

Church matters

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"I find it rather difficult to find words or voice with which to thank you, and I hope that if I am very brief you will understand.

That the London Swiss Rifle Team should have arranged this dinner here to-night, and so given me an opportunity of bidding you all farewell, is something which has moved me very deeply, and I want to thank them most sincerely for their kind and generous thought, and in particular for all the nice things you have said about me.

During my thirteen years in London I have been so fortunate as to make many friends amongst the Colony in general and in particular with the City Swiss Club, the Swiss Mercantile Society, the Union Helvetia, the Swiss Rifle Association, the Gymnastic Society, the Nouvelle Société Helvétique and the Unione Ticinese.

At the Legation too I have found the most charming colleagues and the most kindly Chief, who has often used great indulgence when dealing with my shortcomings, and who has set me a most brilliant example of what is expected from the Head of a Mission.

You, Monsieur le Ministre, have always been the perfect Chief and the perfect adviser, and I owe you a debt of gratitude that I can never hope to repay.

It is hard to pull up one's roots, especially when the soil in which they are embedded is such a kindly soil as this has been, and to go away to a strange country. But we in the Diplomatic Corps know beforehand that every time we say "Ave" to — new friends we must hear — in our mind's ear — the whisper of a future "Vale."

And to be forewarned is to be forearmed. So I must consider myself lucky to have enjoyed your friendship for so long, and I want to thank you, as well as all those at the Legation, for my many happy memories of my stay in England.

They say that at parting the heart grows fonder. But I don't agree with the poet, because my feelings could not grow fonder than they have always been.

And I will not say "goodbye," to you all, but rather "Auf Wiedersehen," because I hope to see you all again often, here in London where I am so fortunate as to possess a house even if I no longer have a home, and also in Munich, where I shall always be most happy to welcome you or to help you in any possible way.

I hardly need to say how overwhelmed I am with the magnificent souvenirs which my friends from the London Swiss Rifle have given me. You can rest assured that it will be a most treasured memento of my stay in London."

Long and sincere applause greeted the speaker, who then resumed his seat and "traditional smile."

The last speaker was M. de Cintra, President of the Swiss Sports Committee, who expressed the thanks to the London Swiss Rifle Team for having given the Colony an opportunity to say good-bye to M. de Bourg. He also hoped that the L.S.R.T. would find an equally acceptable President in the near future.

And so ended a pleasant evening spent with a man who leaves but friends behind.

There have been so many bouquets thrown at him, some suspiciously looking like wreaths, that the writer does not wish to add to the agony or discomfort of the recipient, may he, however, be allowed to pick one little simple flower from the wealth of blooms, one little flower without grandeur or splendour, and present it to our departing friend; a forget-me-not on behalf of all those who so often have enjoyed his cheerful company, his help and advice. May the writer also present best wishes for success in a task which, both requires optimism and tact, which our friend, M. de Bourg, happily possesses in such abundance.

We will not say farewell, but

"AUF WIEDERSEHEN!"

ST.

Apart from those already mentioned, the following were present:

P. Brun, W. Beckmann, H. C. Balsler, O. Bartholdi, P. Bessire, A. C. Baume, C. Campart, A. Clivaz, C. Chapuis, R. Dupraz, G. E. DE Brunner, A. Deubelbeiss, Dr. Egli, J. Eusebio, W. Fischer, O. Frei, E. Gassmann, M. Grether, W. Gattiker, Dr. Haccius, Rev. Hahn, P. Hiltiker, M. Hess, L. Haussauer, G. Jenne, J. Jenny, L. Jobin, G. Jenni, G. Keller and friend, W. Kruecker, F. Magnin, G. Marchand, F. Matthey, C. Nater, J. Oltramare, H. Pirrter, G. Pape, J. Pfändler, E. Pernet, V. Paravicini, Dr. Rezzonico, A. Rueff, G. Rueff, F. H. Rohr, M. Rohr, jun's, J. de Rham, E. Steiner, A. Stauffer, B. W. Sigerist, A. Saager, A. Stahelin, C. Strublin, A. Schmid, H. Senn, G. Wutrich, J. C. Wetter, W. Wetter, F. Zogg, J. Zimmermann.

NEWS FROM THE LEGATION.

On Friday, October 29th, Mme. Paravicini and the Swiss Minister invited the Staff of the Legation to a small, informal Sherry Party at 21, Bryanston Square, and so gave them a welcome opportunity of bidding farewell to their friend and colleague, M. de Bourg, and to his daughter.

All were grateful to the Minister for putting their own feelings into words so admirably when he presented M. de Bourg with the Legation's personal gift and souvenir in the form of a silver flower bowl, bearing the following inscription:—

A. Monsieur Walter de Bourg
en souvenir de sa collaboration
1924-1937

La Légation de Suisse en Grande-Bretagne.

The departing Counsellor of Legation expressed his appreciation in well chosen words and went round to shake hands with each of his — from now on "former" — colleagues.

M. DE BOURG'S SHERRY PARTY AT THE DORCHESTER HOTEL.

Well over 400 guests attended the farewell Sherry party given by M. de Bourg, at the Dorchester Hotel.

Mlle. de Bourg, his daughter, helped to receive the guests, the majority of which were diplomats of all nations. There were also a considerable number of Members of the Swiss Colony present.

CHURCH MATTERS.

An announcement by the "Consiatoire" of the "Eglise Suisse" appeared in our last issue, with regard to the appointment of M. Marcel Pradervand to the post of "Pasteur" at the above church.

We take this opportunity to extend our sincere congratulations to Pasteur Pradervand, who is no stranger amongst the Colony. —

M. Marcel Pradervand, hails from Corcelles near Payerne, he was born in Payerne on the 7th of November 1905, where he received his schooling up to the age of 16. From 1921-1923 he studied at the "Gymnase de Lausanne" in order to get the degree of *bachelier-ès-lettres classiques*.

Having achieved this, he continued his studies at the theological Faculty of the University of Lausanne for four years (1923-1927), obtaining the degree of *licencié en théologie*.

M. Pradervand then studied for a while at the University of Basle, in which town he acted at the same time as "Suffragant de l'Eglise Française."

In 1928 he went to Berlin where he studied at the University for one year, having amongst his teachers Professors Diessmann and Titius. His next sphere of activity was London, (1929) where he held an appointment as "suffragant" at the Eglise Suisse for three years.

In 1932 he was ordained as a member of the "Eglise Nationale Vaudoise," and since acted as "Pasteur" of the Parish of Ressudens, near Payerne. A year later he married Mlle. Ruth Bertschinger, whom he met during his stay in London, two boys are the issue of this marriage.

THE CONGRESS OF THE SWISS ABROAD IN BERNE.

The second instalment and conclusion of the above article will appear in our next issue.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, November 10th, at 8.30 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Lantern-Lecture, by Mlle. Ella Maillart, on "From Peking to India by Caravan," at Kingsway Hall, Kingsway, W.C.2.

Saturday, November 13th, — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — at 2 and 4 o'clock — Film Show: "A Travers la Suisse," at King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1. Calendars on sale.

Friday, November 19th — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — at "Swiss House" 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1 at 7.45 p.m. Monthly Meeting to be followed by a causerie by J. Eusebio, Esq., on: "A few Ticinesi' worth talking about."

Friday, November 26th — City Swiss Club — Annual Banquet and Ball — at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W.1.

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Réformation: 11h. — M. Emery. Prédication et Ste. Cène.

6h.30 — Mr. Lageard — Prédication et Ste. Cène.

11h. — Ecole du Dimanche.

Le Pasteur Emery reçoit le Mercredi de 11 heures à midi 30, à l'église, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2. S'adresser à lui pour tous les actes pastoraux. (téléphone: Museum 3100, domicile: Foyer Suisse, 12, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1.)

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE (Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

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

Sonntag, den 7. November 1937. Reformationfest.

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst u. Feier des Heiligen Abendmahls.

Sonntagsschule.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst u. Feier des Heiligen Abendmahls.

Anfragen wegen Religions- bzw. Confirmandenstunden und Amtshandlungen sind erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde: C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W. 4 (Telephon: Chiswick 4156). Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-2 Uhr in der Kirche.

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