

# Five weeks in America

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**SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.**

**CINDERELLA DANCE.**

The Swiss Mercantile Society held their first Cinderella Dance of the season on Saturday, November 1st, at the Midland Grand Hotel.

Shortly before 7 o'clock a fair number of devotees of Terpsichore were ready to sacrifice collars and other starched paraphernalia at the altar of the Goddess.

No sooner the Cambrian Syncopated Orchestra, a discovery of the indefatigable Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, Mr. Krucker, struck up the first notes, that the splendid floor presented a very animated picture.

The President of the Society and Mrs. Paschoud were amongst the early arrivals and had the satisfaction of seeing that everybody present thoroughly enjoyed himself.

At nine o'clock a well earned rest gave an opportunity to do justice to a well served supper. Hardly had the sound of the knives and forks died away that the band began to be busy again and another spell of "schweifen" was indulged in. How many of the Gentlemen present changed their collars during that short respite could not be fixed with a certainty, but no doubt the laundries will have to work overtime to make good some of the damage done through the floods originating from the Water sheds of many a "hohes Haupt."

Only too soon came the sound of the curfew which reminded of the story of Cinderella, calling the happy couples back to their own hearth, the fire of which undoubtedly had long since gone out. A good number of Students of the Day School also took the opportunity afforded by the S.M.S. London Section to indulge in an extra subject not usually found in the Curriculum at Swiss House.

There was only one complaint heard during the whole of the evening and that was that it is a great pity that no Cinderella Dance will be held during December.

However everybody is looking forward to the Fancy Dress Ball on January 3rd, 1931, where all expect to have another thoroughly enjoyable evening similar to the one on November 1st.

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.**

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

Miss E. Wissmann, Zurich: "Some thoughts about the Death Penalty." Mr. M. Brunner, Berne: "First Impressions in England and London." Mr. E. Bucher, Zurich: "Reverence." Mr. A. Merz, Bern: "The Present Economic Crisis." Miss C. Vuagneux, Barcelona: "Exhibition of Barcelona 1929-1930."

The debating classes dealt with the following subject:—

"Are you in favour of Co-education?" Proposer: Miss M. Stimmen. Opposer: Mr. A. Dejung.

On Friday, October 30th, 1930, Mr. F. Day gave a very interesting lecture on "How to enjoy a Visit to the National Gallery." He spoke with great insight and unusual penetration, of a series of modern British painters, interspersing his lecture with delightfully humorous anecdotes from the lives of the great masters. Even the most lethargic listener felt a sudden stirring of interest in the gloomy building that shelters so many immortal masterpieces. Mr. John W. Klein, B.A. presented a vote of thanks to the speaker.

**THE EDITOR'S POST-BAG.**

*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.*

**A CORRECTION.**

To the Editor of the *Swiss Observer*.

Dear Sir,—Re Helvetica Lodge Ladies' Festival.

May I be permitted to express my appreciation at the report which appeared in your last issue.

The object of my letter is to rectify a slight misconception on the part of your correspondent. The Banner presented to the Helvetica Lodge on that occasion was the munificent *personal* gift of Mrs. A. Saager, in fulfilment of a promise made to the writer at the time of the foundation of the Lodge.

"Ehre dem Ehre gebührt!"

I shall be happy if you will kindly publish my correction.

Yours sincerely,  
M. GERIG, W.M.

To the Editor of the *Swiss Observer*.

Sir,—It has lately come to my notice that all is not well with the School of the Swiss Mercantile Society in London. I'm given to understand that the number of students attending the classes has dropped considerably during the last few weeks. In view of complaints which have reached me direct from Switzerland this is no doubt due chiefly to the insufficient accommodation and unpracticability of the present premises at Fitzroy Square.

A large number of the Swiss Colony and also the Swiss at Home have the success of the School very much at heart and consider that it serves a purpose of national importance.

Perhaps this letter will elicit an authoritative explanation from the proper quarters, whether the complaints are justified and whether steps have been taken to find accommodation more in keeping with the running of a school of this magnitude.

I enclose my card. A WELLWISHER.

**FIVE WEEKS IN AMERICA.**

I have just read with much interest "Five Weeks in America," by Dr. Eckenstein. It is even better as a booklet than when it appeared in the columns of the *S.O.* Several uncouth phrases have been altered and one glaring mistake has been corrected. The author says that on the way from New York to Washington two large cities are encountered one of which was stated to be Pennsylvania. Now Pennsylvania is not a town but a State. However, in the edition just published, the name appears correctly as Philadelphia. Oh, Doctor! How could you. . . .

I do not know that I quite like the title but I suppose it was better than a bad pun such as "With Don to Daytona." Cela détonne! A few additions have been made amongst which is a chapter on the "American Language" which amused me intensely, although I noticed that the author could not help dragging in an allusion to Proust and James Joyce. Alas, these aspirants to literary fame!

However it is a very readable little publication and I can strongly recommend readers of the *S.O.* to invest in a copy especially as the profits are to be devoted to two very worthy charities, the Swiss Benevolent Fund and the Société Française de Bienfaisance.

**A DOLMETSCH RECITAL IN LONDON.**

We wish to draw the attention of our readers to a *Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord Recital* by MLLICENT and RUDOLPH DOLMETSCH, which will take place on Saturday, November 29th, at 3 p.m. at the Rudolf Steiner Hall, 33, Park Road (near Baker Street Station).

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Dimanche 9 Novembre 11 h.—ARMISTICE.

M. M. Pradervand.

6.30 h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

7.30 h.—Répétition du Choeur.

SERVICE FUNEBRE.

Elise Dénétreaz, née Porchet, de Chardonne et Pridoux (Vaud), née 20 Juin 1855, décédée 29 Octobre 1930, au cimetière de Chiswick, le 4 Novembre 1930.

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

**SCHWEIZERKIRCHE**

*(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)*

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

*(near General Post Office.)*

Sonntag, den 9<sup>ten</sup> November 1930.

11 Uhr vorm. Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule

7 Uhr abends. Gottesdienst.

8 Uhr abends. Chorprobe.

BEERDIGUNG.

Am 3. November wurde der am 30. Oktober verstorbene Albert HARTMANN von Wetzikon (Zürich) beerdigt.—Geb. am 11.12.1890.

Sonntag, den 16. November wird Herr Bishop H. Bury, D.D., Assistant Bishop of London im Morgengottesdienst predigen.

Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen u. Religions-bzw. Konfirmandenunterricht sind erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde: C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W.4. (Telephon: Chiswick 4150).

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche. Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**

Saturday, November 8th, at 2.30 and 4 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Film Show, at King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.1. "WITH THE SWISS MOUNTAIN TROOPS IN THE ALPS."

Wednesday, November 12th, at 8 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Monthly Meeting, at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Wednesday, November 19th, at 7.45 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Monthly Meeting, of the London Group, at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1, to be followed by a causerie on "History of the Swiss Church in London," by the Rev. Hoffmann-de Visme.

Friday, November 28th.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual Banquet and Ball, at May Fair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.

Monday, December 1st, at 8.30 p.m.—UNION HELVETIA CLUB: Annual Banquet and Ball, at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.