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32nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SWISS MALE CHOIR.

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Male Choir, took place on Friday, January 16th, 1953, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

The social functions held during the winter season of the various Swiss Societies, — which, by the way, was a strenuous one for the Editor of this paper, — have now nearly come to an end and a period of Annual General Meetings, during which the committees of different Societies render account of their stewardship, has now started.

The yearly Meeting of the above mentioned Society took the usual course. About 30 members were in attendance, and Mr. F. G. Sommer, the President, was in the Chair.

This Meeting, unlike others of its kind, started with two songs rendered by the Choir, namely "Winzerlied" by Haug, and "l'Alpée" by J. Bovet, very well sung, which at once put everyone in a "good mood".

After the President had opened the Meeting, the Hon. Secretary, read the minutes, and the Hon. Treasurer reported on the financial position, which showed a deficit of £14.0.0, the auditors congratulated the keeper of the purse on his work, and rightly so, because it is certainly not his fault, that some of the members (mostly passive members) forgot to fulfil their obligations towards the Society, which is a great pity, considering that this Choir renders many services towards the Colony's social functions, all free of charge.

The President then read out his Annual Report, giving a short *resumé* of the Choir's activities since its foundation. He passed in review the ups and downs, especially during the last war when its activities were forcibly curtailed. According to his report the Choir was particularly badly hit by the death of a number of keen supporters, as well as by the departure of quite a few members.

Mr. Sommer stressed the point, that the Society has now reached the stage when new, and particularly young blood is essential. The Choir, at the beginning of this year, numbered 34 active members, and 75 passive members, of which according to the Hon. Treasurer's report, 18 members must be considered as "bad". The number of Life Members is 7.

The Choir again gave its support, during the last year, to various functions held in the Colony, such as Xmas tree celebrations of the Eglise Suisse, Jeunesse de l'Eglise Suisse, Fête Suisse, 1st of August celebrations, etc. etc.

In conclusion, the President thanked his colleagues on the committee for their collaboration, paying a special tribute to the conductor, Mr. E. P. Dick for his untiring efforts, and Mr. A. Finger, the steward of the "Schweizerbund" for making the members feel at home.

The President's report was accepted and passed with acclamation, and Mr. L. Jobin, Vice-President of the Choir, on behalf of the members warmly thanked Mr. F. G. Sommer for the great services he had rendered.

The elections for the committee for 1953 then took place, under the Presidency *pro tem* of Mr. E. Luter-

bacher, who sincerely thanked the outgoing committee for their year's work. As there were no resignations, the committee was confirmed, and the following were duly declared as re-elected: President: Mr. F. G. Sommer, Vice-President: Mr. L. Jobin, Hon Secretary: Mr. E. P. Dick, Hon. Treasurer: Mr. H. Mock, Librarian: Mr. W. Anguish. Auditors: Mr. W. Wagner and Mr. J. L. Luthert.

After a lengthy discussion about getting new members, and a more stringent discipline during rehearsals, the meeting was closed at 10 p.m.

ST.

PERSONAL.

We extend heartiest congratulations to Mr. Henry Oswald, M.I.E.E., Managing-Director of British Brown-Boveri, Ltd., who has completed twenty-five years' service with the Brown Boveri organisation.

After obtaining an engineering degree in Switzerland, Mr. Oswald came to this country in 1927 and subsequently joined British Brown-Boveri, Ltd., as a contract engineer. In 1932 he went to India to represent the Swiss company, and was responsible for the equipping of the Palivasal (Travancore) hydro-electric power station. In 1932 he returned to London as General-Manager of the British company and has held his present position since 1947. Mr. Oswald is chairman of the Swiss Economic Council in London, and is on the committee of the City Swiss Club.

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