

# Swiss Mercantile Society

Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): - **(1930)**

Heft 434

PDF erstellt am: **06.08.2024**

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find that Switzerland offers them every opportunity to display their talent to their less gifted acquaintances.

To the ham-footed novice, whose idea of skating is to slide simultaneously in seven directions before sitting down with a thud that nearly drives his spine through the roof of his mouth, it seems incredible that any human being can perform such antics and live.

It must not be supposed, however, that the life of the Winter Sports addict is just one darned bump after another. Inasmuch as the most rabid tobogganist cannot whizz up and down mountains after dusk save at grave risk to his health, the winter sportsman whiles away the hours of darkness in fancy-dress dancing, bridge-playing, scandal-distributing and similar pursuits. Those who like that kind of thing will find that it is just the kind of thing they like. Incidentally, it would seem that Swiss air has a stimulating effect upon the more foolish emotions; for statistics show that the number of bachelors who are deprived of their freedom during a Winter Sports season exceeds the number of quills upon the average porcupine.

The last article but one reminds me: *The Swiss Observer* has never yet, to my knowledge, indulged in *Competitions* for its Readers. I will now start such a Competition by promising a price of *Fifty Player's Gold Leaf Cigarettes* to the reader who sends in the best Limerick on Murren, Davos or Arosa. My judgment alone to be accepted and to be final and no correspondence on the matter allowed.

All entries must reach me by Monday Morning first post, 24th February, 1930.

Now then, Readers, let us have those Limericks!

### UN HOTE DE LA SUISSE A LONDRES.

De plus en plus notre petite patrie devient le point de rencontre de vastes mouvements internationaux. Il vient de se fonder un nouveau centre à Valangin, près Neuchâtel, dans le joli petit vallon jurassien, et si le monde n'en a point eu encore connaissance au loin, sa raison d'être n'en est pas moins de grande importance. C'est un ancien capitaine de l'armée française, un Alsacien, Monsieur Bach, qui fut en garnison en Allemagne durant des années, qui l'a fondé. Bien plus, il est l'âme de cette fédération nouvelle des peuples qu'il rêve de voir s'établir et qu'il a commencée. Elle est bien modeste encore, certes, mais établie sur le seul fondement solide: une foi commune, une franchise absolue, un effort constant de se comprendre de peuple à peuple.

Déjà les "Chevaliers de la Paix" sont plusieurs milliers des deux côtés du Rhin, et d'autres se sont joints à eux ailleurs encore.

Et nous, Suisses, qui sommes aussi un trait d'union entre les races, nous comprendrons ce qui a pu animer le cœur d'un Alsacien et l'amener à se jeter dans la mêlée, comme il l'a fait, et nous tiendrons à nous associer à son idéal autant que faire se pourra.

Le Capitaine Bach parlera en français le dimanche matin 16 février, à 11 heures, au culte de l'Eglise Suisse, à Endell Street.

### THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Ten years ago, on January 10th, 1920, at 4.15 in the afternoon, the delegates of Germany and the Allies signed in the Salon de l'Horloge in the Quai d'Orsay, the protocol confirming the entry into force of the Treaty of Versailles, and consequently of the pact of the League of Nations, which formed a part thereof.

The greatest honour we can render the League of Nations is to attach ourselves daily to its progress, to make known its work everywhere and to prove the sound principles which it has acquired during these ten years—a very short period in the history of the world.

We should not like to let such an important day pass without reminding our readers of its meaning: For the first time the various Governments have decided to put an end to war and tackle the problem seriously. For the first time hope can be entertained that wars between nations may soon be a thing of the past like religious strifes.

That is the real significance of the 10th January, 1920. Passing works perish; eternal works will last and solidify. History has already entered on a new sphere with the Treaty of Versailles, the departure from what is perishable to that which will last. J.G.

### AN INTERESTING CASE.

The "Journal de Genève" reports the following:—The Swiss consul at Seattle had to appear before the police-court to answer a summons for a driving offence. He said that he could not be judged by the State of Washington and that his case would come under the jurisdiction of the Swiss Confederation. The American government has replied that, although being a Swiss subject and a member of the consular service, the delinquent may be judged by the American Federal Court.

### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Miss H. Baumann, Zurich: "The Sea." Miss E. Leuenberger, Belp: "A Modern factory in a modern building." Miss Y. Gross, Tramelan: "Out of sight, out of mind." Mr. W. Deuschle, Interlaken: "Interlaken and Bernese Oberland." Mr. O. Kaltbrunner, Zurich: "Circulating Letters." Mr. K. Herzog, Zurich: "Industrial Psychology." Mr. R. Ochsenbein, Fribourg: "Chinatown of San Francisco." Mr. H. Steiner, Olten: "A walk through London." Mr. A. Schenker, Olten: "Swiss Industries." Mr. R. Gausi, Lausanne: "Croydon." Mr. P. Renz, Bâle: "The Game of Chess." Mr. E. Wavre, Neuchâtel: "The Great Naval Conference." Mr. E. Berdoz, Vevey: "History of Shorthand." Mr. H. Lehmann, Solothurn: "Wool Sales."

The debating classes dealt with the following subject:—

"That the Modern Girl is a good house-keeper." Proposer: Miss H. Mange. Opposer: Mr. P. Renz.

On Friday evening, February 7th, the Students of the Swiss Mercantile Society had the privilege of listening to a wonderful lecture by G. P. Gooch, Esq., Litt. D. on "The European Outlook"—a lecture remarkable alike, as a triumph of historical knowledge, and as a masterpiece of rhetorical art.

Mr. Gooch who is undoubtedly an authority on his subject as well as one of the foremost practical historians and economists in England to-day, devoted most of his inspiring lecture to the discussion of the position of the less known countries of Eastern Europe, invoking our deep interest in the political and economic problems of Russia and Poland, as well as in the fates of the lesser countries of S.E. Europe. Unfortunately little time was left for examining the problems of the countries of Western Europe, which Mr. Gooch considers are now more or less stabilised, thanks to the recent peace pacts, and to the work of the League. In conclusion, the lecturer impressively appealed to each member of his audience to be not only a good patriot but also a good European, in the cause of European peace and stability.

After the lecture Mr. Gooch answered several interesting points raised by some of the students, à propos of the European question, and everyone joined in the very enthusiastic applause given in thanks for so remarkable and stirring an address. Further hearty applause followed the vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Levy, the Headmaster of the S.M.S. School. We hope that it may be our good fortune to hear Mr. Gooch again at the S.M.S. School in the near future, for it will be long ere his inspiring words will fade from memories of those fortunate enough to hear him last Friday.

### AN OPTIMIST!

Monday, 9.30 a.m., student attends Swiss Mercantile School for the first time. Two days later at 11.45 a.m., student calls on Headmaster and complains she has not yet learned English. C.L.C.

### UNIONE TICINESE.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of our esteemed member, Secondo Bianchi, which occurred on the 5th inst., at the age of 62. Mr. Bianchi had been a member of the Unione Ticinese for 35 years, was an ex-President and had served on the Committee on a number of occasions. He always upheld the prestige, honour and interests of the Society and his inexhaustible fund of knowledge was the admiration of all those with whom he came into contact. His departure is keenly felt by his numerous friends. A good number of people attended the funeral service, which took place on the 9th inst., and we were grateful to see among them Monsieur de Bourg and Signor Rezzonico, from the Swiss Legation.

Communicated.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

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

Mrs. E. Carson (494), W. Deutsch (482), Th. Bruderer (481), A. Paris (482), P. Bessire (481), C. J. Bernheim (479), C. Baerlocher (482), City Swiss Club (479), Mrs. E. Steiner (479), A. F. Suter (481), A. Rueff (482), W. Glur (482), E. Gassmann (481), E. A. Scheidegger (444), Miss L. Fouvy (442), Miss J. Eugster (433), Miss H. Heierle (481), H. A. Bipp (483), W. Studer (482), J. Smith (444), Th. Scheerer (467), G. Pernsch (483), F. R. Lier (453), U. Schefer (482), G. Heinz (483), J. Hausermann (482), F. Dannmeyer (482).

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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.

### L. SACCANI

Late Manager of Gennaros Restaurant wishes to inform his many Swiss friends that he has taken over the management of

### TONY RESTAURANT

58, New Compton Street, London, W.C.1

### CITY SWISS CLUB.

### Dinner and Dance

MAY FAIR HOTEL, BERKELEY SQUARE W.1

Saturday, February 22nd, at 7 p.m.

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

### FOYER SUISSE, 15, Upper Bedford Pl., W.C.1

Swiss Girls and Ladies are cordially invited to an

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Dimanche 16 Février, 11 h.—M. le Capitaine BACH, des "Chevaliers de la Paix."

6.30 h.—M. Marcel Pradervand.

7.30 h.—Répétition du Choeur.

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: le mercredi de 10.30 h. à midi.

### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

Sonntag, den 16. Februar 1930.

11 Uhr vorm.: Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst und Chorprobe.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche.

Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, February 19th at 8 p.m.—"NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Annual General Meeting of the London Group, at 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1. All members cordially invited.

Saturday, February 22nd at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Dinner and Dance, at the May Fair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.

Wednesday, February 26th at 8 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Annual General Meeting at Swiss House.

Wednesday, March 5th, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Tuesday, March 11th—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Banquet, Ball and Cabaret at The Monaco Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, W.1.

Wednesday, March 12th, at 7 p.m.—SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Committee Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Printed for the Proprietors, by THE FREDERICK PRINTING CO., LTD., at 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.