

# Farewell dinner

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# FAREWELL DINNER

to

## the Rev. & Mrs. C. TH. HAHN

on

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17th 1938. at Pagani's Restaurant.

Whilst I am writing these lines the last leaves are falling from the trees; through the window I can see the Sussex Downs — which I have so often seen bathed in golden sunshine — enveloped in a dreary and grey mist; the last autumn flowers are drooping their heads, it is nature's farewell to Summer.

Sadness hovers wherever one looks; the songs of the birds are silenced and the heavy raindrops which beat with a dreary monotony against the windows make the heart heavy and sad.

And as it is with nature, so it is with us poor mortals. The hour of departure strikes for all of us at one time or another, and it is, alas, in most cases a sad parting, even when we know that we may meet again. —

To such a parting a large gathering of members of the Swiss Colony attended at Pagani's, on Thursday, November 7th, to say farewell and God's speed, to the Rev. C. Th. Hahn, and Mrs. Hahn.

If the hearts of the Rev. and Mrs. Hahn were heavy on that occasion, so must have been those of many amongst the 170 people present. On one hand it meant leaving a congregation, after fourteen years of faithful and conscientious work, to leave friends, who have in good and bad days worked together for the glory of the Lord, who in His infinite goodness has given us so much, and has watched with His fatherly love over our destiny; on the other hand it meant losing a friend whose kindness and succour has, to many of us, made our burdens lighter to carry and filled us with new hope.

Let it be said, that we regret the departure of our friend Pastor Hahn and his faithful companion, and if there should have remained in their hearts some feeling of bitterness at this hour of departure, it should have now dispersed after the spontaneous testimony of genuine regret voiced by the many speakers.

No man has yet had his efforts — be they small or large — crowned with universal approval or unanimous recognition, and the bigger our task the more opposition we invite. Shortcomings, when occupying an exalted post are often multiplied, whilst the merits are minimised.

In all that we try to achieve during our short pilgrimage, the satisfaction should remain first and foremost within ourselves, we know best whether we have given our best and whether we have striven hard to make a success in the task we were asked to fulfil; and when we can testify that we have done so, this should be our best reward, and no disapproval or criticism should blur this vision, and no bitterness should remain. Have we not the greatest example in the life of Christ, who in His agony on the Cross asked for forgiveness for those who had sent Him to Calvary. —

M. de Jenner, accompanied by Madame and Mademoiselle de Jenner, presided over the gathering, and it should be a source of great satisfaction to our departing friends, that amongst the company present were a large number belonging to different denominations, this is surely the best proof how much their services have been valued and it is a shining example of tolerance, a tolerance which if extended to our daily life would make this world a better place to live in.

In his address, given in "Schwizerdütsch," M. de Jenner rightly pointed out the services which Pastor Hahn had rendered during the many years of his Ministry in his vast parish. "If all those," he said, "who wished to testify their gratitude to him could have been present, we should have had to book a far larger Hall." The speaker especially mentioned the great work which Pastor Hahn had rendered in the social sphere, "this work alone," M. de Jenner said, "makes us regret to lose him." He closed his

address by expressing to both Pastor Hahn and Mrs. Hahn, not only his personal thanks but also the thanks of the Legation for all they have done during their sojourn in this great Metropolis.

Sincere applause greeted the words of the speaker, who then read out a telegram received from the Minister and his family, who are at present in Switzerland.

To bring a little change into the proceedings, it was announced that a double male quartette would sing a song or two.

For one reason or other, I have always been under the impression that a double quartette consisted of eight persons, well I have been wrong and so have been all my teachers of mathematics, as according to last Thursday a double quartette consists really and truly of eleven members, and this only goes to prove that we have never finished learning. But, be it eight or eleven, these manly bosoms let forth a mighty song which seemed to have pleased everybody; if perhaps once or twice the harmony suffered a little, one must principally blame those who smoked cheap cigars and bad tobacco. —

The next speaker was Mr. F. G. Sommer, who spoke on behalf of the "Kirchenpflege;" he said that during the last fourteen years he was in constant touch with the Pastor, and that this enabled him to judge him and his work to a greater degree than anybody else.

In moving words he praised him for his kindness and his brotherly love to all those who came to him in their sorrows and tribulations.

"Nobody left him" Mr. Sommer said, "without getting some help, some new hope, many a tear was dried, and many a breaking heart was beating with fresh hope and a greater courage." He continued by mentioning amongst great applause, that no way was too long, or no hour too late for him to bring consolation to those who asked for his guidance. He then gave one or two examples of his great kindness to some of our compatriots who were in dire distress.

Mr. Sommer also paid a warm tribute to Mrs. Hahn, who, for many years was his faithful and untiring companion, who cheered him up, when he returned home tired out after a heavy day's work. "It was and is an ideal union," Mr. Sommer said, amongst hearty applause.

He continued by saying, "and now we have to say goodbye to them, they wish to return to their Homeland before the dawn of youth passes, and their departure will be accompanied by the gratitude for their loving work, and the best and most sincere wishes for many more years of fruitful work in the service of Their Master. We do not wish to part from you both before we give you a proof of our great appreciation for all that you have done for us, and I have therefore the pleasure to present you with a cheque amounting to £175 and a Xmas present for Mrs. Hahn in the form of a rechauffée, so that she can keep the dinner hot, when you return home late." Mr. Sommer also mentioned that an oil painting of the interior of St. Anne and Agnes Church, which is the home of the "Schweizerkirche" would be sent on to them at a later date.

An album containing a large number of signatures of friends and supporters was also presented, and a lovely picture, containing the following dedication from the pen of our friend Willy Deutsch:

#### ABSCHIEDS-HULDIGUNG

an

Herrn Pfr. C. Th. HAHN.

*Wir sind vereint, um Dir die Hand zu drücken,  
Geliebter Freund, als Pfand der Dankbarkeit;  
Dem Dienste Aller hast Du Dich geweiht,  
Nun soll Dein Abschied diese Gunst entrücken.*

*Du hast gewusst die Kleinen zu beglücken,  
Für Arme, Kranke, warst Du stets bereit  
- Ob Tag, ob Nacht, und war es noch so weit -  
Ihr Drangsal mit Gebet zu überbrücken.*

*Nach Jahren zieh's Dich in die Heimat  
wieder,  
Den Lärm der Gross-Stadt möchtest Du  
vertauschen  
Mit Alpenfrieden, um dem Klang zu lauschen  
Der Hirtenglocken und der alten Lieder.*

*Mög' Gottes Segen Deiner grossen Treue  
Erspriessen Deinem Arbeitsfeld auf's Neue!*

17. November 1938.

GALLUS.

Pasteur M. Pradervand, addressed his colleague and Mrs. Hahn on behalf of the "Conseil" of the "Eglise Suisse," expressing his sincere regrets for having to lose not only a devoted colleague but a good friend, he mentioned the long and good services rendered, and said "you will have the joy to work in your new surroundings for the same Master." He finished his fine oration with the words "Dieux vous bénisse."

When Pastor Hahn rose to respond to the various addresses, he received a long and hearty applause.

He thanked his colleague and friend Pasteur Pradervand for his kind words and wished him success in his Ministry in London, he also paid a high tribute to the late Pasteur Hoffmann-de Visme, who had for over twenty-eight years preached the Gospel at the "Eglise Suisse." "No one knows better than I do, what energy and hard work such a Parish entails, and his work has always filled me with admiration," he said.

With great emotion Pasteur Hahn thanked the company for the generous gifts, he said "we do not deserve so much, you have been more than kind to me, and it makes the parting still harder. You will understand that it is not easy to leave a place where I have been able to make so many friends, and where I have received so many proofs of a genuine friendship.

I am fully aware of my shortcomings, but in spite of these, I have been able to do some good and to help some of my countrymen, then thanks should be rendered in the first place to God, to my parents and my wife's parents."

Pastor Hahn then expressed his appreciation in particular to his friends of the "Kirchenpflege," saying: "I am no business man, and some of my utterings must at time have been irritating to you, if there were any shortcomings, I can assure you they were all mine, and I thank you to-night for the many sacrifices you have made, for the indulgence and patience you have shown to me in such a generous way.

I hope my work was not in vain and that you will stand together to help the Church in times of need."

The speaker then thanked his colleagues of the "Fonds de Secours" for their help and useful collaboration, Dr. Rast for his unstinted support, the various Societies for their understanding, Mr. Meier, Mr. and Mrs. Kolliker, Misses Elmer and Meylan for their devotion, and the church wardens of St. Anne and St. Agnes, for their ever willing help.

Pastor Hahn also expressed his gratefulness to the Swiss Legation, especially to the Minister, Messrs. de Jenner, de Rahm, Hilfiker and Pernet, and to the Swiss Consuls in Manchester and Liverpool, Dr. Schedler and Mr. Montag, for their support. He also wished to earmark a part of the money which was given to him for a number of undertakings which he enumerated.

In concluding his address he once more said how he loved his Parish and with what feelings of

sadness he leaves all those, with whom he worked and who stood at his side through bad and good times.

On resuming his seat Pastor Hahn received a great ovation, and all and sundry sang "For he is a jolly good fellow."

Mr. F. M. Gampfer, on behalf of the "Fonds de Secours" thanked Pastor Hahn for his great work rendered to the Benevolent Society, saying, "we have found in you not only a great helper but a great friend."

Mr. G. Jenne, a member of the "Kirchenpflege" thanked M. and Mme. de Jenner for their presence, and M. B. Sigrist, a former member of the "Kirchenpflege" in a very humorous speech related some of his experiences at the meetings of the "Kirchenpflege."

This concluded the proceedings of the Farewell Party.

And now we take leave of our friend and his devoted companion, not without mentioning once again, our feelings of sadness.

You, dear Pastor Hahn have served your Master well, and with us, hundreds of our compatriots, whom you have helped, will keep you in sincere remembrance, some might not have been able to express their gratefulness to you on that evening, nor have they been able to show their gratitude in a more tangible way, but deep down in their hearts they will remember you and will wish you success and happiness far away in our beloved homeland, and we feel sure, that this is to you the best recompense for your lasting work in the Colony.

God bless you both!

ST.

L'ESCALADE.

La Colonie Genevoise de Londres a décidé de célébrer cette année le 25ème anniversaire de ses réunions d'Escalade de façon spéciale par un dîner après lequel on dansera. Le dîner aura lieu le lundi 12 Décembre à 7 heures au Restaurant Pagani en tenue de ville et le prix du billet est fixé à 7/6. Les genevoises et genevois en résidence ou de passage à Londres sont cordialement invités d'y assister et de contribuer ainsi au succès de cette soirée.

Prière de s'inscrire au plus vite et si possible avant le 9 Décembre auprès des membres du Comité ou de l'Editeur de ce journal.

EINER FUER ALLE, ALLE FUER EINEN.

I

Bei Sempach stand einst Oesterreichs starkes Heer,  
Es wollte freie Eidgenossen nieder ringen.  
Von Bergen, Dörfern eilten Schweizer her,  
Es galt die Uebermacht des Herzogs zu bezwingen.  
Wie eine Eisenmauer stand die Feindesschar,  
Auf Schweizer Seite nur ein kleines Häuflein war.

II

Der Herzog Leopold verlachte sie,  
Dacht' auch bis Mittag schon, sie völlig zu besiegen.  
Nur machte er die Rechnung viel zu früh,  
Er fand den Tod, und der konnt keinen Sieg aufwiegen.  
Doch vordem kam die Schweizerscharen in grosse Not,  
Denn teures Heldenblut färbt' bald die Speere rot.

III

"Wo blieb der Held, der ihnen Gasse brach?" —  
Zwei Hundert tapf're Schweizer lagen tot hingestreckt.  
Wie Löwen drängten and're Kämpfer nach,  
Doch ward von Keinem auch nur eine Lücke entdeckt.  
Des Feindes Speerwall schloss sich sogleich wieder zu,  
"O Retter eil' herbei, brich eine Gass' uns du!"

IV

Dies hört ein Mann, der Arnold Winkelried,  
Als starker, kühner Kämpfer macht' er durch die Feinde Bahn.  
Er starb; sein Opfertod den Sieg entschied;  
Das Volk nahm dieses Opfer mit Dank und Trauern an.  
Die treue Heldenbrust verblutete im Feld;  
Doch unvergesslich bleibt der Schweiz der grosse Held.

V

Wie er als Einzelnr für Viele litt,  
So sollen Viele gern des Einen sich annehmen.  
"O Schweizervolk, vergiss nie, wie er stritt!"  
Da heisst's für Jeden, seinen eig'nen Willen zähmen.  
Vorbildlich bleibt das Opfer; das der Held vollbrachte,  
Und das vermocht'er einzig durch der Liebe Macht.

VI

Ja Einer für Alle, All' für Einen;  
Soll jederzeit als Lebenswort für Alle gelten.  
Nur Gemeinwohl das Volk vereinen;  
Im lieben Schweizerland, wie auch in fremden Welten.  
Ein Jeder handle so, wie Winkelried getan,  
Dann nimmt ihn sicher Gott als treuen Kämpfer an.

ERNESTO MORF.

Gedichtet in der Stadt Santa Fe am 30. V.-1938.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, November 29th — Unione Ticinese — Concert and Ball in aid of the Fonds de Secours, at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.1.

Tuesday, December 6th — (Dinner 7.15 sharp) — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting, at Pagani's, Great Portland Street, W.1.

Monday, December 12th, at 7 p.m. — L'Escalade Dinner at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W. (For tickets apply to committee members or the *Swiss Observer*.) (See notice.)

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Dimanche 27 novembre 1938.

11h. — Culte. M. Ph. Blocher.  
11h. — Ecole du dimanche.  
6h30. — Culte.

A 11h. Culte d'adieux du pasteur C. Th. Hahn, à Gresham Street.

Vendredi 2 décembre, à 7.30 p.m., au Foyer Suisse, réunion de la Jeunesse de l'Eglise Suisse. Invitation cordiale à tous les jeunes.

Pour l'instruction religieuse et les actes pastoraux, prière de s'adresser au pasteur, M. M. Pradervand, 65, Mount View Road, N.4. (Téléphone Mountview 5003) Heure de réception à l'église le mercredi de 11-12h.30.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

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

Sonntag, den 27. November 1938. I ADVENT.

11 Uhr morgens, Abschiedsgottesdienst.  
7 Uhr Abends, Abschiedsgottesdienst.  
8 Uhr Chorprobe.

TAUFE.

Am 13. November wurden folgende Kinder getauft :

Roland Ernst Kern, des Ernst von Berlingen (Thurgau) und der Josefa geb. Hirnke von Nieder Paula (Deutschland).

Muriel Daisy und Ronald Eugen Ulmann, Tochter u. Sohn des Eugen von Trub (Bern) und der Daisy Maria geb. Woodhurst von Seven Kings (Essex).

Margaret Mary u. Annette Ida Weber, Töchter des Ernst von Eschenz (Thurgau) und der Mary Agnes geb. Murray von Jarrow-on-Tyne (Co. Durham).

Hans Peter Seiffert, Sohn des Hans Albert von Binningen (Baselland) und der Lilly geb. Meier von London.

Derek Kurt Schwendener, Sohn des Walter von Buchs u. Sevelen (St. Gallen) und der Marporie May geb. Cutter von Seven Kings (Essex).

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