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In John Knittel's hands the *crime passionnel* and the murder trial are not sensational, but deeply gripping. And from the psychological point of view, the last scene of the book is the best of all, for here we have a glimpse of this couple, in whose souls such tempests have raged, left calm and blank and empty, like the white sky after the passing of the dark storm clouds.

It is a truly remarkable novel, and in spite of the fact that the English language still comes with a certain difficulty from the author's pen, the London Press have united in acclaiming it. The *Daily Telegraph*, indeed, predict that he will be of that select band who chose English as their language, and whose head, of course, is Conrad. The *Sunday Times* and the *Daily Express* both compare it with Hardy's masterpiece "Tess of the d'Urbervilles." And after that, the volume of lesser expressions of praise may remain unquoted. No one can say whether this work of art will survive the contemporary flood of fiction in this country, but in Switzerland itself the book will live, at any rate, in its German translation.

A.G.

GOLF.

We are now in a position to give further details about this competition, which will be run on the following lines:—

Owing to the fact that it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to arrange that all the competitors should play on the same day and on the same course, it has been decided that to get over this difficulty partners who have been drawn together can arrange their own place and time. Out of the four rounds of eighteen holes, two rounds may be played on the course wherever the competitor is a member. Partners can therefore arrange between themselves where to play. The scores must be returned on the official cards of the course on which the rounds are played, and the full handicap will be deducted from the gross score and compared with "bogey" of that particular course.

Two rounds of eighteen holes each must be played away from the competitor's own club. The competition is therefore in the nature of a stroke competition against "bogey." Local rules shall in each case govern the play. Each competitor's handicap and the name of his Club should be forwarded with entry. It is hoped that everybody interested will do their best to swell the number of competitors. Entries must be received within fourteen days.

The fee suggested is 5s. provided the number of competitors exceeds 30, 7s. 6d. if between 20 and 30 competitors, and 10s. if under 20 competitors. Address all communications to "Golf Competition," c/o *Swiss Observer*, 23, Leonard St., E.C.2.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Miss J. Natural, Geneva: "Old Fishermen." Mr. A. Lorenzelli, Yverdon: "Christmas 1927 at the S.M.S.L." Mr. A. Walzer, Lucerne: "Rudolph Valentino." Mr. Emil Thuerig, Triengen (Lucerne): "My Last Christmas and New Year in Switzerland." Mr. Emil Wanner, Ste.-Croix: "What is Art?" Mr. Jos. Hülsler, Biron (Lucerne): "The Development of Sport." Mr. L. W. Pauli, Zürich: "Some Days in Germany in the Last Time of War." Mr. M. Walder, St. Gall: "Some Remembrances of the South of France (II)." Mr. H. O. Mauerhofer, Langnau i/E.: "Johann Strauss, King of Waltz." Miss F. Findeisen, Zürich: "Impressions at a Ball." Mr. James Bauert, Zürich: "From Lyons through the Provence to Marseille." Mr. F. Buentzli, Wetzikon: "English Cooking." Mr. Emil Dotta, Lucerne: "Old Manuscripts (I)." Mr. Albert Kuhn, Langenthal: "A Walk through a Factory at Cossonay." Mr. Emil Thuerig, Triengen (Lucerne): "A Misadventure in Paris." Miss Marie Louise Rosat, Neuchâtel: "Neuchâtel." Miss Yvonne Graf, Basle: "Card Sharps on London Railways." Mr. A. Lorenzelli, Yverdon: "Russian Literature during and after the Revolution." Miss J. Natural, Geneva: "White Ants."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Are you in favour of games in Swiss casinos?" Proposer, Mr. Paul Staehli, Brienz; Opposer, Miss J. Natural, Geneva.

"Which of the two statesmen, Mussolini or Lloyd George, did the most good for his country?" Mussolini, Mr. L. E. Pessina, Lignonne; Lloyd George: Mr. Magnus Wehrli, Lausanne.

On Friday a Lecture was given by Henry J. Cowell, Esq., on "Twenty Years on the Afghan Frontier." This lecture was greatly appreciated in view of the European Tour of H.M. the King of Afghanistan and his coming visit to England. The house was full.

PERSONAL.

The Swiss Minister and Madame Paravicini have left London for Egypt.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

(The figure in parentheses denotes the number of the issue on which the subscription expires.)

C. Schorno (377), F. H. Rossat (373), Mrs. M. Albrecht (375), H. Koch (375), C. T. Lehmann (375), Ch. Paravicini (375), Swiss Legation (Affaires Econ.) (375), do. (Affaires Polit.) (375), do. (Chancellerie) (375), J. Bindschedler (377), Ch. Bruderer (377), Rob. Du Bois (377), A. Duru (377), J. J. Eberli (377), O. Frei (377), L. Guggenheim (377), Ad. G. Hegnauer (351), Miss H. Heierle (377), John Jenny (377), J. Obrist (377), A. Palliser (377), H. Pavid (377), H. F. Roost (377), A. M. Scholer (377), A. F. Suter (377), Swiss Mercantile (377), John Veglio (377), G. Wuthrich (377), Otto Zingg (377), M. F. Brandenburger (378), F. Danneberger (378), Willy Deutsch (378), Dr. Evengney (378), Ernst Eha (378), W. Glur (378), J. Hausermann (378), H. Huber (378), F. Ineichen (378), Victor Kolb (339), C. Mayr (378), A. Paris (378), A. Rueff (378), U. Schefer (378), E. A. Scheidegger (352), J. J. Schneider (378), Miss Selina Heinz (379), A. Andres (380), E. Neuschwander (380), Dr. A. E. Otüker (380), Geo. Sigg (382), C. H. Willi (352), C. Fensch (379), Chas. de Maria (379).

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Tickets, 6s. 12/6. Ladies 10/6 (incl. Supper), may be obtained from Members of the Committee.

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Dimanche, 22. Jan.—11h. et 6.30 : M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

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SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

Sonntag, den 22. Januar 1928, 11 Uhr vorm.—Predigt; 7 Uhr abends : Predigt.

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. Telephone Chiswick 4156.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, Jan. 21st, at 6.30 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Cinderella Dance at New Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W.

Friday, January 27th, at 8.15 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Lecture by the Headmaster of the Day School.

Saturday, Feb. 4th.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Annual Banquet and Ball at the Midland Grand Hotel, N.W.

Wednesday, Feb. 15th, at 8 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Annual General Meeting.

Friday, Feb. 24th, at 7.30 p.m.—SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY: Annual Banquet and Ball at First Avenue Hotel, W.C.1.

Tuesday, March 13th, 1928.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Banquet & Ball at Café Monico, Piccadilly, W.1.