

Unveiling of memorial to late pilot-officer Roy A. Marchand

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voiced by Mr. A. C. Stahelin, who on behalf of the audience expressed thanks to Mr. Lutas for his most interesting and entertaining film show. He also thanked our member Mr. A. Tall for having introduced the lecturer, thus providing a most pleasant afternoon at Swiss House. All present heartily supported Mr. Stahelin with prolonged acclamation.

The next Meeting of the Society will be held on the third Saturday in January, *viz.* the 17th, and not as customary on the second Saturday. It will be followed by a lecture and film show by Mr. A. Kern, a compatriot of ours, who will relate in pictures and words his experiences and reminiscences of tours to Spain, Portugal, Morocco, Tunis, Egypt, Syria and other Mediterranean countries. As most of these countries are now in the forefront of the news, members and their friends will no doubt wish to hear and see more from one who speaks from first-hand knowledge. Please, therefore, reserve January 17th for the S.M.S.

W.B.

UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL TO LATE PILOT-OFFICER ROY A. MARCHAND.

On November 25th, shortly after noon, a procession of private cars made its way from Hatton Garden to Bromley Hill Cemetery, taking some thirty friends of Mr. and Mrs. René Marchand to the unveiling of the memorial to their only son, the late Pilot-Officer Roy A. Marchand.

It was a grey winter day, but the rain of the early morning had fortunately ceased, giving way to better conditions and presently the little band were foregathered around the Memorial, which was shrouded in the folds of a large Union Jack.

Mr. René Marchand performed the unveiling ceremony, placing a wreath of autumn leaves upon the Memorial "With love from mother." It bore the shape of wings, symbol of the Royal Air Force.

The Rev. Marcel Pradervand, Pasteur of the Eglise Suisse in London, then delivered a fine and most moving address in English, extolling the fine qualities of this young hero, whose love of adventure caused him to give up his medical studies, to join the R.A.F. some time before war was seriously thought of as an inescapable probability. Mr. Pradervand stressed how all who had known Roy, while deeply mourning his untimely passing, were proud of him and the supreme sacrifice he so gallantly made on that most memorable of Sundays, September 15th, 1940. He concluded his address with a most beautiful prayer in French, thus bringing to a close a little ceremony which, by its very simplicity, will leave a deep and lasting impression upon all who were present.

Mr. Marchand afterwards invited his friends to a luncheon at the "White Hart" Hotel in Bromley where, in a number of thoughtful speeches, further tribute was paid to the young hero.

It was revealed that Pilot-Officer Roy Marchand, during his comparatively brief spell on active service — in France and in this country — brought down 15 enemy planes, of which he had been officially credited with nine — the others being "probables."

It was also stated that, had he lived, he would have had promotion and would have been recommended for the D.F.C. or some similar honour. These were the words of his Commander.

Mr. Léon Jobin, partner of Mr. Marchand, spoke last and his words will not be forgotten by those who had the privilege of hearing them. It was a wonderful speech, straight from the heart, and it expressed sentiments of regret, of pride and, finally, of eternal hope, which was the key-note throughout and which rendered this unveiling such an uplifting and unforgettable event.

The Memorial takes the form of a Marble Plinth, capped with the wings of the Royal Air Force, whilst, at the foot, is the Badge of the 73rd Fighter Squadron in coloured Bronze.

W. D.

EGLISE SUISSE (Langue française) 79, Endell Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.

Dimanche 21 décembre : 11h. Culte et sainte Cène
3h. ARBRE DE NOEL.

Noël, Jeudi 25 décembre : 11h. Culte et sainte Cène.

Dimanche 28 décembre : 11h. Culte de fin d'année Cène.
CHAQUE DIMANCHE : Culte à 11 heures.

Pour tout ce qui concerne le ministère pastoral, prière de s'adresser au pasteur M. Pradervand, 77, Wood Vale, N.10 (TUDor 5277).

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE (Deutschsprachige Gemeinde) "Oak Room," Kingsway Hall, 75, Kingsway, W.C.2.

Sonntag, den 21. Dezember :

Kein Morgengottesdienst.

3 Uhr. Weihnachtsfeier in der Eglise Suisse, 79, Endell Street.

Weihnacht, Donnerstag 25. Dezember : 11 Uhr. Gottesdienst u. hl. Abendmahl.

Jeden Sonntag um 11 Uhr : Gottesdienst.

Für alle Amtshandlungen, wende man sich an Pfr. E. Jornot, 3, Powis Place, Gt. Ormond Street, W.C.1 (TERminus 3091).

Missing in November 1941, on active service, Pilot Officer R.A.F.V.R. V. M. Albrecht, only son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Albrecht, formerly of 20, Palmeira Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea, now at Queen's Hotel, Westcliff-on-Sea.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, January 10th, 1942, at 12.45 p.m. — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting — at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, W.1. (See Advt.)

Saturday, January 17th, 1942, at 2.30 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Monthly Meeting followed by a film lecture by Mr. A. Kern (see report) at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Saturday, January 17th, 1942, at 1 o'clock p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Annual General Meeting — at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.