

A last Minute Christmas Gift Suggestion

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SWISS CHURCH — UNITED SERVICE

On Sunday, 22nd November, members of the German-speaking congregation of the Swiss Church joined the members of the working-day congregation of St. Mary Woolnoth at their church for an united service; in all some two hundred people attended.

The opening prayers were spoken by the Rev. Dietler in German and the sermon in English by the Right Rev. R. N. Coote, Bishop of Fulham. The Bishop of Fulham is no stranger to us of the Swiss Church, as we have already had the opportunity of listening to his words on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of our church. We are very grateful that he has honoured us once more by taking an active part in our service. The Bishop, who had only just arrived from his Scandinavian tour, is responsible for all Church of England congregations in North and Central Europe. He emphasized especially the very good relations between his and our Church in Switzerland. Then referring to a map of Europe in his office, where coloured pins mark the locations of all his communities, he said "if God would adopt a similar system to mark the position of 'good' and 'bad' human beings by means of golden or black pins who", he asked, "would get a golden pin? Does this criterion depend on your nationality, your religion, the going-to-church or might there be an altogether different scale?"

It was for the first time that the Youth Choir of the Swiss Church appeared during a morning service, and everybody present was surprised by the high quality of the performance of the two hymns 'Heilig, Heilig' and 'Ich will den Herrn loben', both by Telemann. The choir was re-formed only in September by a young Aargauer and was conducted by a Swiss teacher. We sincerely hope that the choir will become a permanent feature of our Church.

After his closing prayer the Rev. Allam of the Church of St. Mary Woolnoth thanked the Rev. Dietler for his offer to donate the collection to the Church Army, the offices of which were recently visited by the Youth Group of the Swiss Church, who were very impressed by the good work the Church Army is doing.

After the service coffee and cakes were served in the Holland Room, where quite a number of people both English and Swiss took this opportunity for a little chat.

R.F.

GREAT ST. BERNARD ROAD TUNNEL DISCOVERED BY THE SWALLOWS?

At the end of each Summer, the swallows migrate from the countries North of the Alps to the sunny shores of the Mediterranean. With the approach of the grape harvest, in the Valais, and when the heat of the Summer sun begins to fade, large numbers of swallows can be observed on telephone wires, roof gables, etc. There they rest in preparation for the difficult stage of their flight over the Alps.

In each village they have their "rendez-vous" spot which is rarely changed in the course of the years. Then on a nice morning they all take to their wings and cross the Alps, a trip not without difficulties and dangers. Some of these birds have now discovered that the tunnel made for the motorists provides, at the same time, a handy short cut on their own long journey to the South. It is reported that a member of the maintenance crew was followed by a couple of swallows as he drove his breakdown vehicle through the tunnel. Will they keep their discovery secret or will the news spread and result in an improved route plan for large numbers of migratory birds? It will be exciting to watch the swallows' movements in the Spring.

[S.N.T.O.]

SWISS CHURCH

SERVICES EN FRANÇAIS: à l'Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, tous les *dimanches* à 11h00 et 19h00. L'Eglise est ouverte le dimanche: pour le lunch l'après-midi et le soir; le *lundi* soir: dès 18h30; le *jeudi*: dès 15h00 et le soir.

PASTEUR: F. Jacot, 7 Park View Road, London N.3. Telephone: FIN 5281.

SERVICES IN GERMAN: At St. Mary Woolnoth Church, Lombard Street, Bank, E.C.3, every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

PFARRER: M. Dietler, 47 Whittington Road, Bowes Park, N.22. Telephone: BOW 5437.

SWISS CATHOLIC MISSION

CHURCH and SERVICE: St. ANN's Catholic Church, Abbey Orchard Street (off Victoria Street), S.W.1.

SUNDAYS: Holy Masses at 8, 9 and 11 a.m. with sermon in English. At 6 p.m. with sermon in German and French.

HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION: Holy Masses at 7.30 and 9 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.

WEEKDAYS: Holy Mass at 7.30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS in German, French and Italian:

EVERY SUNDAY 1 hour before Evening Mass.

EVERY SATURDAY from 11 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m.

Every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month from 3 to 6 p.m.

Every second and fourth Thursday of the month from 3 to 6 p.m.

At any other time by appointment.

CHAPLAIN: Rev. Joseph Scherer, St. Ann's Church, Abbey Orchard Street, S.W.1. Tel.: ABBey 2895.

A LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTION

If you find you need a present for a friend and there is no time left for any shopping, why not decide on a subscription to the "Swiss Observer"? We should endeavour to dispatch the first number — the double Christmas issue — in time for Christmas. (Subscription rates on back page).

WELFARE OFFICE FOR SWISS GIRLS IN GREAT BRITAIN

11 Belsize Park, London N.W.3.

(Nearest Underground Station: Belsize Park)

RECEPTION HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday
2 p.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment.