

# Swiss Catholics Easter Service and annual general Meeting

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### F. HEINRICH †.

The Swiss Club Manchester regrets to report the death of Mr. Frederick Heinrich, who passed away on the 10th inst., at his residence in Wilmslow after a short illness at the age of 63.

Mr. Heinrich has been a member of the Club for 40 years and has always taken a great interest in its welfare. He has been on the Committee in various capacities for a good many years and has always been ready to step in when help was required for the arrangement of any social functions. We shall all miss his cheerful companionship and help.

R.A.B.

### SWISS CATHOLICS EASTER SERVICE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

In the St. Peters Church, Westminster, S.W.1, the Swiss Catholics assembled on Sunday, April 16th, for their usual Easter Service.

There was a congregation of about 300. The Rev. Pater Henry de Riedmatten, O.S.D. of Sion (a nephew of Mr. de Torrenté, the Swiss Minister) who is at present at the Blackfriars Priory in Oxford for higher studies, preached the sermon. He dealt with the problem of the Swiss abroad in very many stations of life, and in particular, for us, on the question of our religious duties and practices. It is here in particular where we, as Catholics, do realise the universality of the Catholic Church, and whilst our spoken language differs the language of the Church and its service is the same all over the world.

As travellers abroad we miss our homeland and its beauties, we are drawn on festival occasions together, but as universal christian travellers living a life of charity, faith and love we aspire to the eternal home in heaven with christians from everywhere.

The sermon was followed by Solemn Benediction, Pater Inmoos of M.H.B. was the celebrant, the mixed choir rendering the usual hymns.

St. Peters Hall was the meeting place for the Annual General Meeting, at which Mr. C. Berti, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, presided. The Annual Report and Accounts, which were printed and circularised prior to the meeting, were approved.

Messrs. Sommer, Brogle and De Maria expressed thanks to the Chaplain and the Committee for the work done, and proposed re-election *en bloc* of the Committee for 1950/1951. This was carried by acclamation.

Father Lanfranchi, the Chaplain, mentioned that his parish and parishioners had considerably increased during the last few years, and that at present there must be nearly 3,000 Swiss Catholics in and around London. The Chaplain, Mr. Berti and Mr. Boos appealed to all present to continue, and increase, their support in the coming year, so that the mission can be put on the required permanent footing for the benefit of all concerned.

The rest of the evening was devoted to a social gathering. The mixed choir rendering songs in English, German, French and Italian, whilst Miss Rosemary

Pfändler gave recitals on her cello. This was followed by the Swiss film "Spring in Zermatt" and dancing for the younger generation to Swiss music.

J.B.

### FOOTBALL MATCH "THE TIMES" v. S.M.S. COLLEGE.

It has become quite a tradition for the football eleven of the S.M.S. College to play English teams. And every year they play a dozen or so matches often against much stronger clubs. The present season has been a very successful one as the team happens to have a few excellent players. They have won six out of fourteen matches played. It is rather unfortunate therefore that a few days before the match against "The Times" two of their best players had to return to Switzerland, their ace scorer amongst them who had 11 goals to his credit. It is all the more a sign of the teams' strength that they lost "only" 5:2 against such a very strong opponent as "The Times" F.C.

As for many a year before the war "The Times" again offered hospitality to the S.M.S. team and supporters at Ravensbourne where their pleasant sports-grounds and attractive pavilion are situated. Saturday, 8th April, was a cold and unfriendly sort of day. This did not deter some 60 or 70 students of the College to accompany the team. The match started at 3.15 and it was a pleasure to watch it throughout. The final result was very encouraging, for "The Times" team, apart from being well up in one of the amateur football leagues, have none of the difficulties the S.M.S. team have to face, mainly the constant changing of players as old students leave and new players arrive.

After tea in the hall with its huge brick fireplaces at either end the presentation of the Lints Smith Challenge Cup took place. Dr. E. M. Bircher, of the Swiss Legation, had been watching the match with great interest and so had his son, the Cambridge Blue of Boat-race fame. Their presence was much appreciated. The President of the Swiss Mercantile Society and Mrs. W. Meier and the Chairman of the Education Committee, Mr. W. Burren, were amongst the large party, and so were Mr. C. Slade, the Principal of the College, and Mr. and Mrs. Kitchin and Miss Reed of the Teaching Staff.

The President of "The Times" Football Club, Mr. F. H. Waters, introduced Dr. Bircher who then presented the trophy and silver medals to the winning team and the bronze medals to the Swiss players.

At 7 o'clock the dance started and to the strains of a very lively band it went on till 10.45. There were games and prizes, and according to an established custom at these tea dances the Swiss students were invited by their English hosts to give a song. Their thundering "Aprite le porte" and the sentimental "Là-haut sur la montagne" were received with enthusiastic applause. All too soon the happy evening came to an end.

I should like it to go on record that those of us who were the guests of "The Times" F.C. appreciated their generosity and friendly welcome very much and would like a special word of thanks to go to their untiring Secretary, Mr. C. W. Westcott, who was responsible for the smooth rolling off of the programme.

MARIANN.