

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1927)

Heft: 319

Rubrik: Swiss Mercantile Society

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

Download PDF: 02.02.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

singers. Their diction in "L'Océan," as throughout the rest of their items, was very clear; phrasing and intonation showed that they had been carefully trained by their conductor. The rendering of "Mein Schweizerland, wach auf," sung with great feeling, so pleased the audience that an encore was inevitable, for which "Heimweh," by Ignaz Heim, was chosen. The Yodel Treble Quartette well deserved the applause they got and acknowledged it by an encore. Without any reflection on the conductorship, might not the singers in these quartettes be left to themselves? One feels they could have done even better than they did, as there seemed to be a lack of that natural freedom and flexibility one is so used to in the rendering of these songs.

The Orchestra, under Mr. E. P. Dick, were aiming rather high by tackling Beethoven's "Egmont Overture," but apart from a mishap in the opening bars after the second pause, they carried it through very creditably. The conductor kept his forces well balanced, the brass never dominating, and a splendid climax was worked up in the Rigoletto selection. Here also a word of praise must be added for the player of the trumpet solo in this piece.

The soloists who gave their kind assistance were Miss Nellie Meyrat (soprano) and Prof. Willibald Richter (pianist). Miss Meyrat, who was well received by the audience, combines a pleasing voice with a pleasing platform appearance, and must be complimented on the choice of her songs. Hers is a pure, well-trained soprano voice, and she showed a commendable control in her execution of the runs and trills in the difficult aria of "Ophelia" in Thomas' "Hamlet." Her *pianissimo* top notes are delightful. As an encore Miss Meyrat sang an aria from Puccini's "Manon," in Italian, equally beautiful. If her rendering of Brahms' "Liebestreu" did not yet show the depth of feeling required for this yet, she must be forgiven, as she is very young. She was encored for it and sang Weingartner's "Liebesfeier." There is no doubt that Miss Meyrat, who is only at the beginning of her career, will go far.

The solo-pianist, Prof. Richter, in his reading of the first movement of Schumann's "Faschingschwank aus Wien," once again proved himself a sensitive musician. The romanticism of Schumann seems to suit him to perfection, his velvet touch here showed to great advantage, and the thematic rendering was of crystalline clearness. In the second part Prof. Richter brilliantly played four "Etudes Poésies," by Haberer, a composer rarely heard in England who, judging by these pieces, writes extremely well for the piano, very reminiscent of Chopin. The hearty applause induced Prof. Richter to play, as an encore, his own composition (Waltz in E flat) "Hommage à Joh. Strauss," a delightful *pièce de salon*.

Monsieur Paravicini, the Swiss Minister, and Madame Paravicini, attended the concert.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week:—

Miss Doris Körber, Liestal: "Basler Character." Miss Elsa Trueb, Andelfingen: "Money." Miss Louise Imbach, Luzern: "Swiss Hospitals." Mr. Max Schneider, Berne: "On Memory." Mr. H. Wehrli, Lausanne: "Life in the Belgian Congo." Mr. C. A. Meyer, Geneva: "Guy's Hospital" (II). Mr. M. Flachsmann, Mittenau: "Heinrich Pestalozzi." Mr. James Baurt, Zurich: "Paris." Mr. A. Burdet, Yverdon: "Sir Christopher Wren." Mr. J. Fischer, Lausanne: "My Ski Course at Engelberg." Mr. H. Schmid, Neuchâtel: "My Adventures in London." Mr. P. Haller, Kolliken: "Disarmament in Switzerland." Mr. A. Bolliger, Rombad-Aarau: "The Bad Corner." Mr. H. Jeanrenaud, Basle: "German Chemical Industry." Mr. M. Michel, Basle: "A Journey to Italy." Mr. R. Thiel, Neuchâtel: "An Excursion." Mr. H. Siegrist, Grenchen: "Ladies of England."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Could Switzerland defend its frontiers against Italy?" Proposer, Mr. B. Berney, Lausanne; "Opposer, Mr. F. Meier, Geneva.

"Should all the countries in the world close their doors to Bolshevism?" Proposer, Mr. H. Jeanrenaud, Basle; Opposer, Mr. G. Michel.

A football match was played by our First IX in Regent's Park, on our field. Our team won a splendid victory at 6-1, and the Team deserves our congratulations as both our two first matches were victories.

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*.

Dear Sir,—Last Saturday's very enjoyable and surprisingly well attended Swiss concert encourages me to put forward in your columns a suggestion which I have often had in mind, but which I hitherto feared to be impracticable. It concerns

the propagation of our contemporary Swiss art, which is of a very high comparative standard indeed, but unfortunately hardly known at all in these islands, excepting, perhaps, our literature. I am thinking of painting, sculpture and decorative art as well as of music. Though Honegger has recently won fame here as well as in Paris, yet who knows anything about Othmar Schöck—the great musical genius of our country—or of Schulthess, Müller, etc.? Who has ever seen in this country a sculpture by Hermann Haller, famous all over the Continent, or the paintings of our post-Hodlerites, such as Bury and Amiet? Who in England knows of the highly tasteful decorative art produced by our unpretentious countrymen?

Could not we Swiss abroad help our artists to make themselves known here, for our own delectation and for their benefit? It may be said that, if they are good enough, they will anyway win world fame on their own. This complacent attitude will not do, however, as every agent of first-class Swiss manufactures well knows. A good thing wants to be shown and propagated if it is to benefit its maker. Our artists lack the pushing power of self-advertising as well as the resources which other Nationals possess. A recent Swedish art-exhibition here was a revelation to the English public and a great success. I think with careful and businesslike preparation we could, with a comprehensive art show and a concert or two, considerably enhance the cultural fame of our country and open up the Anglo-Saxon market for our artists.

The technical difficulties are, of course, considerable, but surely not insurmountable. They are, it need hardly be said, purely financial, but may possibly be not so formidable as one is inclined to fear, at least, as far as the musical side of the proposition is concerned. We would have to get sufficient guaranties to cover the costs of a concert, or preferably a short series of concerts, including minimum fee for the artistes, which could be quite modest, I think, and a judicious publicity campaign. A considerable part of the necessary guaranties might be procured in the shape of provisional orders for tickets. No doubt the highest authorities of the art world in Switzerland would gladly help with the choice of the artists, etc.

As to art-shows, I think that some enterprising exhibition agent would probably undertake part of the risk himself, leaving only a comparatively small sum to be guaranteed. This, however, applies only to small shows of perhaps three or four artists well represented, which I think would do perfectly well for a trial, great care being exercised in the choice of the artists.

I should be very glad to hear the views and criticisms of this tentative suggestion that any of your readers may feel inclined to express.

Yours faithfully, DR. W. H. EGLI.

To the Editor of the *Swiss Observer*.

Dear Sir,—I read with great appreciation the report on "Divine Service" at the Deutschschweizerkirche conducted by the Right Rev. Bishop Bury, D.D.

It was most pleasing to notice the number of Swiss attending the Church on that special occasion; how encouraging it would be if many more of our countrymen turned up more often at the regular Sunday evening services conducted so sincerely in our own tongue by our Rev. Ch. Hahn.

They would then get a better understanding and higher appreciation of the heavy work which our Pastor and the Committee have to carry through. We all are greatly indebted to them for the good they have so far achieved by their devotion to the interests of and for the benefit of the Swiss Colony.

All the troubles of a tiring journey are soon forgotten when, by walking on a Sunday morning or evening through the empty and quiet streets of the City, one hears at some distance the clear sound of a cheerful bell coming from little St. Anne's Church and reminding us that within its walls every Swiss is most heartily welcome. R.B.

W. WETTER, Wine Importer

67, Grafton Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1

BOTTLED IN SWITZERLAND.

Valais, Fendant	... doz. 24/2	Dezaley	... doz. 52/	58/
Neuchâtel, White	... 46/	Johannisberg	... 50/	—
" Red	... 54/	Dôle, Red Valais	... 57/	63/

(Carriage Paid for London.)

As supplied to the Clubs and all principal Swiss Restaurants.

Telephone: Museum 2982. Telegrams: Foyssuisse, London.

Foyer Suisse

12 to 14, Upper Bedford Place W.C. 1.
(Nearest Tube Station: Russell Square.)

Moderate Prices. 75 Beds. Central Heating.
Public Restaurant. — Swiss Cuisine.

Private Parties, Dinners, etc., specially catered for.
Terms on application.

WILLY MEYER, Manager.

SWISS BANK CORPORATION,

99, GRESHAM STREET, E.C.2.
and 11c, REGENT STREET, S.W. 1.

Capital - - £4,800,000

Reserves - - £1,400,000

The WEST END BRANCH
opens Savings Bank Accounts on
which interest will be credited
at 3½ per cent. until further notice.

LA GENEVOISE

Société Suisse d'Assurances sur la Vie.

VIE ENTIERE A TERME FIXE
MIXTE DOTALE
DEMANDER PROSPECTUS

Agence pour Grande Bretagne:

O. BASTADIN, 65, Brondesbury Rd., Londres, N.W. 6

SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION

THE
Final Shoot "Endschiessen"
at the HENDON RANGE has been extended to
Saturday-Sunday, 5th-6th NOVEMBER.

SKILL and HANDICAP COMPETITIONS
on the 100 yards and 300 metre Targets.
ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS CORDIALLY INVITED.

The ANNUAL DINNER and BALL combined with
Prize Distribution, will be held on THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 17th, at the Union Helvetia.
THE COMMITTEE.

Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE (1762), 79, Endell St., W.C.2
(Langue française.)

Dimanche, 6 Novembre. Réformation.—11h.: Luc 22/19: "Notre héritage spirituel." M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.
6.30.—La genèse de la Réformation. Services de St. Cène matin et soir.
7.30.—Répétition du Choeur.

MARIAGE.
Alfred HENRY d'Epandes (Vaud) et Alice Joan WARD, de West Molesey (Surrey) le 29 Oct., 1927.

SERVICE FUNEBRE.
Conrad ISENSCHUID, de Willisau-Land (Lucerne) décédé le 28 Oct., 1927.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

Sonntag, den 6. November. Reformationsfest.—11 Uhr morg., Gottesdienst; 7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst; 8 Uhr, Chorprobe.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche. Mittwoch, 3-5 Uhr, im Foyer Suisse. Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen etc., an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde C. Th. Hahn, 8, Chiswick Lane, W.4. Telephon Chiswick 4156.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, 5th Nov., 8 p.m.—LECTURE, with slides, Rev. Rainy, F.R.G.S.: "Round South America," at the Foyer Suisse, 15, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1.

Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 5th-6th.—SWISS RIFLE ASSOC.: Final Shoot (Endschiessen) at Rifle Range at Hendon, Old Welsh Harp.
Saturday, Nov. 5th, at 6.45 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance at Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.

Thursday, Nov. 17th at 8 p.m.—SWISS RIFLE ASSOC.: Annual Dinner and Ball combined with Prize Distribution at the Union Helvetia, 1, Gerard Place, W.1.

Thursday, Nov. 24th, at 8 p.m.—UNIONE TICIN-ESE: Annual Concert and Dance in aid of the "Fonds de Secours" at the Swiss Club, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Friday, Nov. 25th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual Banquet and Ball at the Victoria Hotel, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

Saturday, 3rd Dec., 2 to 10.—Second Swiss Children's GRAND BAZAAR, Foyer Suisse, 15, Upper Bedford Street, W.C.1.

Wednesday, Dec. 28th.—A.O.F.B. SWISS VAT: Xmas Dinner and Ball at the Café Monaco, Piccadilly Circus, W.1., under the patronage of Sir Alfred and Lady Fripp (tickets 12/6 each).

SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.—Rehearsals every Friday evening. Every Swiss heartily invited to attend. Particulars from the Hon. Secretary, Swiss Choral Society, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, P. F. BOHRINGER, by THE FREDERICK PRINTING CO. LTD., at 23, LEONARD ST., LONDON, E.C.2