

Trip to Geneva of the Football Team of the Swiss Bank, London

Autor(en): **M.B.**

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TRIP TO GENEVA OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM OF THE SWISS BANK, LONDON.

Well done, Geneva. It is only fair to mention here, in addition to last week's report of the match, that our friends have conquered us in more than one sense. They thoroughly deserve our congratulations on their victory and our hearty thanks for the splendid reception they gave us.

The organisers certainly knew how to revive the party after an exhausting non-stop journey from London. Many acquaintances were made or renewed in the evening, during a sumptuous and very jolly dinner. There followed a short walk round the illuminated town, and we were soon ready for a much-needed sleep.

The next morning was summer-like in the bright sunshine. The motor-boat took us in the keen air as far as the Quai des Eaux-Vives, and there we climbed slowly up to the "Pré Babel," where we discovered a picturesque cottage, complete with Swiss Flag and Union, Jack to greet us. The sports ground is wonderfully situated, with the snowy mountain, "Le Salève," in the background. Our Geneva friends made us quite at home there, while some members of our party, a little anxious, perhaps, went to inspect the football pitch and its weak spots.

Everybody was cheerful in that gay cottage room, where lunch was taken by our team and some of the officials. The sun kept on smiling; it was getting warm, and people were gathering outside. Comments could be heard amongst players, friends and relations, and just a little anxiety here and there as to the unknown strength of the opponents, until the referee's whistle shrilled for the start of the game. . . .

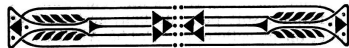
Well, it is all over. A banquet was held in the evening at the Hôtel du Simplon, where our Geneva friends did their best to make us forget our defeat. There, "entrées, vol-au-vent, poulet, salades," etc., all taken with the "Crus du Pays," kept up, indeed, in the finest of spirits.

Mr. Boiteux, President of the Geneva Club, gave us an address of welcome, and handed us a framed picture of the town. Our Chairman, Mr. F. J. Smith, replied with thanks, and told the audience in good French how pleased we all were to celebrate a closer friendship between the two clubs. Mr. Smith then presented our hosts with a neatly-designed flag in commemoration of our visit. Many short speeches followed, and gave us an echo of the various parts of Switzerland. It was, indeed, pleasing to hear four different languages spoken in this very town of the League of Nations. There was a true spirit of sportsmanship when we raised our glasses for the last time, before leaving the Hôtel du Simplon. A tramcar landed the majority of us at the Palais d'Hiver, where, to our amazement, a ladies' competition for finding the smallest foot was in progress. (29½ cm. won the prize.)

Easter Sunday gave us all a good rest. The boat trip in the afternoon was most enjoyable, and we had tea at the picturesque little town of Nyon, under the able guidance of our devoted friend, Mr. Boiteux, who deserved all our thanks. A special bouquet also goes to Mr. Luescher for his untiring goodwill.

A big gathering of friends and relations was at the Gare de Cornavin before our departure. We had to say "Good-bye," but one thing is certain: "L'Esprit de Genève" has won our hearts.

M. H.



A Personal Matter

Have you asked any of your friends to become Subscribers to the

Swiss Observer?

Your kind co-operation in this manner will be much appreciated.



A QUOI BON REVENIR?

A quoi bon revenir encore avec envie
Au souvenir des lieux que nous avons quittés?
Que nous fait le pays où coule notre vie?
La nature partout a les mêmes beautés.

Pourvu qu'un coin du ciel sur notre tête brille,
Pourvu qu'un arbre vert ombrage notre seuil,
Que le soir en rentrant, une douce famille
Nous réchauffe le cœur par son joyeux accueil,

Que nous faut-il de plus et qu'importe le reste?
Oui, pourquoi ces désirs et ces vagues regrets,
Qui ramènent nos cœurs à quelque site agreste,
Que nos regards, hélas! ne reverront jamais?

Sachons donc oublier nos inutiles rêves,
Oublier un passé qui ne peut revenir,
Employer le présent et ses heures trop brèves,
Sans y mêler le fiel d'un amer souvenir.

Soyons indépendants des lieux, sinon des hommes,
Nous dont toute la vie est un long changement,
Et sachons vivre heureux dans l'endroit où nous sommes,
N'importe où, quelque part sous le bleu firmament.

Mais nous cherchons en vain à contraindre nos âmes
De ne plus revenir au songe caressé:
Il faudrait pour cela qu'aux lieux où nous passâmes
Un peu de notre cœur ne se fut pas fixé.

Sur les monts, dans les bois, dans la neige ou la glace,
Sur les chemins cachés, dans les près onduleux,
Nous avons, en marchant dessiné quelque trace,
Notre cœur a battu sous leurs horizons bleus;

Et comme la brebis au sentier solitaire
Laisse aux buissons la laine en flocons blancs et doux,

Les lieux où nous avons vécu sur cette terre,
Gardent toujours, hélas! quelque chose de nous.

Alice de Chambrier. . .

Mademoiselle Elise Fischer et Mademoiselle Françoise Bauer ont le profond chagrin d'annoncer à tous les amis de Londres le décès de leur chère sœur adoptive et amie,

Mademoiselle Louise Marguerat.

Elle s'est endormie paisiblement le 9 courant, à 5, Avenue Recordon, et a été incinérée le 11 à Montoie. L'inhumation des cendres aura lieu samedi, le 14, à 15 heures, au Bois de Vaux.

L'Éternel est Celui qui te garde.

Ps. 121, v. 5.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, April 18th — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting — at 7.45 p.m., at "Swiss House," 34, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Friday, April 20th, at 8 o'clock. — Swiss Club (Schweizerbund) — Annual Dinner and Ball — at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1. Extension till 2 a.m.

Sunday, April 22nd — London Swiss Rifle Team — Practice at Bisley.

Tuesday, April 24th — Unione Ticinese — Annual Banquet and Ball — at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.

Wednesday, May 2nd — Société de Secours Mutuels — Monthly Meeting — at 7.30 p.m., at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Thursday, June 21st, from 7—10.30 p.m. (Tea from 6 o'clock, buffet from 8—9 o'clock) — Fête Suisse — At Central Hall, Westminster (opposite Westminster Abbey).

Saturday, June 23rd, at 2.45 p.m. — Swiss Sports — At Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

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Dimanche, 15 Avril:

11 h. — "Deux prières," Luc xvii., v. 9-14.

M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6 h. 30. — M. André Roux — Prédication.

N.B.—A partir du 22 avril le culte du soir aura lieu à 7 heures.

MARIAGE.

Robert VIDLER, de Londres, et Hedwig Popp, de Winterthur (Zurich) — le 7 avril 1934.

Le Pasteur Hoffmann-de Visme reçoit le Mercredi de 11 heures à midi 30, à l'église, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2., et après les cultes. S'adresser à lui pour tout ce qui concerne les baptêmes, mariages, instructions religieuses etc. Pour rendez-vous particuliers, ou autre chose, téléphoner à Archway 1798, ou écrire à 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

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

Sonntag, den 15. April 1934:

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst.

8 Uhr, Chorprobe.

Anfragen wegen Religions-bezw. Confirmationen und Amtshandlungen sind erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde: C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W.4 (Telephone: Chiswick 4156). Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-2 Uhr in der Kirche; Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."