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UNIONE TICINESE.

Tea Dance held at Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, on Sunday, 9th November, 1947.

A record number of 500 Members and their friends attended the Thé Dansant which took place at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, on Sunday, 9th November, 1947, and as usual, our compatriots of the fair "Ticino" ensured that everyone had "a jolly good time." The Swiss Minister and Madame Ruegger also honoured the Society by their presence.

The gaiety and sparkle of the Ticinese is most infectious, and soon, young and old were on the dance floor—the older members as well as the younger, displaying an inexhaustible supply of energy! It was delightful to see the happy faces of all who attempted the gay "Ländler" waltzes as well as the modern dance tunes so well played by the Kramer and Wolmer Sextette, and during an interval, Kramer and Wolmer rendered a characteristic feature on their accordions, called "Il Treno" ("The Train"), which was greeted with loud applause.

After an excellent tea, Mr. Berti, the President of the Unione Ticinese, thanked the Swiss Minister, also Members and friends, for attending, and gave special thanks too, to the Ladies Section and Members of the Committee for all their efforts to ensure that the function was a success.

The Swiss Minister then addressed the meeting in Italian, saying how delighted he was to be present, and to see so many young faces around him. He expressed the hope that he would be able to enjoy many more similar occasions.

Mrs. Lunghi-Rezzonico, who has a special place in the hearts of all Ticinesi, was warmly applauded after a short address on behalf of the Ladies Sections of the Unione Ticinese, and all her friends were very glad to see that she has made such a wonderful recovery after a long illness.

An excellent cabaret was given by the following artistes, and introduced by that well-known and popular B.B.C. artist, Dante, to whom our thanks are due for providing us with the Kramer and Wolmer Sextette.

Sandra Roberts, Mezzo Soprano, accompanied at the piano by her tutor, Carlo Valchera, rendered three delightful songs, after which she was presented with a beautiful bouquet of autumn flowers. Then that popular entertainer, Albert Warby, the silent Magician, baffled all with his novel tricks and illusions, Daphne and Jean Mariajanos, Europe's Sensational Dancers, fully deserved the enthusiastic applause which greeted the end of their excellent performance.

The feature of the evening, however, was the Corale of the Unione Ticinese, in their gaily coloured ticinese costumes. It brought back nostalgic memories to hear the lively and sentimental "Canzoni Ticinesi" and I am sure the minds of all were transported back to the sunlit valleys of Ticino. Congratulations to Mr. Carlo Valchera, their conductor, who we know, has spared no time or effort to train the Corale, and thank you Corale, for having contributed so largely to the success of the evening.

At the conclusion of the cabaret, dancing recommenced and several "spot" prizes were won. Amidst great excitement a raffle was drawn just before the end of the evening, and the lucky ones received a valuable prize—the most popular being a bottle of whisky!

All good things must come to an end, however,

and how sorry we all felt when soon after 11 o'clock the orchestra played God Save the King. Many thanks to the Entertainment Committee of the Unione Ticinese and their active and enterprising President, Mr. Carlo Berti, for a wonderful evening's enjoyment. I for one, am greatly looking forward to the next Thé Dansant, to be held on 25th January, 1948.

Ildé Boehringer.

EXHIBITION OF SWISS ALPINE VIEWS.

We are informed that a collection of water colours of Swiss alpine scenery, by H. Ripszam, is exhibited at the offices of the Grayson Travel Ltd., 107, Park Lane, W.1.


These pictures will, no doubt, be of interest to many members of the Swiss Colony, recalling vivid memories, and would make excellent Xmas presents.

The exhibition will be open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Mondays and Fridays, from the 17th November until the 13th December, 1947.

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