

Correspondence

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The Education Department arranges the Evening Classes, Day Classes and the Debating Society. During the eight months from May 1st to December 31st, 1924, we have held 33 classes, with 229 students, mostly English and Spanish, as well as all the other usual subjects. Our best thanks are due to our teachers.

The Day Classes have proved an unprecedented success; during the eight months under review about 750 students have passed through our "nursery," as we might call it. The Headmaster, anyway, calls them his "boys and girls." All these children are nourished on Masterman-Mann Food, and the success is simply marvellous. I am quite sure that no other children's food is in with it, even though there is the Swiss Cross on the tin. Our hearty thanks are due to Mr. Masterman-Smith and his assistant, Miss Mann, for their unstinted effort.

The baby of the society is the Debating Society under the chairmanship of Mr. Masterman. At first, this child crowded lustily, but is just now in a somewhat rickety state. However, we feel sure that, with perseverance and the necessary propaganda, we shall make good.

As I said at the beginning, these achievements were only possible through the generous help of those gentlemen and firms who interpret the letters you see up there (S.M.S.) as Send Money Soon. You will believe me that I am sincere in wishing them a long and happy life, good health and success in business, in the hope that this will mean further support for us. I wish to thank these friends again most heartily. To our members I say: Be faithful to the old flag, stick to the S.M.S. and come and learn all you can.

"The Guests" were proposed by Mr. B. Bretscher, who mentioned the following as being present:—Monsieur Henri Martin, Attaché Commercial at the Swiss Legation; Messrs. G. E. DeBrunner and A. Schupbach (trustees of the S.M.S. Educational Funds); Mr. L. Audemars (Société de Secours Mutuels); Mr. R. de Cintra (City Swiss Club); Mr. A. C. Baume (Fonds de Secours Suisse); Mr. F. Haller (Union Helvétique); Mr. J. Tresch (Swiss Club Schweizerbund); Mr. W. Notari (Unione Ticinese); Mr. L. Meyer (Swiss Institute); Mr. C. Campart (Nouv. Soc. Helvétique); Mr. F. Eggenberger (Swiss Choral Soc.); Mr. F. Rohr (Swiss Rifle Assoc.); the Rev. R. Hoffmann-de Visme (Eglise Suisse); and Mr. P. F. Boehringer ("Swiss Observer"). The toast was coupled with that of "The Ladies" and was heartily received with the traditional "Qu'elles vivent."

Mr. R. de Cintra replied on behalf of the visitors. He said he regretted the absence of Mr. G. Marchand, the vice-president of his Club, but he felt sure that his "ghost" was amongst them that night. He had noticed from the recent reports in the "Swiss Observer" that the orators who on similar occasions had been asked to respond to this toast pretended to labour under considerable difficulties and anguish; one of them, though prompted by his own encyclopaedia, affected an inability to do justice to his task; another one took refuge behind a lady's skirt by resuscitating a maxim (made some years ago by a distinguished guest present that night) to the effect that an after-dinner speech should be like a lady's skirt: long enough to cover the subject, and yet short enough to excite interest. He thought if the latter were a fair criterion, future speakers would have their burden very much lightened.

The Swiss Minister also spoke. He said he did not wish to mar the effect of the last speech by enlarging on the cordial reception the members of the S.M.S. had given him that evening. His neighbour had just expressed to him his curiosity as to how he (the Minister) managed to make a different speech at each of the fifteen banquets at which it was his privilege to preside during each season. He confessed that at times he felt somewhat embarrassed, as he was conscious that his audience were looking forward to the moment when he would sit down again. He complimented Mr. Stahelin on the excellence of his address and the gratifying report which illustrated the progress of the S.M.S. during the preceding twelve months.

It is one of the privileges of the S.M.S. to have always been ready to help charitable objects. This time the successful appeal was made by Mr. J. Pfander, the gentleman described as the one who, in spite of hard work and many other adverse circumstances, "gets younger and younger." The collection brought in the handsome amount of £27, which has been handed over to the Swiss Benevolent Society.

Shortly before 10 o'clock the Ball started and proceeded with good humour and high spirits until 1 o'clock. Let us hope everybody found his way home without having to allude to No. 13 on the programme, "Somebody stole my girl," but got a taxi and was "All alone" (No. 4). G.

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SWISS INSTITUTE.

On Friday, the 3rd inst., Dr. G. P. Gooch, co-editor of the *Contemporary Review*, delivered his annual lecture on the "European Situation" at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C., to an appreciative audience, consisting of members and friends of the Swiss Institute.

A verbatim report of the lecture will be published in these columns within the next few weeks, so as to give those members and friends who were prevented from attending the lecture an opportunity of enjoying its contents and benefiting thereby.

We take this opportunity of again thanking Dr. Gooch for the sincere support he gives to our work as a friend as well as a prominent member of the Social and Political Education League.

H. J.

PERSONAL.

Heartfelt sympathy will go out to Mr. Albert Isler, the manager of the Richmond Hotel, Guernsey, whose wife died from bronchitis on April 1st in her 48th year after a short illness. For a good many years Mrs. Isler assisted her husband in the management of the Swiss Club "Schweizerbund," 74, Charlotte Street, London, W.1, where her amiability and unflinching devotion to her arduous duties earned her the respect and admiration of a very large circle of friends.

The funeral took place on Friday, April 3rd, at Foulon Cemetery, Guernsey, the chief mourners present being the husband, Mr. Albert Isler, the brother-in-law, Mr. Fred. Isler, from Tunbridge Wells, and a nephew, Master A. J. Hale. Amongst the many floral tributes were wreaths from Mr. and Mrs. A. Wyss (Swiss Hotel), the Union Helvetia, and Mr. and Mrs. Staub (Schweizerbund).

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents and cannot publish anonymous articles, unless accompanied by the writer's name and address, as evidence of good faith.

To the Editor of *The Swiss Observer*.

Sir,—When going through your paper, *The Swiss Observer*, or when receiving pamphlets and invitations for the Swiss Fair in Basle, and when I read in these about the national sentiment expressed towards the Swiss Abroad by our people at home, I always come to the conclusion that our friends are leading a propaganda campaign which only consists of fine phrases calculated merely to enhance the prestige of the people who put their names underneath these articles.

Last year I intended to visit the Basle Fair, as usual, but unfortunately I was unable to do so owing to urgent business affairs. As I could not, therefore, address the few words I wanted to say to the special meeting of the Swiss Living Abroad, I sent my ideas over to the proper address, as per enclosures. I never received one word in reply, not even confirmation of the receipt of my letter.

I am giving you this information, as I think you might have an occasion to improve conditions in such instances, and ensure that the citizens abroad who are really fond of their country are appreciated and treated at least as fairly as the Swiss living at home.

Should you want any further information, I am with pleasure at your disposal, and with kind regard, I remain, dear Sir,

Yours truly,
W. BACHMANN.

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Dimanche de Pâques, 11h. et 6.30.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme. (Ste. Cène.)

Lundi de Pâques.—Promenade traditionnelle. Rendez-vous: Marylebone (Gr. Central) 9.45. (Départ 10h.)

SERVICE FUNEBRE.

Anna HUNZIKER, née Gunterswyler, de Frauenfeld (Thurgovie), décédée le 3 Avril 1925 dans sa 32e année —le 7 Avril 1925.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6. (Téléphone: Mountview 1798.)
Heure de réception à l'Eglise: Mercredi 10.30 à 12h.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutsch-Schweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Karfreitag, 10. April, 11 Uhr vorm.—Gottesdienst. Chor. (Abendmahl.)

Ostersonntag, 12. April, 11 Uhr vorm.—Gottesdienst. (Abendmahl.)

Ostermontag, 13. April.—Ausflug der Gemeinde und des C.N.J.M. (Y.M.C.A.) ab 10 Uhr von Finsbury Park Station. Näheres zu erfragen an den beiden Feiertagen nach dem Gottesdienst.

Für Amtshandlungen wolle man sich melden bei dem Pfarrer der Gemeinde:

Dienstag, 12 Uhr, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2 (St. Anne's Church);

Mittwoch, 2—4 Uhr, 12, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1.

Pfr. Carl Th. Hahn.

Wegen Amtshandlungen bitte sich zu wenden an den Pfarrer, Carl Th. Hahn, 'Foyer Suisse', 12, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1.—Sprechstunde im 'Foyer Suisse': Mittwochs 2—4 nachm.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, 15th April, at 7.30.—NOUV. SOC. HELVETIQUE: Council Meeting at 28, Red Lion Sq., W.C.1.

Friday, April 17th, at 8 p.m.—CHARITY CONCERT in aid of the Swiss Benevolent Society, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.1.

Friday, May 15th, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Reading and discussion of a Lecture by Monsieur Ed. Recordon on "La N.S.H. et le problème de l'éducation nationale" at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C.1.

Saturday, May 23rd, at 2.30 p.m.—SWISS SPORTS at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

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