

The late Mr. C.J. Reinhart, Birmingham

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THE LATE Mr. C. J. REINHART, BIRMINGHAM.

The news of C. J. Reinhart's death in Birmingham in his 80th year was received at the Consulate with great regret. Mr. Reinhart was the Correspondent of the Consulate and we made good use of him. This was an arrangement of long standing as he served in this capacity in the days of Consuls Weiss, Fontannaz, Dr. Schedler and Montag, a total of years approaching half a century. Although this was an honorary post we could depend on him doing his very best to attend to any question or difficulty we had to submit to him, a matter of considerable comfort to these chefs de poste.

I have known him for possibly 40 years. Reinhart came to England in the days of Queen Victoria, when Minister Burkhardt carried on a modest Legation at his residence in London and Georges Weiss in Liverpool was Consul for practically the whole of England except the Metropolitan area. We were then firmly convinced that the State existed for the benefit of the individual and did not require the constant supervision by passports and other documents such as is necessary now after two major wars. We used to smile at Weiss' constant injunction "take good care of your Heimatschein" and thought the old gentleman had a "bee in his bonnet." But of course he was right and with the State making more and more demands on the individual owing to these wars our establishments have grown until now the individual appears to exist for the benefit of the State.

Reinhart just previous to the 1914 War was offered a partnership in the firm he served, a promotion no doubt welcome at the time but which was anything but a blessing for him, as the firm was seriously hit by the War, the effects of which were difficult to overcome and must have meant a burden for him for many years. Reinhart was a founder of the Swiss Club, Birmingham, fifty years ago and remained a devoted and leading member all the time. This long and useful life will be kept in good memory by all who knew him and we tender to his widow our sincere sympathy at her great loss.

Reinhart occasionally attended our dinners in Liverpool as a well-liked guest, but it was not easy to tempt him away from business, however, once we succeeded in getting him to come to North Wales for a week-end with his wife. The weather was ideal and we were able to show him Snowdon from every angle on a carefully planned motor trip.

E.M.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, October 2nd, 1945, at 6.30 p.m. — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting at Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, W.1, preceded by a dinner. (See Advert.)

Friday, October 5th and 19th, 1945, at 6.30 p.m. — Swiss Choral Society (Male Choir) — Rehearsals at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1. Annual General Meeting postponed to November 2nd, 1945.

Wednesday, October 10th, 1945, at 6.30 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd. — Monthly Meeting at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1, followed by an address by Mr. A. J. Staehelin of the Swiss Office for Development of Trade.

Friday, October 26th, 1945, at 6 o'clock — London Swiss Philatelic Society — Monthly Meeting at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1, followed by an "Auction".

Saturday, October 27th, 1945 — Swiss Mercantile Society Ltd. — 57th Anniversary Meeting preceded by a Luncheon at 12.45 for 1.15 p.m., followed by a Dance and Tea.

Sunday, October 28th, 1945, at 4 p.m. — Unione Ticinese — Thé Dansant at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

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