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UNIONE TICINESE.

On Sunday 15th May about 120 Ticinese and their friends, including two guests from the Legation, Mr. J. Huber and Mr. A. Albertini, gathered at Swiss House in order to listen to a lecture on the Matterhorn given by Fr. Zihler, S. J., from Zurich.

In introducing, Fr. Zihler, our President, Mr. Peter Jacomelli told us that during his stay in England, Fr. Zihler had delivered lectures in London and Glasgow and that he had only that afternoon returned from Dublin, where many distinguished people including the Papal Nuncio had been among his audience.

Fr. Zihler is in the fortunate position of being able to spend a few weeks each summer as chaplain in a village at the foot of the Matterhorn and during the years that he has occupied this position, he has not only climbed the mountain many times but he has been able to build up a remarkable collection of photographs, depicting every stage of climbing the formidable mountain. It would seem that the climber needs to use all his energy in order to reach the summit and one wonders that photography should find any place at all in the arduous task, and yet Fr. Zihler has managed to capture beautiful photographs that many a professional would be proud to possess. Among the most wonderful, must surely be the series in which Fr. Zihler shows the early morning sun touching the tip of the summit and then gradually descending to take in the whole mountain.

Although the photographs were worth looking at on their own account, Fr. Zihler was able to describe them in impeccable English and with many anecdotes which brought much laughter from his audience. Although leaving us in no doubt as to the dangers offered by the mountain to the inexperienced climber, Fr. Zihler was able to take us from the thunder and showers of an English summer to the thrills of climbing one of the great natural beauties of our beloved homeland.

We must thank Fr. Zihler for the very enjoyable hour that he gave us and we wish him many more pleasant hours spent in the vicinity of the Matterhorn.

F.A.D.

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Dr. H. Christ, Joint Director of the Secrétariat des Suisses a l'étranger, in Berne, paid us a visit at our Club, on Monday, 23rd May, 1955.

At a gathering in the Canmore Works Canteen of Messrs. Winterthur Silks Ltd., Mr. Frick extended a very warm welcome to Dr. and Mrs. Christ. The "Compatriots of the North" very much appreciated this opportunity of meeting Dr. Christ. It was a real tonic to receive first hand information about the ever-growing wealth of our people at home! This of course, as Dr. Christ pointed out, brings also very serious problems with it. Since his lecture has already been reported from other quarters in the last issue of this paper, we shall refrain from repeating.

We wish however, to assure Dr. Christ that we have enjoyed his very informative talk and take this opportunity of thanking him once more for coming such a long way to make the acquaintance of our Members. The films which Dr. Christ brought with him were both educational and colourful. Young and old, we all enjoyed them very much.

More and more, we realise the importance of the contact which should exist between the Homeland and Swiss living abroad. There is no doubt that Dr. Christ will work hard towards this goal. May he be spared to continue his good work for many years to come. Au revoir, either at home or in "Bonnie Scotland".

A.B.

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