

Ernest Oggier †

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“SCHWEIZERBUND” (SWISS CLUB).

Readers of the “Swiss Observer” are no doubt aware of the plight of the “Schweizerbund” which was discussed at a recent meeting of the Assembly of Presidents of Swiss Societies in London. Mr. Jacomelli, Chairman of the Assembly, has summarized the present situation in the following report. I recommend this report to all members of the Swiss Colony, and urge them to give it serious thought and consider carefully its implications.

A. DAENIKER,
Swiss Ambassador.

“It has been well known for some time past, that all was not well with the affairs of the Schweizerbund. This was confirmed at a meeting of the Presidents’ Assembly when the new President Mr. V. Berti drew the attention of the Presidents to the serious plight in which the Club found itself. The Assembly asked him to submit a report which was duly presented and discussed. The contents of the report showed that the situation was indeed alarming and the Presidents felt that the facts should be brought to the notice of the Colony, so that all could individually examine the merits of the case and have the opportunity to contribute towards the survival and renaissance of the Schweizerbund.

“The present serious situation has arisen through several causes, which are explained by the following facts and which can only be overcome if some of the remedies suggested are also accepted.

“First and foremost the lack of support from the Colony at large and the serious decline in the ratio of Swiss members as compared to non-Swiss. This naturally reflects itself with the Committee, on which fewer and fewer Swiss have been available for election year by year, until we find the present situation where the Committee has only two Swiss born members. If this situation is permitted to continue, then it is obvious that the Swiss character of the Club must suffer on an ever increasing scale, therefore one of the most urgent needs is the renewal of membership by many more persons of the Colony, and their more active interest.

“The financial situation which has arisen through the decline in support is such that the continued existence of the Schweizerbund is in the balance all the time. The overheads are such that they call for certain trading figures to be reached so as to remain solvent, and the Club is not at present achieving these figures. They could probably be reached by opening the Club to a much wider non-Swiss membership, but in that case the Club would remain Swiss in name only, which would certainly reflect badly on the Colony. Indeed, if support is not forthcoming, this could actually happen as a firm of English Brewers hold a mortgage on the Club premises, and if the repayments on the loan cannot be maintained, a clause in the deed gives them the right to take over the premises and continue to run them as the Schweizerbund (Swiss Club).

“The amenities offered by the Schweizerbund in the form of the ‘Bündnerstube’ style of its bar and restaurant, its small ballroom and other rooms, are at present used by several of the smaller societies of the Colony, and the premises generally appear to be suit-

able for a much wider use by the Colony, which in turn could lead to many improvements being effected over a period of time.

“This is a statement of facts — the remedy must be left to the conscience of the Colony.

P. JACOMELLI,
Chairman.
Assembly of Presidents.”

ERNEST OGGIER †

We deeply regret to announce the passing away, on Monday 17th November, of Mr. Ernest Oggier, of 2 Princes Close, Edgware, Middlesex, at the age of 68.

The departed, who originated from Turtmann (Ct. Valais), first came to this country in 1908, to learn English, and returned to it in 1918 after having served in the Swiss army, when he obtained a position, at The Trocadero Restaurant, which he held for forty years.

Mr. Oggier was a member of the “Schweizerbund” (Swiss Club), and the “Union Helvetia”. He leaves a widow, to whom we express our sympathy in her bereavement.

The funeral took place on Friday, 21st November, at the Edgware Parish Church, and was attended by a large number of friends.

Kettners Restaurant has no music and is not luxurious . . . but the Food and Wine are superb.

Roast Surrey
Capon,
Roast Aylesbury
Duckling
served every day



MISTAKES.

When a plumber makes a mistake he charges for it.
When a lawyer makes a mistake it is just what he wanted, because he has a chance to present the case all over again.
When a carpenter makes a mistake it's just what he expected.
When a doctor makes a mistake he buries it.
When a judge makes a mistake it becomes the law of the land.
When a preacher makes a mistake nobody knows the difference.
But when a *printer* makes a mistake — Good night!