

Swiss reunion at Cheltenham

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MINISTER C. R. PARAVICINI †.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, late Swiss Minister in London, which occurred at Oberhofen on the 5th of this month, at the age of 75.

The Swiss Colony has addressed the following telegram to Madame L. Paravicini:

"Madame Lilian Paravicini de Watville, Oberhofen, Berne.

The Swiss Colony in the United Kingdom beg to convey their deepest sympathy to you, Madame Paravicini, and your family in your grievous loss, which is also a great loss to this Colony. We remember Monsieur Paravicini's brilliant stewardship at his post of Swiss Minister to the Court of St. James during so many difficult years, with a profound gratitude and personal affection for him who had the interests of our Colony always so well at heart. He was a good friend of all Swiss Societies as well as countless individual compatriots. The news of his death fills everyone with deep sorrow and thoughts of sincere sympathy for you, Madame Paravicini, and your family.

The Nouvelle Société Helvétique (London Group) also on behalf of all the Swiss Societies in London."

A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, November 18th, at 12.30 p.m., at the Eglise Suisse, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2.

An obituary will appear in the next number of the "Swiss Observer."

PERSONAL.

We extend our deep sympathy to Mr. J. Lacroix, of 6, Crooked Usage, Hendon Lane, No. 3, who, as reported in our last issue, lost his brother in such a tragic manner. "La Suisse" of Geneva has written the following obituary in their issue of October 21st, 1947:—

"Ingénieur au service des études du génie civil au Département des travaux publics, M. Edouard Lacroix, qui était né à Genève en janvier 1881, était attaché comme ingénieur adjoint au Département des travaux dès 1916. Il fut chargé à cette époque de la surveillance des travaux du pont Butin. Il devait par la suite parvenir au poste d'ingénieur cantonal.

Ayant dirigé dès le début les études et les travaux de l'aéroport de Cointrin, il resta à son poste bien qu'il eût atteint l'an passé la limite d'âge, pour en assurer l'achèvement. C'est lui également qui avait aménagé les voies d'accès et les abords du Palais des Nations, comme il pouvait encore s'enorgueillir de la réalisation du nouveau pont de Peney et de la transformation de ceux de l'île et de Sierne.

La mort de M. Edouard Lacroix, homme d'une parfaite courtoisie et ingénieur de grande classe autant que mathématicien éminent, est une très grande perte pour le Département des travaux publics, pour le canton et pour tous ceux qui avaient affaire à lui. Que sa famille trouve ici l'expression de nos condoléances."

* * *

We extend heartiest congratulations to Miss Margaret Ochs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Ochs, of 5, Belltrees Grove, Streatham, S.W.16, on her forthcoming marriage on the 22nd of November, 1947, to Mr. Erik Graham, of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Mr. Graham was an R.A.F. Wt. Officer, who was shot down over Norway in 1940 and made P.o.W., Miss Ochs worked for the International Red Cross in Geneva.

* * *

We extend best congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Jules Gambazzi on the arrival of a son, Michael Joseph.

SWISS REUNION AT CHELTENHAM.

For the seventh year in succession the Swiss living in the West of England and South Wales met happily in one of the magnificent rooms of Brunners Café. 83 of them came from as far as Bristol, Leicester and Birmingham to participate in the Divine Service presided over by Pasteur Pradervand. The theme he chose (May peace be with you) was particularly fitting as no one could ignore that our dear Pasteur and friend was about to leave his congregation. Although this great loss was fully realized, there was no sadness in this parting because everyone felt that Mr. Pradervand had been called for a task of even greater magnitude than the Swiss Church in England.

A most excellent tea, generously offered by Messrs. Brunner and Schneider, followed the Service. The privilege of thanking Pasteur Pradervand was given to Mr. Indermuhle who took this opportunity to retrace the history of the Swiss Reunions at Cheltenham. Started under the inspiration of the Swiss Church in London, this reunion, according to the wish of the organizers, should continue on the same lines, that is to say based on the only solid foundation, that of the Christian Faith.

Patriotic songs were then sung by the community, accompanied by talented accordionists.

It is pleasing to record that most of the Cantons were represented, the Bernese citizens being in the minority as usual! As for variety of languages, it could have been a UNO Meeting, and as for creeds, it was true oecumenism and in the best spirit.

P.I.

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