

Friday evening banquets

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SWISS SPORTS.

To the Editor of *The Swiss Observer*.

Sir,—As one of those who were decorated with a Committee Badge, I naturally followed the report on our Meeting, and the letter which Mr. Paschoud has published, with extreme interest. I have nothing to add about your correspondent's review, but I should like to come back to Mr. Paschoud's letter in your last issue.

I think I am voicing the feelings of all those who were at Herne Hill when I say that it was far from the mind of anyone to blame our Director of Sports for the delay that occurred in the proceedings. I am speaking on behalf of several other members of the Committee, and also visitors, in stating that the unselfish services rendered by Mr. Paschoud were highly appreciated by one and all, and I am also certain that nobody else could have done better under the circumstances. The criticism which the correspondent of *The Swiss Observer* published appeared to be merely fair comment, as it is a fact that we were behind time, but I feel that Mr. Paschoud has taken the matter far too seriously, and that in spite of his announced resignation we shall again have the pleasure of seeing his name appear in future programmes, as we cannot afford to lose his services.

Yours truly, CHAS. STUDER.

ROUND AND ABOUT.

Tradition is of great moment with the City Swiss Club and proved itself once more reliable when the Monthly Meeting was held last Tuesday at Nuthall's Restaurant, Kingston-on-Thames. In spite of the inclement weather, some fifty ladies and gentlemen enjoyed a perfect evening. The business part of the meeting was got over in exactly eleven minutes, after which the jazzers and the fox-trotters had it all their own way; what struck us most was the entire absence of the customary wall-flowers—a tribute alike to the attractiveness of the ladies and the gallantry of the gentlemen present. The band at the beginning seemed somewhat fizzy, but soon improved.

A new addition to the manifold institutions of our colony will be the "Foyer Suisse," which is now nearly ready. We hear there will be an inaugural dinner on Saturday, June 23rd, over which the Swiss Minister has kindly consented to preside. Representatives of the other societies will be invited and shown over the building, which has been redecorated on modern lines at considerable cost. When in other quarters the question of a central club-house is being discussed *ad infinitum*, it is refreshing to note that with the "Foyer Suisse" something has actually been achieved in this direction. This result is to a very large extent due to the indefatigable efforts and devotion of our compatriot, Mr. Charles Bertschinger. In order to give other members of the colony an opportunity of becoming more closely acquainted with the "Foyer Suisse," the building will be open to general inspection on the following Sunday (June 24th) and Saturday (July 1st).

An important event in the annals of the Swiss Colony will take place on Wednesday, July 11th, when the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Mercantile Society will be held. This busy society has been forging very much ahead of late, and it is most essential that the new committee should be representative of the bulk of the members, and at the same time include some compatriots who carry weight and influence in those circles of our colony who are able and willing to financially support the ever-increasing demands of the "Educational Department," where about 500 of the younger generation are being coached in languages and commercial subjects. The president, Mr. G. DeBrunner, who, it is hoped, can be induced to accept another term of office, is at present laid up with a serious attack of influenza; the meeting has been postponed from the 20th inst. to the above date. His numerous friends are much concerned about his speedy recovery. — Mr. E. de Pourtales, the present secretary, will have to be replaced, as he has left London for good. — Talking about the younger generation reminds us that Mrs. J. Pfendler has just presented the popular manager of the Employment Department with another "young hopeful"; hearty congratulations!

FRIDAY EVENING BANQUETS.

To the Editor of *The Swiss Observer*.

Sir,—While you have been good enough to publish in your valuable paper my letter with re-

marks about the Friday evening Banquets, I should be much obliged to you if you would kindly allow me, in my own name and in that of the Catholic section of the Swiss Colony, to tender publicly our best thanks to the Nouvelle Société Helvétique for the fair way it treated my letter and for the great consideration it gave to it, so much so as to pass a resolution officially to the effect that in future *no* Banquet will be given on a Friday.

These are a few bits of the correspondence passed between ourselves:—

1. Thanks for your letter; it will be submitted this evening to the Committee.
2. The Committee ask me to thank you very much for your letter. We are most grateful to you for having pointed out the facts that a small section of the Colony feels hurt in their religious convictions by the arrangements of Banquets on Friday. We shall keep what you told us in mind when arranging our next dinner.
3. I can assure you officially that our Dinners in future will *not* be given on a Friday, and that we are most thankful for your timely warning, which somehow we had quite overlooked.

This act of Swiss Fair Play and Justice towards a minority on the part of the Committee and the Council of the N.S.H. is greatly appreciated, and is in itself a reply to all critics and a lesson to all concerned. Further comments are superfluous.

Thanking you, with kindest regards,

G. Cust.

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HOLIDAY TRIP TO SWITZERLAND AT REDUCED PRICES.

Supplementing the preliminary announcement in our last issue, the following are the details in connection with our Holiday Trip to Switzerland.

The party will leave London by the 8.55 a.m. train from Victoria, on Saturday morning, the 21st of July, and travel *via* Ostend-Brussels, arriving in Basle the following morning at 6.30 a.m. The ticket is valid for 33 days, and the return journey will be made independently. The price of the second-class return ticket (London-Ostend-Basle-Lucerne and back) is £7 19s. 1d. and includes five days' inclusive hotel pension at a delightfully situated establishment on the Lake of Lucerne.

A unique feature of this special ticket is the great advantage that the stay in Switzerland may be modified or extended to suit individual requirements; the return journey may also be undertaken *via* Laon-Calais or Paris-Calais on payment of a small supplement (5s. 3d.) at the time of booking, the only fixed condition being that the party travels together on the outward journey as far as Basle. The party will travel in reserved compartments right through to Basle.

As the accommodation is strictly limited, applications should be made at once, but not later than July 6th, and should be accompanied by a deposit of £2 (returnable in full if the trip for any reason should have to be abandoned). All applications will be dealt with in strict rotation and must be addressed to the "Travelling Editor *Swiss Observer*, 21, Garlick Hill, E.C.4," who will also supply further information as to first-class tickets, etc.

The form of application below may be used:—

To the Travelling Editor *The Swiss Observer*,

21, Garlick Hill, London, E.C.4.

Dear Sir,

I wish to join the Special Trip to Switzerland on July 21st (as per your announcement) and enclose cheque for 40s., being deposit on account of one second-class return ticket, including five days' hotel pension, and undertake to pay the balance by July 6th.

Yours faithfully,

Name

Address

Swiss Postal Travellers' Cheques.

The Swiss Postal Authorities have arranged for the issue in Great Britain of Postal Travellers' Cheques, which can be cashed without formalities at any Post Office in Switzerland. These cheques may be obtained in London from the

SWISS BANK CORPORATION,
43, Lothbury, E.C.2 & 11c, Regent St., S.W.1.

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Dimanche, 17 Juin, 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Vismec. (Collecte en faveur des Hôpitaux.)

6.30.—Herr Walter Gerber, V.D.M., aus Bern. (Kollekte für die Krankenhäuser.)

BAPTEME.

Adolf René FIVIAN, né le 6 Mars 1923, fils d'Adolf et de Marie née Keller, de Koeniz (Berne)—le 3 Juin 1923.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, June 20th at 8.30.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Ordinary Monthly Meeting at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1 (first floor). (Annual General Meeting postponed to July 11th.)

Tuesday, July 3rd, at 8 p.m.—SWISS SPORTS COMMITTEE: Delegates' Meeting at Gatti's Restaurant.

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