

Swiss Mercantile Society

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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

The April Meeting was held at Swiss House on Wednesday the 10th when about 60 Members and visitors attended.

An application for Membership from Mr. H. Schmid was approved as was an application for transfer to the Chiasso Section by Mr. A. Luraschi.

The President, Mr. W. Meier, referred to the resignation of the Secretary, Mr. J. Hauser, which he stated he personally much regretted, but as Mr. Hauser had recently qualified as a Company Secretary and there was greater scope for advancement in industry, he thought Mr. Hauser's decision to leave the Society could be readily understood.

The Annual Football Match against "The Times" for the Lints-Smith Challenge Cup had been held on the previous Saturday and the College Team had won by five goals to three. Mr. Meier mentioned that the Match had been the twenty-first anniversary of the fixture and it was the first time that the College Team had won. As usual, the Members of both teams had been presented by "The Times" with plaques to commemorate the Match, but, in addition, a special plaque had been given to Mr. W. Burren, Chairman of the Society's Education Committee, as an expression of appreciation for the services he had rendered for so many years in connection with this annual fixture.

The Annual Delegates Meeting of the Schweizer Kaufmaennischer Verein was to be held in Geneva on the 4th May and the Council's proposal that Mr. W. Meier and Mr. J. J. Boos should be appointed the Society's delegates was unanimously approved.

Mr. X. Speckert, Doctor of Law, practising as a consultant on Swiss Law at the Temple, gave a talk on the considerations to be borne in mind by a Swiss citizen living abroad when drawing up a will. This was a most complicated subject, but Mr. Speckert from his expert knowledge was able to outline the main considerations.

There was no international law governing the matter and very often Swiss law and English law were in conflict. In deciding which law applied the question of domicile was of great importance. Although a Swiss citizen had long been resident in England, he could nevertheless claim Swiss domicile if, for example, he still had contacts in Switzerland and had expressed his intention of returning to Switzerland on retirement. Whether English or Swiss law applied in any particular case could be influenced by the wording of the will.

Mr. Speckert was only able to deal with the subject in a general manner, but his talk, however, made it clear that those personally interested in this matter would be well advised to obtain legal aid in drawing up their wills.

THE 1957 ANNUAL LINTS-SMITH CUP FOOTBALL MATCH.

"The Times" F.C. 3 Swiss Mercantile College 5

It was a happy inspiration that brought together, in 1936, the football teams of the Swiss Mercantile Society's college and "The Times" newspaper for the first of what was to prove a long series of highly enjoyable social and sporting encounters over the

years. With the obvious exception of the war years, this match has taken place every year since then, so that it may this year logically be described as having "come of age."

In this spirit it was celebrated even more cordially than ever at Ravensbourne on Saturday, 6th April. The Swiss national flag and the "Times" flag fluttered happily together at the same masthead, and though the sun smiled warmly on "The Times" sports club's attractive grounds on this occasion, there was no need for its help in warming the hearts of the international crowd of people present. The wide expanse of firm green turf, the spotless white clubhouse, and the freshness of spring blossom everywhere served to detract from the strong breeze blowing from the North-East. This breeze has become a traditional part of the event, and it would have been strange indeed had the weather gods not delegated it this of all years to attend the Lints-Smith Cup match!

A cup match it has been since 1949. A magnificent silver trophy has been competed for annually since then, and has hibernated between matches in the possessive embrace of "The Times" Football Club. Much perspiration by many young Swiss footballers had never quite succeeded in dislodging it from its habitual resting place. The succession of "Times" victories had become monotonous, and one wondered whether the Swiss Mercantile team would succeed at last in breaking the spell. What more fitting for this than a 21st Anniversary? Lacking in regular fixtures



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