

Forthcoming events

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singers. Their diction in "L'Océan," as throughout the rest of their items, was very clear; phrasing and intonation showed that they had been carefully trained by their conductor. The rendering of "Mein Schweizerland, wach auf," sung with great feeling, so pleased the audience that an encore was inevitable, for which "Heimweh," by Ignaz Heim, was chosen. The Yodel Treble Quartette well deserved the applause they got and acknowledged it by an encore. Without any reflection on the conductorship, might not the singers in these quartettes be left to themselves? One feels they could have done even better than they did, as there seemed to be a lack of that natural freedom and flexibility one is so used to in the rendering of these songs.

The Orchestra, under Mr. E. P. Dick, were aiming rather high by tackling Beethoven's "Egmont Overture," but apart from a mishap in the opening bars after the second pause, they carried it through very creditably. The conductor kept his forces well balanced, the brass never dominating, and a splendid climax was worked up in the Rigoletto selection. Here also a word of praise must be added for the player of the trumpet solo in this piece.

The soloists who gave their kind assistance were Miss Nellie Meyrat (soprano) and Prof. Willibald Richter (pianist). Miss Meyrat, who was well received by the audience, combines a pleasing voice with a pleasing platform appearance, and must be complimented on the choice of her songs. Hers is a pure, well-trained soprano voice, and she showed a commendable control in her execution of the runs and trills in the difficult aria of "Ophelia" in Thomas' "Hamlet." Her *pianissimo* top notes are delightful. As an encore Miss Meyrat sang an aria from Puccini's "Manon," in Italian, equally beautiful. If her rendering of Brahms' "Liebestreu" did not yet show the depth of feeling required for this yet, she must be forgiven, as she is very young. She was encored for it and sang Weingartner's "Liebesfeier." There is no doubt that Miss Meyrat, who is only at the beginning of her career, will go far.

The solo-pianist, Prof. Richter, in his reading of the first movement of Schumann's "Faschingschwank aus Wien," once again proved himself a sensitive musician. The romanticism of Schumann seems to suit him to perfection, his velvet touch here showed to great advantage, and the thematic rendering was of crystalline clearness. In the second part Prof. Richter brilliantly played four "Etudes Poésies," by Haberer, a composer rarely heard in England who, judging by these pieces, writes extremely well for the piano, very reminiscent of Chopin. The hearty applause induced Prof. Richter to play, as an encore, his own composition (Waltz in E flat) "Hommage à Joh. Strauss," a delightful *pièce de salon*.

Monsieur Paravicini, the Swiss Minister, and Madame Paravicini, attended the concert.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week:—

Miss Doris Körber, Liestal: "Basler Character." Miss Elsa Trueb, Andelfingen: "Money." Miss Louise Imbach, Luzern: "Swiss Hospitals." Mr. Max Schneider, Berne: "On Memory." Mr. H. Wehrli, Lausanne: "Life in the Belgian Congo." Mr. C. A. Meyer, Geneva: "Guy's Hospital" (II). Mr. M. Flachsmann, Mittenau: "Heinrich Pestalozzi." Mr. James Baurt, Zurich: "Paris." Mr. A. Burdet, Yverdon: "Sir Christopher Wren." Mr. J. Fischer, Lausanne: "My Ski Course at Engelberg." Mr. H. Schmid, Neuchâtel: "My Adventures in London." Mr. P. Haller, Kolliken: "Disarmament in Switzerland." Mr. A. Bolliger, Rombad-Aarau: "The Bad Corner." Mr. H. Jeanrenaud, Basle: "German Chemical Industry." Mr. M. Michel, Basle: "A Journey to Italy." Mr. R. Thiel, Neuchâtel: "An Excursion." Mr. H. Siegrist, Grenchen: "Ladies of England."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Could Switzerland defend its frontiers against Italy?" Proposer, Mr. B. Berney, Lausanne; "Opposer, Mr. F. Meier, Geneva.

"Should all the countries in the world close their doors to Bolshevism?" Proposer, Mr. H. Jeanrenaud, Basle; Opposer, Mr. G. Michel.

A football match was played by our First IX in Regent's Park, on our field. Our team won a splendid victory at 6-1, and the Team deserves our congratulations as both our two first matches were victories.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents and cannot publish anonymous articles, unless accompanied by the writer's name and address, as evidence of good faith.

To the Editor of the *Swiss Observer*.

Dear Sir,—Last Saturday's very enjoyable and surprisingly well attended Swiss concert encourages me to put forward in your columns a suggestion which I have often had in mind, but which I hitherto feared to be impracticable. It concerns

the propagation of our contemporary Swiss art, which is of a very high comparative standard indeed, but unfortunately hardly known at all in these islands, excepting, perhaps, our literature. I am thinking of painting, sculpture and decorative art as well as of music. Though Honegger has recently won fame here as well as in Paris, yet who knows anything about Othmar Schöck—the great musical genius of our country—or of Schulthess, Müller, etc.? Who has ever seen in this country a sculpture by Hermann Haller, famous all over the Continent, or the paintings of our post-Hodlerites, such as Bury and Amiet? Who in England knows of the highly tasteful decorative art produced by our unpretentious countrymen?

Could not we Swiss abroad help our artists to make themselves known here, for our own delectation and for their benefit? It may be said that, if they are good enough, they will anyway win world fame on their own. This complacent attitude will not do, however, as every agent of first-class Swiss manufactures well knows. A good thing wants to be shown and propagated if it is to benefit its maker. Our artists lack the pushing power of self-advertising as well as the resources which other Nationals possess. A recent Swedish art-exhibition here was a revelation to the English public and a great success. I think with careful and businesslike preparation we could, with a comprehensive art show and a concert or two, considerably enhance the cultural fame of our country and open up the Anglo-Saxon market for our artists.

The technical difficulties are, of course, considerable, but surely not insurmountable. They are, it need hardly be said, purely financial, but may possibly be not so formidable as one is inclined to fear, at least, as far as the musical side of the proposition is concerned. We would have to get sufficient guaranties to cover the costs of a concert, or preferably a short series of concerts, including minimum fee for the artistes, which could be quite modest, I think, and a judicious publicity campaign. A considerable part of the necessary guaranties might be procured in the shape of provisional orders for tickets. No doubt the highest authorities of the art world in Switzerland would gladly help with the choice of the artists, etc.

As to art-shows, I think that some enterprising exhibition agent would probably undertake part of the risk himself, leaving only a comparatively small sum to be guaranteed. This, however, applies only to small shows of perhaps three or four artists well represented, which I think would do perfectly well for a trial, great care being exercised in the choice of the artists.

I should be very glad to hear the views and criticisms of this tentative suggestion that any of your readers may feel inclined to express.

Yours faithfully, Dr. W. H. EGLI.

To the Editor of the *Swiss Observer*.

Dear Sir,—I read with great appreciation the report on "Divine Service" at the Deutschschweizerkirche conducted by the Right Rev. Bishop Bury, D.D.

It was most pleasing to notice the number of Swiss attending the Church on that special occasion; how encouraging it would be if many more of our countrymen turned up more often at the regular Sunday evening services conducted so sincerely in our own tongue by our Rev. Ch. Hahn.

They would then get a better understanding and higher appreciation of the heavy work which our Pastor and the Committee have to carry through. We all are greatly indebted to them for the good they have so far achieved by their devotion to the interests of and for the benefit of the Swiss Colony.

All the troubles of a tiring journey are soon forgotten when, by walking on a Sunday morning or evening through the empty and quiet streets of the City, one hears at some distance the clear sound of a cheerful bell coming from little St. Anne's Church and reminding us that within its walls every Swiss is most heartily welcome. R.B.

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SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION

THE
Final Shoot "Endschiessen"
at the HENDON RANGE has been extended to
Saturday-Sunday, 5th-6th NOVEMBER.

SKILL and HANDICAP COMPETITIONS
on the 100 yards and 300 metre Targets.
ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS CORDIALLY INVITED.

The ANNUAL DINNER and BALL combined with
Prize Distribution, will be held on THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 17th, at the Union Helvetia.
THE COMMITTEE.

Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE (1762), 79, Endell St., W.C.2
(Langue française.)

Dimanche 6 Novembre. Réformation.—11h.: Luc 22/19: "Notre héritage spirituel." M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.
6.30.—La genèse de la Réformation. Ser-
6.30.—La genèse de la Réformation. Services de
St. Cène matin et soir.
7.30.—Répétition du Choeur.

MARIAGE.
Alfred HENRY d'Epandes (Vaud) et Alice Joan
WARD, de West Molesey (Surrey) le 29 Oct., 1927.

SERVICE FUNEBRE.
Conrad ISENSCHUID, de Willisau-Land (Lucerne)
décédé le 28 Oct., 1927.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Sonntag, den 6. November. Reformationsfest.—11
Uhr morg. Gottesdienst; 7 Uhr abends,
Gottesdienst; 8 Uhr, Chorprobe.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche.
Mittwoch, 3-5 Uhr, im Foyer Suisse.
Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen etc., an den
Pfarrer der Gemeinde C. Th. Hahn, 8, Chiswick Lane,
W.4. Telephon Chiswick 4156.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, 5th Nov., 8 p.m.—LECTURE, with slides,
Rev. Rainy, F.R.G.S.: "Round South America,"
at the Foyer Suisse, 15, Upper Bedford Place,
W.C.1.

Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 5th-6th.—SWISS RIFLE
ASSOC.: Final Shoot (Endschiessen) at Rifle
Range at Hendon, Old Welsh Harp.

Saturday, Nov. 5th, at 6.45 p.m.—SWISS MERCAN-
TILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance at Midland
Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.

Thursday, Nov. 17th at 8 p.m.—SWISS RIFLE AS-
SOC.: Annual Dinner and Ball combined with
Prize Distribution at the Union Helvetia, 1, Ger-
rard Place, W.1.

Thursday, Nov. 24th, at 8 p.m.—UNIONE TICIN-
ESE: Annual Concert and Dance in aid of the
"Fonds de Secours" at the Swiss Club, 74,
Charlotte Street, W.1.

Friday, Nov. 25th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB:
Annual Banquet and Ball at the Victoria Hotel,
Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

Saturday, 3rd, Dec., 2 to 10.—Second Swiss Chil-
dren's GRAND BAZAAR, Foyer Suisse, 15, Upper
Bedford Street, W.C.1.

Wednesday, Dec. 28th.—A.O.F.B. SWISS VAT:
Xmas Dinner and Ball at the Café Monaco, Picca-
dilly Circus, W.1., under the patronage of Sir
Alfred and Lady Fripp (tickets 12/6 each).

SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.—Rehearsals every Friday
evening. Every Swiss heartily invited to attend.
Particulars from the Hon. Secretary, Swiss Choral
Society, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

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