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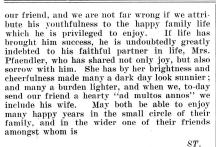
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UNIONE TICINESE. " La Festa Famigliare."

Autumn brings into contrast the feelings of town-dweller and farmer; for the latter the third season of the year is one of satisfaction, whereas for the former it is one of expectation. A bounti-ful harvest is the farmer's recompense for inces-sant toil under the relentless August sun; the same sun that has tanned the complexions of numberless townsmen and townswomen resting of the beach, scouring the countryside or climb-ing mountain peaks in search of Nature's free-dom after eleven months of strenuous, exacting work in the nerve centres of the nation. Relaxa-tion over, these town-dwellers start business routine anew, exuberant vigour generating great expectations. expectations.

expectations. Such hopeful atmosphere pervaded the successful "Festa Famigliare" of the UNIONE TICINESE, held at Pagani's Tuesday evening, October Sth. Needless to say, there was but one general topic of conversation. Holidays. Not unlike men, holidays, so it seems, possess complexes. Good or bad — thrilling or unexciting — peaceful or noisy, to mention just a few. In one instance an atrocious cuisine had dispelled the dream of the perfect holiday by the sea (One good reason this, why Pagani's should have wings). Again, persistent mists had wantonly denied one daring climber of all but one thrill. An ageing acquaintance instead had tumbled on the ideal leisurely vacation — a village inn by the road-side, the perfect taste of the local wine, and the ready flattery of almost forgotten friends nearly proved too strong when he was about to leave the native village in the Alps at the end of a prolonged visit after an absence of nigh thirty years.

The utmost informality marked the proceedings of the evening, and, as we are wont to expect from Messrs. Pagani, the supper was excellent although participants hailing from the Locarnese might perhaps complain of neglect, none of their "dishes" having found inclusion in the menu.

"dishes " having found inclusion in the menu. Speeches, as befits a "festa famigliare," were short and to the point. Mr. Oscar Gambazzi, President of the Society started the exchanges, and extended a hearty welcome to Signor Clemente Rezzonico, who after an absence of four years in "la capitale del mondo" is back at the London Legation, we hops, for good. He then greeted the large parties of Leventinesi and Semionesi (these having motored up from Ports-mouth and Southsea) present, and went on to stress the deep loyalty with which all "Ticinesi" are attached to "Mother Helvetia," whilst con-demning the ill-advised propaganda that had as its sequel the recently formulated high-treason charges, as well as the suppression of the notori-ous paper "L'Adula." Finally, with a few apt words, Mr. Gambazzi presented the ex-President, Mr. Willie Notari's nomination as a "Socio Benemerito" of the Unione Ticinese, in sixteen years of leadership. Mr. Notari was visibly moved by the tribute

Mr. Notari was visibly moved by the tribute as he rose to reply. Among the outstanding achievements during his presidentship, he liked to recall, the unprecendented impetus that a chance idea of his had given to the Fund in aid of the Home for aged Swiss poor in London; this Home, as every reader knows, is now a reality. He had a few compliments for youth, though he himself is no veteran.

Wittily enumerating a few misfortunes that may befall unawares the cautious man, Mr. Stähelin, too, paid a fine tribute to Mr. Notari, and was followed by Mr. Elvezio Albertolli, who did likewise on behalf of the "Ticinesi" in the Provinces.

Uncertain in the beginning the dance soon got into full swing so that the misfortune of the appointed hour befell it only too soon. In a break of the dance, Miss Era Cattaneo, soprano, pleasantly surprised the revellers with two songs, which — one need hardly mention — were sand-wiched between thunderous ovations. By the way, can grandma 85 years young, dance? She certainly can, and did. eusi.

NEW GENERAL MANAGER AT THE GROSVENOR HOUSE.

We extend hearty congratulations to Mr. L. Hilpert, on his appointment as General Manager of the Grosvenor House, Park Lane. Mr. Hilpert, who occupies at present the position of General Manager of the Ritz Hotel, Piccadilly, will take up his new post as from January 1st.

Mr. Hilpert was born at Einsiedeln and hails from a family with a long and distinguished hotel-keeping tradition, his brother, Mr. Ernest Hilpert, is assistant manager of the Plaza Hotel, New York. He began his career with alternate seasons as a waiter at the National, Lucerne, and the Cap Martin, Monte Carlo. In 1913 he went to the Imperial, Mentone, and subsequently to the Stephanie, Baden-Baden, and the Grand Bretagne near Lake Como.

In 1914 he was cashier in the restaurant of the Charing Cross Hotel, then head receptionist at the Metropole (London), whence he went to the Ritz, first as head receptionist 14 years ago, and then as Assistant Manager and General Manager.



Friday October 18th — Monthly Meeting. Supper at 8 o'clock sharp and about 8.45 p.m. Dr.
W. H. Egli will open the discussion on "Swiss Democracy in the European Crisis." Members and friends cordially invited, at the "Foyer Suisse," 12, Upper Bedford Place, WCC1 W.C.1.

