

Zor Chatzedebatte

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ENGLISH HOTELS "BEAT SWISS".

Captain C. E. Prebble, Vice-President of the Folkestone and Hythe Hotel Association, in an interview with a reporter of the "Star", made the following statement, which was published in a recent issue of the said paper, under the above heading:

English hotels are as good as any to be found in Switzerland, according to Captain C. E. Prebble, Vice-President of the Folkestone and Hythe Hotel Association.

"I and my wife decided to go to Switzerland to test the hotels," he said.

"I came back disappointed. I went to an hotel which had been recommended but many of our hotels are very much better."

"They make you pay for everything," he continued. "You have little for breakfast — roll, butter and jam, and nothing else. If you want anything extra you have to pay for it."

"For lunch we had a three course meal which could be served anywhere in England. Dinner was generally three courses."

He said he did not see any biscuits, and only had three little blobs of cream once a week.

The hotel charged them 15/- a week for central heating and 6/8 for a bath.

"It is about time we talked up our own hotel industry," he said, "and not have so much to say about foreign hotels. We can do as well as the majority of Continental places and better."

The London Correspondent of the "Basler Nachrichten" has replied to Captain Prebble, after duly quoting the item printed in the "Star", as follows:

"A statement of this kind deserves rebuking. If the English hotels were just as good, if not better, as those abroad, particularly in Switzerland, why is it then that every year hundreds of thousands of English people want to go to Switzerland? Why do hundreds of them stand in queues in front of the Currency Allocation Office to make absolutely sure that they receive an allocation? Why do so many of them, upon return from Switzerland, write letters to the editors of dailies, weeklies and organs of tourism, in which they give the highest possible praise to the food, the service and the cleanliness they found in Swiss hotels? How can it be explained that in one particular year some 200,000 Britishers spent their holidays in Switzerland, whereas the number of Swiss who came to this country to spend their holidays here was precisely 2? Why is it that the Chairman of the Travel Association of Great Britain, whose job it is to get as many foreign tourists, particularly with hard currency to spend, into this country, constantly tells the Government that the "Catering Wages Act" paralyses the whole English hotel industry?"

It is a well-known fact that in countless English hotels the service is downright bad. The food is such, that those who prefer it to Swiss cuisine who like, for breakfast, porridge, fish and sausages which are mostly filled with bread. He who likes his vegetables simply to have been boiled in water, he who prefers margarine to butter and who likes his beer lukewarm, he, moreover who does not mind learning by heart at what times he may order an alcoholic drink and at what times he may — for inconceivable reasons — not do so, will agree with what Captain Prebble has said. Who confounds fresh air with draught and prefers a noisy little

gas fire to central heating will, no doubt, go to Folkestone and Hythe rather than to Switzerland. Tens of thousands of fellow-countrymen of Captain Prebble's, however, do not share his views, as is seen every year afresh. That the Vice-President of the Folkestone and Hythe Hotel Association tries to make propaganda for the hotels of his region is understandable. That he tries to do this at the expense of the reputation of the Swiss Hotels is — ridiculous."

ZOR CHATZEDEBATTE.

Das esch mer weder e schöni Schweitzi,
so ne rechte, scheussleche Schand;
es leggi es Chatzebüsi i der Beitzli,
irgendwo im Schwyzerland.

Dachhaasepfeffer, e Delikatesse,
i ha zwor weder gseh, no gha,
aber mer sell doch nid vergesse,
was me alles esse cha.

Auschte, Schnegge, Caviar,
Hühner, Ente, Schnäpfedräck,
jää — esst das de öppe nor e Nar?
ich ha's met eme Stückli Späck.

Reh ond Hase, Gitzibrote,
Forelle, Kräbse, Fröschebei
ond wenna eim de gar tued grote,
hie ond do es frösches Ei.

Jetz cha nes Busi nöme maue
was mer em rächt vo Herze gönnt,
doch muess me eis im Lozärner haue
will er s'Mäas vo de Chatze könn.

d'Chatzestrecke, gfählt abgschnette,
Deheim doch weiss es jedes Chind,
Dass üsi Väter, nach frommer Sitte
öbere Chatzestrick of Einsidle send.

Bi üus do tüend sich Chatze strecke,
alli vieri schtreket si us,
doch vo Gfohr do tüends nüd merke,
si send die verwernte Gschöpf im Hus.

es Lozärnermeidschi.

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