

Peter Brun †

Autor(en): [s.n.]

Objektyp: **Obituary**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): - (1947)

Heft 1062

PDF erstellt am: **07.07.2024**

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PETER BRUN †.
Late President
Swiss Club Birmingham.

On February 9th, 1947, died in Birmingham, Mr. François Peter Brun, late President of the Swiss Club, Birmingham, at the age of 62, after a long and patiently born illness.

With "Peter," as he was affectionately called by a large circle of personal friends, the Swiss community, both in Birmingham and London, loses a personality of much charm and unbounded exuberance.

Mr. Brun was born at Lausanne on January 4th, 1885; he came to this country for the first time in 1900, and after a stay in Switzerland, subsequently returned to England in 1914, where he took up permanent residence.

The deceased was, for many years, in the Hotel profession, where he enjoyed the reputation of a keen business man.

In spite of a busy life in his calling, he found time to interest himself in the affairs of the Swiss Colonies in Birmingham and London.

Mr. Brun was a member of the Swiss Club, Birmingham for twenty-nine years, eighteen years of which he was its President. In London he was a member of the City Swiss Club, Union Helvetia, and Swiss Club (Schweizerbund). He was a devoted Freemason and belonged to the "Entente Cordiale" Lodge.

During the many years in which he presided over the Swiss Club, Birmingham, he brought this institution to great prominence, and if to-day the Swiss Club occupies one of the most important positions amongst the Swiss Societies in the Provinces, it is largely due to his incessant work. The writer, who, on many occasions had the privilege to attend the various functions of the Club in Birmingham, remembers with pleasure some of the speeches made by the President, they might, perhaps from an oratorical point of view, not have been masterpieces, but the way in which they were delivered, they never failed to make their mark.

His utterances, on such occasions, gave proof of his deep love for his native country, which he, frequently visited.

Many of our compatriots, who had fallen on evil days found a helping hand in Peter Brun, it gave him pleasure to give and assist those who, often through force of circumstances, needed relief. Many a tear was thus dried and many a heavy heart began to beat with new hope.

He also showed a keen interest in the life of the City of Birmingham, where he founded his home, which was always open to his friends, and where many enjoyed a generous hospitality. During the General Strike he served as a special constable and was highly commended for his work.

Some five years ago, he was taken ill, suffering with heart trouble, and although under excellent care he never recovered; the once so lively Peter Brun became silent, and the end must have come to him as a release from much suffering borne bravely and patiently.

He was cremated at Lodge Hill Crematorium on the 12th of February, and many were the friends who took leave from an old and trusted friend.

We mourn with his family, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy, the passing of a great heart.

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