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### GOTTFRIED KELLER IN ENGLISH. AN EXCELLENT TRANSLATION.

Some of the most delightful short stories of our great national author, Gottfried Keller, have recently been published in an excellent English translation by Messrs. J. M. Dent & Sons. With the greatest pleasure I have just read "The People of Seldwyla" and "Seven Legends," translated by Mrs. M.D. Hottinger (price 7/6). Those wonderful tales are hardly less vivid and natural in this new English rendering than in their original. Switzerland owes great thanks to the translator as well as to the publishers for this publication.

Here is a book that, one feels, is the flower of the Swiss spirit, a book that takes the reader beyond the Switzerland of the tourist agencies to the enchanted land of Gottfried Keller's imagination and experience.

Keller's marvellously fresh imagination, as fertile as a child's, allied to a mature and quiet irony and tolerance have suffered nothing at the hands of Mrs. Hottinger. So much so, that one forgets her work while reading the book. No translator could achieve better than that and we sincerely hope that Mrs. Hottinger may soon treat us to another English volume of Keller.

gl.

### SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS DES SUISSES A LONDRES.

Son histoire remonte à 1703! elle est identique durant de nombreuses décades à celle de notre colonie.

226 années d'existence parfois fort mouvementée, un drapeau donné en 1745 par le roi George II.—certes, une relique bien malmenée du passé mais symbole d'un geste reconnaissant, figurant encore aux fêtes de Richmond en 1891, exhibée une dernière fois à l'Exposition de Genève de 1896 et dont notre Légation continue pieusement la garde—sont des faits dont les fondateurs d'il y a deux siècles auraient lieu d'être satisfaits, mais, parlons de ses aspirations et de son but.

La Société de Secours Mutuels est patriotique de tradition, elle cultive l'amitié aux séances mensuelles, et se maintenant dans les limites d'une prudente administration, accorde à ses membres l'avantage de fonds jalousement accumulés. Elle accueille les compatriotes de sexe masculin dûment inscrits en Suisse et âgés de 17 à 40 ans, assiste ses malades, soutient ses membres à l'heure de la vieillesse, et chose à considérer, allège par un don les soucis de la venue tout en participant d'une manière sensible aux frais de funérailles d'un collègue.

Tout Suisse conscient de son avenir, domicilié à Londres ou dans les environs, devrait s'adresser pour renseignements plus précis à 71, Charlotte Street, W.1., soit au secrétaire de la société.

### CITY SWISS CLUB.

Le City Swiss Club vient de publier son rapport annuel 1928-1929 et à le lire, on ne peut manquer de rester frappé par la vitalité de cette société, qui existe depuis 1856 et dont le but est essentiellement celui d'offrir aux Suisses à Londres un lieu de réunion où ils peuvent apprendre à se connaître, entretenir entre eux des rapports d'amitié et discuter des questions d'intérêt commun.

La Société se réunit en assemblée, précédée d'un dîner, le premier mardi de chaque mois, au Restaurant Pagani, 42 Great Portland Street, W.1., à l'exception toutefois des mois de juin et juillet, où ces deux assemblées mensuelles ont été remplacées depuis nombre d'années par des réunions pour Dames et Messieurs, avec dîner et danse, au Brent Bridge Hotel, Hendon. En outre, le local de la Société au Restaurant Pagani est ouvert aux membres tous les mardi soir et les amateurs d'une partie de "bridge" ou de "Jass" y trouveront toujours des compatriotes avec qui jouer.

Le Banquet Annuel du "City Swiss Club," qui a lieu au mois de novembre, est reconnu depuis longtemps comme la première manifestation de ce genre de la Colonie Suisse dans le Royaume-Uni et la Société organise en outre quelques bals pendant la saison d'hiver, dont le succès n'est jamais en doute. Un Membre Quelconque.

### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

The opportunity the present extended circulation of the Swiss Observer affords is gladly taken to bring to the notice of a wider circle, the activities of this Society, which cover a wide field in commercial, educational and social spheres, and which receive justified and much appreciated support from many quarters.

At the same time an earnest appeal is addressed to those of our compatriots eligible for membership to co-operate in the aims and undertakings of the Society by joining its ranks, to ensure a still more extended support of its purposes and institutions, which by their nature not only serve those directly engaged in commerce, but are of national interest.

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The Society's Headquarters are at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W. 1., where the Day School and Evening Classes are also being conducted.

Its Employment Department is being carried on at 24, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 4.

The Secretaries at the above addresses will be pleased to answer enquiries.

#### NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE.

The Nouvelle Société Helvétique, which has changed its Headquarters some years ago to the Swiss House, Fitzroy Square, W. 1., remains true to its old traditions: to develop the national spirit; to keep in close touch with the homeland and make known at home the activities of the Swiss Colony in London; to exercise on public opinion both in Switzerland and in the U.K., an influence for the amelioration of the relations between the two countries.

The Society holds monthly meetings, the chief attraction of which is usually a causerie on some important subject by an expert from home or from the Colony.

Although since the War the activity of the Society has been somewhat curtailed, a great deal of unobtrusive work is being done in many directions.

#### SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Swiss Benevolent Society of Swiss House, 34, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1., was founded in 1870, for the relief of needy Swiss, irrespective of sex, language, or religious belief. Originally confined to London, it now extends its beneficial influence also to some of the provinces in the Southern part of England. Applicants must produce proof of their Swiss Nationality. A special committee meets at the above address on Monday evenings to consider all applications with great care. Wherever possible the unfortunate countrymen are helped to become self-supporting again or then they are paid their journey back to Switzerland. A visiting lady, employed by the Committee is in attendance every weekday, between 2 and 4 p.m. The General Committee, composed of the Presidents of all Swiss Societies of the Metropolitan and a number of Swiss residents who take an interest in the work, meet every three months to pass the accounts and to discuss the most important cases.

All members of the board give their work free of charge, which makes it possible to devote the greatest part of the funds to the poor themselves. The annual expenditure now reaches £3,000 and it is no small task to find this large sum. All countrymen are therefore earnestly requested to contribute towards the aims of the Society, by sending either funds or clothing or boots, to 34, Fitzroy Square.

#### SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

Male voice choir singing is one of the characteristics of the Swiss, and it is the aim of the Swiss Choral Society to uphold this national art in our Colony.

Unfortunately in recent years the Choir has to a great extent been handicapped by the immigration restrictions in force in this country, and we should, therefore, be particularly pleased to see those of our compatriots join the Choir who are permanently resident here. After all a large Colony such as ours should be able to produce a much stronger choir than exists at present, and we make a special appeal to every Swiss in London, who is a lover of our beautiful folk songs, to join the Swiss Choral Society. Apart from concerts, the Society arranges social gatherings for their active and contributing members and friends. Rehearsals of the Choir take place every Friday evening.

The Hon. Secretary will be pleased to give full particulars to any one interested on application to him at 1, Gerrard Place, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1.

#### SWISS GYMNASIAC SOCIETY. MEN, BOYS, LADIES.

The Society (Schweizerturnverein London—Société Suisse de Gymnastique Londres) carries on Gymnastics (Kunstturnen) and Wrestling (Nationalturnen) on Swiss lines at their headquarters in the Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1. Work is being done by the section and individually at all the apparatus used at home, namely Horizontal Bar, Parallel Bars, Pomelled Horse, Rings, Free Exercises, etc., whilst wrestling in Catch-as-Catch-can and Swiss style is being practised. Gymnasts compete in the English Championships and in the Gymnastic Festivals in Switzerland (laurels were won in 1925 and 1928), whilst Wrestlers compete in the English Championships and held the Desborough Cup in 1920 and 1925.—

#### PRACTICE NIGHTS:

Men.—(Wrestling) Mondays at 8.15 p.m. (Gymnastics) Wednesdays at 8.15 p.m.  
Boys.—(Gymnastics) Wednesdays at 7 p.m.  
Ladies.—(Gymnastics) Fridays at 8.30 p.m.

All Swiss and those born of Swiss Parents are heartily welcome.

#### TO INCREASE THE "FONDS DIMIER."

"I read in the last report of the Swiss Benevolent Society that they have 43 old Pensioners who have to find their own miserable lodgings and this emphasises the very urgent need of building the long hoped for institution which is, as is well known, the aim of the Fonds Dimier."

I feel that it is the Colony's duty to do all in their power to enable the Committee of the Swiss Benevolent Society to carry out the dearest wish of their regretted late president and may I offer the following suggestion which has been found very useful recently by a British charitable institution.

Most ladies (and gentlemen) of the Swiss Colony have in their jewel boxes trinkets of which they have no present use and if they were to send them to the fund to be disposed of for that purpose, I am sure that quite a substantial sum could be obtained in that way. The Honorary Treasurer, Mr. F. M. Gamper, 33, Kingscote Road, Croydon, or any other member of the Committee would be only too glad to receive them and as there are on that Committee several members who are more or less in that line of business they will have no difficulty in obtaining the best value for those articles. To start the ball rolling I am sending a small parcel to-day.

A Lady friend of the Swiss Benevolent Society.

#### PERSONAL.

We regret to announce the death of Prof. Dr. Paul Boehringer in Basle, the father of the founder and publisher of the *Swiss Observer*, Mr. P. F. Boehringer. The deceased was for many years Minister at the St. Peter's Church in Basle, and for the last ten years a professor of theology at the University of that town.

#### THE SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

inform us that they would like to find a better position for the daughter of an Italian Swiss, 17 years of age, of good appearance, who is at present employed as assistant sales woman in a fancy goods shop at 15/- a week. Speaks English only. Please address communications to the Swiss Benevolent Society, 34, Fitzroy Square.



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and at our

**West End Office, 11c, Regent St., S.W.1,**

which is situated next door to that of the Swiss Federal Railways.

## Swiss Rifle Association

Headquarters: 1, Gerrard Place, W.1

Shooting Range: Opposite Welsh Harp, Hendon.

### Off to Bellinzona, July 24th

Party leaves Victoria at 4 p.m.

Non-members are invited to join the party.

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## UNION HELVETIA CLUB,

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Dimanche, 7 juillet 11h.: Mr. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, Service de Ste. Céne.

7h: Dernier "Culte d'Adoration" de l'année avec Ste. Céne.

8h: Répétition du Choeur.

#### MARIAGE.

Werner Rudolf Gamper de Baden, Frauenfeld, et Rachel Meylan de Zurich et Lie Luc (Vaud)—le 3/7/1929.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6 (Téléphone: Moutview 1798).  
Heure de réception à l'Eglise: Mercredi 10.30 à 12h

#### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.  
(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 7. Juli, 1929.—11 Uhr vorm.: Gottesdienst und Sonntagsschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

Während der Ferien des Pfarrers wird Herr Pfarrer Paul Zundel von Zürich ihn in Predigt und Amt vertreten. Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen sind an den Präsidenten der Kirchenpflege Herrn A. Steiger, 44, Scarsdale Villas, Kensington, W.8 oder an Herrn Pfarrer Paul Zundel, "Foyer Suisse," 12, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1 erbeten.

#### DEUTSCHE KATHOLISCHE KIRCHE,

47, Adler Street, Commercial Rd., E.1.

Sonntag, den 7. Juli, morgens hl.—Messen um

9 Uhr, 10 Uhr und 11 Uhr.

Deutsche Predigt um 9 Uhr und 11 Uhr.

Abendgottesdienst um 7 Uhr mit deutscher Predigt.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Friday, 12th July, at 8.15 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Lantern Lecture by the well known explorer Mr. W. Bosshard, from Zurich on "Durch Chinesisch Turkestan und Chinesisch Tibet," at 34-35, Fitzroy Square. Members and friends invited.

Thursday, August 1st, from 3 to 9 p.m.—FIRST OF AUGUST CELEBRATION. at the Rifle Range, Hendon. (See Advert.)

SWISS RIFLE ASSOC.: Every Saturday and Sunday, Shooting Practice on the Rifle Range near the Welsh Harp, Hendon.