of the In-ternational Office of Weights and Measures, to whom we owe a large share of the chronometrical perfection of 1938 watches, and who won the Nobel prize for Physics in 1920, *F.-L. Colomb* and *Ernest Strahm* who were eminent reorganizers of Swiss watchmaking in the years immediately after the great war. The discoveries made by Ch.-Ed. Guillaume concerning the expanding of metals and the best alloy for accurate adjust-ment of watches are sufficient to render his name famous in the history of science.

ment of watches are sufficient to render his name famous in the history of science. During the first half of 1938 exports have maintained a high level in the Swiss watch trade: 109 million francs as compared with 95 in the same period in 1937; 12,073,000 pieces as compared with 12,688,000. Although there was considerably less demand for finished works, there was a rise in metal and silver watches as well as in wrist watches with nickel and gold cases. Watches set with precious stones, looked upon as a special class, have found a good sale in certain countries, proving that purchasing power is on the increase. As a whole our exports are decidedly interesting in spite of numerous difficulties in international politics. They would continue to increase, the average value of ex-ported watches would be greater still if it were not for the appearance of dark clouds on the horizon of several of our most interesting markets, creat-ing difficulties in spotteng stock and explaining the somewhat unsatisfactory reports in the daily papers. And yet stocks are exhausted in many foreign countries and should be renewed if a catastrophe is to be avoided. At the time of writing the outlook is better, and we have reason to hope that trade will improve in the autumn. The quality of Swiss watches and chronometres is successes, or as they are called, a record or a " performance." The latest of these is the ad-minable behavious of the chronometre belonging to the American aviator Hughes, who crossed the Atlantic in the minimum of time and flaw round the earth, from New York to New York, under extremely dangerons conditions. These instru-ments come from one of the large factories of the Swiss Jura which has met with great success for forme than half a century. We are delighted rather than astonished at the means of the spots. Swiss Jura which has met with great success for forme than half a century. We are delighted rather than astonished at the news of this remarkable achievement and are now looking for-ward to still greater news.

J. D.-F. (Swiss Industry and Trade.)

TO OUR READERS.

The Editor of the Swiss Observer would be greatly obliged if readers would supply him with addresses of likely subscribers, so that specimen copies could be posted to them.

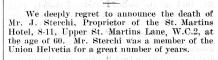
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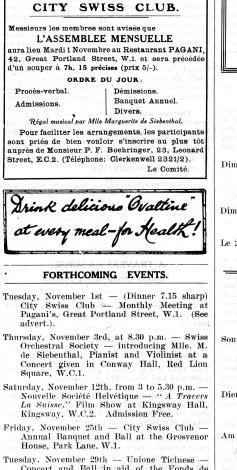
CÉSAR RITZ. Host to the World. By MARIE LOUISE RITZ. Harrap. 12s. 6d.

Born in Switzerland in 1850 of peasant stock Ritz was in his prime when builders and engineers were producing innovations, and it is conspicuous in his methodical ascent to leadership in the hotel industry that he shrank from no expenditures to introduce revolutionary standards of comfort. The old families of Europe stall had money, and new men from beyond the seas were making it in profusion. Ritz offered them opportunities of spending it in holiday resorts and capitals.

Perhaps Ritz would attribute his success to Perhaps Ritz would attribute his success to his knowledge of gastronomy, for when he was in his late twenties we have him writing, $Des\ cette$ époque je fus frappé de l'importance primordiale de la cuisine. There is not space here unfortun-ately to do justice to his historic meeting with Escoffier and the dinner of the 10 financiers. They sat from half-past 8 until 2 — armchaire being substituted for ⁹ dining chairs, possibly without their knowledge, during the proceedings. "And none of the gnests felt in the least indis-posed on the following morning." T. T.



PERSONAL.



Tuesday, November 29th — Unione Ticinese — Concert and Ball in aid of the Fonds de Secours, at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.1.

