

Round and about

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class people generally. But notwithstanding the crude character of many of his observations, his expressions are always delicate and evidence of a refined personality. Like Keller, Schaffner lives eminently on optic impressions, like him he is shy of women, though not so shy as Keller was, like him he does not believe in God, but rather in the might and power of Man's brain. Whereas Keller was swept away by the political enthusiasm of 1848, Schaffner was swept off his feet by the industrial and technical enthusiasm of the Germany of the 20th century, by Berlin growing and expanding with American speed. Whereas Keller, owing to the political evolution of Switzerland, became more and more attached to his country, Schaffner, impressed by the atmosphere of the metropolis, found his mother's country more genial to his temperament. Yet he cannot forget his fatherland either. Over and over again his dynamic novels, written in a brilliant style, depicting in turn Swiss and German milieus, knock at our doors and blow through the country, often so self-satisfied, like a fresh blast.

(To be continued.)

ROUND AND ABOUT.

The "Bundesfeier" was celebrated last Wednesday in the London Colony with the traditional spirit and thoroughness. The concert given at the Memorial Hall by the Swiss Institute was, as usual, a great success. A characteristic of this society is the fact that its doors are open to all and every Swiss, membership not being imposed as a *sine qua non* on those who simply wish to attend the regular lectures and other gatherings, arranged by its active committee, of which Mr. H. Joss is the president. The hall was comfortably filled, and over three hundred people greeted the Swiss Minister, Mons. C. R. Paravicini, when he, in a few well-chosen sentences, opened the fête, mentioning that there was no necessity for him to enlarge on the stimulating patriotic activities of the Swiss Institute, which was so well known in our colony. The gala numbers of the programme were, without doubt, the instrumental tunes by the orchestra under the able leadership of Mr. E. P. Dick; they were quite sufficient to transplant our heart and soul into the dear old country, and this is perhaps the reason why it appears that each time we listen to this orchestra it seems to excel its previous performance. The official patriotic address was delivered by Prof. Morier-Genoud; it was an admirable appeal to our sense of duty towards our country, but I think that his references to international politics and his critical remarks on the proposed increase of the English Air Force—which, after all, is not directed against Switzerland or anyone else—might have been more suitable on another occasion. Very much to the point were certainly the few spirited words in Italian of Signora E. Lunghi, and the applause that followed them seems to lend colour to the recent statement in the *S.O.* that "the Ticinese are the spoilt children of our Colony." The gathering at the Memorial Hall started promptly to time and terminated sufficiently early to give those in quest of further inspiration an opportunity to adjourn to other Clubs. At the "Schweizerbund," 74, Charlotte Street, a gymnastic display, with historical tableaux vivants, was the principal feature; similar tableaux vivants formed also one of the chief attractions at the Union Helvetia, where the busy steward, Mr. Aug. Wyss, added to his reputation as a "Iesser Caruso." At both these clubs dancing continued into the early hours of the morning, but whilst the ladies remained cool and sweet, thanks to the light and airy garments prescribed by the dictators of modern fashion, the stronger sex was severely tried by the tropical heat, which approximated to the temperature usually ascribed to Hades! This explains, perhaps, why at one of the clubs the supply of certain refreshments ran out soon after 11 p.m.

With reference to my remarks on July 21st about a London Swiss Rifle Club, I am told that this idea was mooted some years ago and that there are considerable difficulties in establishing such a club on Swiss lines with ordnance rifles and ammunition. It seems to me, however, that it should not be impossible to adapt ourselves to English usages; after all, a particular rifle does not make a shot. I have also received a challenge from the daughter of our compatriot, Mr. F. H. Rohr, who is anxious to meet Master Barbezat in a friendly contest. Miss Rohr's most recent cards record 92 and 94 out of a possible 100.

I hear that the management of the "Foyer Suisse" has acquired on advantageous terms the lease of two houses, adjoining their present premises, in Upper Bedford Square.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by his Correspondents.

To the Editor of *The Swiss Observer*.

Re "S.O." EXCURSION TO SWITZERLAND.

Sir,—By the address below you can see that the party arranged by you has safely arrived in Switzerland.

It is the least we can do to express our sincere thanks for the splendid arrangements you have made for the comfortable journey of the party from London to Basle. On arrival at Basle some members of the party have asked me to convey to you their thanks and appreciation of your efforts and to let you know how much they enjoyed everything.

Very many thanks are also due to the kind manner and solicitude of Mr. Chas. Studer the Gentleman-in-Charge of the party, who did everything possible to give satisfaction to everyone and see to the comfort of every member. I must say that he succeeded in every way.

If this has been a trial trip, let me assure you that it has well succeeded, and I wish that if the work is not too much for you, every member of the Swiss Colony should avail himself at a future occasion of a trip to the glorious country from which he received his birth and infant nurture.

To the Editor of *The Swiss Observer* mine and all members of the first trip very sincere thanks!

Yours very sincerely,

Zurich, 25th July, 1923. J. J. SCHNEIDER.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine

Assemblée Mensuelle

aura lieu le MARDI 14 AOUT, au Restaurant GATTI, et sera précédée d'un souper familial à 6.45 h. (sh. 5/6 par couvert).

Cet avis tient lieu de convocation. Tout ceux désirant y participer sont invités à s'annoncer en temps utile au Secrétaire, Monsieur G. Marchand, 1, Hatton Garden, E.C. (Téléphone: Holborn 2364).

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EGLISE SUISSE, 79, Endell St., W.C.2.

Dimanche, 5 Août, 11h.—M. J. Ramseyer.
6.30.—Dr. Huber.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, Aug. 14th, at 6.45.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting, preceded by a Supper, at Gatti's Restaurant, Strand, W.C.