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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

The outstanding event at the Monthly Meeting held at Swiss House on Wednesday, January 11th, was an address by Captain A. W. Clarke, C.B.E., D.S.O., Royal Navy, Chief of Naval Information.

The President, Mr. W. Meier, welcomed the audience which included Colonel Rieser, Swiss Military and Air Attaché, and Dr. P. de Wolff, Chief Manager of the Swiss Bank Corporation, London, and a number of senior students of the S.M.S. College. — The Meeting honoured the memory of Mr. R. Aeschlimann, a member for over twenty years, who recently passed away. A new Corresponding Member was then elected. This mark of appreciation was conferred upon Mr. H. Marfurt, Chef de Cours of the College until his return to Lucerne in September last year, when he accepted an appointment as English master at the "Kantonschule." The remaining items on the agenda were speedily disposed of.

Captain Clarke, whose address now followed, wore naval uniform with several rows of decorations. He entered the Royal Navy, he said, in 1911 and he saw active service in both world wars. He drew a vivid picture of the problems facing the Navy to-day and its strategic tasks in the foreseeable future. Later he dealt with many technical and tactical questions, not forgetting such complicated engines of war as guided missiles and atomic bombs.

Captain Clarke's remarks were followed with intense interest and he answered all manner of hypothetical and problematical questions put by members of the audience with the skill and versatility of one completely on top of his subject.

The President expressed the Meeting's warm appreciation of Captain Clarke's address and he also thanked Mr. A. H. Smith, R.N.V.R., and Mr. M. Heilinger, both of the Swiss Bank Corporation, for arranging the speaker's visit to Swiss House.

In conclusion, the President drew attention to the Annual General Meeting of the Society which will be held at Swiss House on Wednesday, February 15th, at 7 p.m.

WM.

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