

Correspondence

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CORRESPONDENCE.

We have received the following communications from two of our esteemed readers anent the extract which appeared in our last issue under the heading of "Le courage de l'Anglais":—

Monsieur l'Editeur du "Swiss Observer."

Monsieur,—Je me demande avec un peu de curiosité dans quel but vous avez publié l'extrait ci-attaché. Si c'est par plaisanterie, il eut peut-être mieux valu le faire ressortir plus clairement. Si ce n'est pas par plaisanterie, ce n'est peut-être pas très adroit. Ne pas oublier qu'il y a beaucoup de personnes qui n'ont pas le sens de l'"humour" très développé, et ces personnes risquent de prendre votre extrait comme un trait lancé contre nos amis les Anglais. Votre titre "Le courage de l'Anglais", n'est pas très heureux.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes salutations empressées.

A. de T.

Le 29 Juillet 1922.

To the Editor "The Swiss Observer."

Sir,—I notice that in your edition of July 29th you reproduce, without comment, under the heading "Le courage de l'Anglais," a cutting from a Swiss paper.

Being a subscriber to your paper and myself an Englishman, I feel justified in making certain observations with regard to the insertion.

Bravery is not peculiar to any particular nation, it is the noblest attribute of the human race. Having travelled somewhat and having seen men of different nationalities in tight corners, such as the European War and sideshows of the Chinese Revolution, I am far from claiming for my particular nation more than its share of the world's brave men.

The article published by "Le Droit du Peuple" gives the impression that its editor considers this particular kind of courage as typical of the race, which is merely foolish. I know the Swiss people well enough to realize that they would read such an article with amusement were it intended to typify any race.

Every Swiss who makes his home among the English will understand my point of view, namely, that it was a most unfortunate editorial oversight that this article should have been reproduced in a Swiss paper printed in England. If such cases are uncommon among the English, and therefore call for special comment, it is because their greatest fear is of being afraid.

It was certainly most unchivalrous of this young Englishman not to give his companion her coat, especially for the night! This young fool was not aware of his limitations and was overcome by "vertige."

As every climber knows, "le vertige" is a physical disability, and not, my dear editor, "Le courage de l'Anglais!"

Yours faithfully,

B. W. A.

For the information of our correspondents and our readers in general we wish to state that the "Extracts from Swiss Newspapers" are published in our columns in their *original form and without any alteration or addition on our part*. Neither do we select and publish these items for any other purpose than that of providing interesting reading, and we welcome the opportunity to make this point clear.

We publish *in extenso* the two letters given above, as they, in fact, express precisely our own point of view.

To the Editor "The Swiss Observer."

Sir,—In order to create more interest in swimming amongst young Swiss people, a friendly swimming race was held on the evening of 31st July at the Holborn Baths between a four-men team of the Swiss Bank Corporation and another of the European and General Express Co., the latter winning by a few yards (the best man of the Bank's side being unable to take part).

It is hoped that a further contest will take place at the beginning of September, and other Swiss firms or Swiss clubs are welcome to take part with a team of four men. Certainly it is not expected that "records" in speed will be broken, nor

have the competitors the added inducement of a nice Cup to compete for, but these things may well happen later on when devotees of this sport have shown more interest and reached a higher level of efficiency. It is a fact that our small country is represented in London by a comparatively large number of clubs, which makes it possible even to hold once a year a great Swiss Sports Meeting. Surely swimming should not be neglected, and there are many Swiss, or representatives of other nations in Swiss firms, who take interest in it.

Perhaps some other lovers of swimming will express their views through "The Swiss Observer," and if the expected interest is aroused, a meeting might be arranged, and the Committee of the general Swiss Sports might be asked to give their kind help.

AN OLD WATERMAN.

PERSONAL PARS.

During the absence of the Swiss Minister from London, the First Secretary of Legation, M. F. J. Borsinger, is acting as Chargé d'Affaires.

PRINTERS' ERRORS.

Colonel Henry Watterson, editor of the Louisville "Courier-Journal," was one of a group of newspaper men who, during a conversation of that fraternity, were one afternoon talking of typographical errors. Said he:—

"While I've heard of a great many funny typographical freaks in my time, about the oddest and most humorous transpositions of types that ever came to my observation was that in a New York paper some years ago.

"The paper used to print its shipping news on the same page with the obituaries. Imagine the glee with which its readers found the captions changed one morning, a long list of respectable names being set forth under the marine head, 'Passed Through Hell Gate Yesterday.' Hell Gate is known to everybody as the entrance to New York Harbour.

Perhaps the cruellest misprint that ever escaped the eagle eye of the proof-reader was that which recently appeared in a weekly paper, stating that somebody rose at a public meeting and "proposed the death of the chairman." This was bad enough as it stood, but it was made much worse by the fact that it was immediately followed by the words, in parentheses, "Loud cheers."

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

E. Robert, E. W. Meier, H. S. Jostedt, E. R. Schiess, J. E. Guggenheim, H. Theiler, P. Rampa, Miss M. Barben, C. Campart, C. T. Lehmann.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine

Assemblée Mensuelle

aura lieu le MARDI 15 AOUT, au Restaurant Nuthall à Kingston-on-Thames, et sera précédée d'un souper familial à 7.30 heures (sh. 6/6 par couvert).

Cet avis tient lieu de convocation. Tous ceux désirant y participer sont invités à s'annoncer en temps utile au Trésorier, M. G. Dimier, 46, Cannon Street, E.C. 4 (Téléphone: Central 1321).

Les dames seront les bienvenues car l'on dansera après l'assemblée.

Ordre du Jour.

Procès-verbal.	Banquet Annuel
Admissions.	Election des Commissions
Démissions.	Divers.

A Motor Coach has been engaged for the return journey to Kingston. The Coach will leave Mansion House Place, E.C. at 6.15 p.m. sharp, and return from Kingston for Trafalgar Square at 11 p.m.

The cost of the return journey will be from 3/- to 4/-, according to the number of participants. Seats should be booked at once, as same are limited, from Mr. P. F. Boehringer, 21, Garlick Hill, E.C. 4. Telephone: City 4603.