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Was für Biel gilt, gilt auch für Basel. Es schadet nichts, wenn wir uns merken, dass wir am 1. Mai 1907 5252 Knaben-Primarschüler zählten und am 1. Mai 1927 bloss noch 2929. Die Zahl der Primarschüler ist also in diesen zwanzig Jahren um 44 Prozent zurückgegangen, trotz Zunahme der Bevölkerung. Hiess das Problem früher: Wie verschafft man den Schülern die nötigen Schulen, so heisst es heute: Wie verschafft man den Schulen die nötigen Schüler! Das klingt wie ein Scherz, doch hinter diesem Scherz steht der Aussterbewille einer Rasse, die ihrer Qualität nach wahrhaftig das schönste Recht auf Leben und Fruchtbarkeit hätte!

— Felix Moeschlin in 'N.Z.' —

### SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

To judge by the attendance and by the merry spirit which was noticeable during the whole evening, it was a happy thought of the Swiss Choral Society to substitute its customary "Gemütliche Abend," to which only members of the stronger sex had access, by a Social Evening and Dance, which was held on Wednesday, the 21st inst., at the Union Helvetia Club.

The object of the choir, which always endeavours to show to the best of its ability its gratitude and appreciation for the support it gets from Contributing Members and Friends in arranging this Social Evening and Dance, was to bring the Active Members into touch with as many of the Contributing Members and Friends of the Society as possible, in the hope that a closer contact between these inner and outer circles would help the Society not only to maintain its progress, but to bring it to a position worthy of a music-loving nation and of the large Swiss Colony in London.

Over 150 members and friends accepted the invitation of the Swiss Choral Society. This first Social was a success in every respect and the wish expressed by everybody that another similar gathering may soon be arranged is ample proof of this.

The few songs which the Choir rendered were heartily appreciated, and the Cambrian Syncopated Orchestra, which provided the excellent dance music, did not give the dancers much rest.

We hope that the next Social Evening and Dance of the Swiss Choral Society may prove a similar, if not bigger, success.

J.G.

### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Miss Greti Hauser, Grindelwald: "Disadvantages of an Only Child." F. Voser, Wohlen (Aargau): "What is Life?" and "Armistice Day." A. Wehinger, Burgdorf: "O dolce far niente!" F. Jecklin, Chur: "The Irish Free State." M. Wirz, Thüren: "Auguste Rodin," and "The Social problem and Industrial Co-operation." Hugo Guggisberg, Zurich: "Napoleon and Mussolini." Max A. Held, Berthoud: "The Influence of Newspapers." Eugen Fritz, Zurich: "Flettner and His Principles." P. Barrelet, Neuchâtel: "A True Fairy Tale." Miss Elsy Hauser, Grindelwald: "New Year's Eve." Miss Dori Thut, Ob-Entfelden: "My English Friend." Miss Salome Boller, Basle: "What Ignorant People Expect in Switzerland." Fritz Rath, Basle: "A Day in the Mountains." Werner Studer, Bienne: "Famous Bridges in the North." Marcel Bachmann, Basle: "Barcelona." Miss Doris Vögeli: "A Journey with Hindrances." Walter R. Suter, Kriens: "Napoleon I." M. Knecht, Uzwil: "French Influence in English Literature." W. Bretscher, Töss: "The Long Sad Years which came After the War." O. Ribi, Winterthur: "Nelson." Emil Nägeli, Amriswil: "Monte Arbino." Arnold Mösching, Grund-Gstaad: "A Pleasant Change." Kurt Schläpfer, St. Gall: "Port Sunlight." R. Lafont, Degersheim: "The Fur Trade of the World."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Is Death the End of Everything?" Proposer, A. Mösching; Opposer, H. Lippuner.

Friday: A lecture was given by W. H. Austin, Esq., on "English Wit and Humour."

Saturday: A party of students paid a visit to the National Gallery.

FOOTBALL: Swiss Mercantile Society F.C., 3; Lep Social Club, 2. This match took place on Saturday afternoon at Regents Park. Our First Eleven has now won six matches in succession, with a score of 43 goals against 5. Team: Baehler; Burren (Capt.), Perrudet; Wyss, Dr. Kientsch, Wilhelm; Strebel, Gruenhut, Locher, Aeschbacher, Inhelder.

### SWISS GYMNASTIC SOCIETY.

The first display after the Society's return from the Federal Gymnastic Festival will take place on Sunday, December 9th, 1928, at 3.45 p.m., at the Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1. The special feature of this display is the first appearance in public of the Ladies Section in Drill exercises and Indian Club Swinging. The programme further includes work

at Horizontal Bar, Parallel Bars, Horse, Wand D Drill, Pyramids, Ballet Dancing by little Miss Swan (a member of the Ladies Section) and the customary songs. In the evening a Dance, as usual, will conclude the proceedings. It is confidently hoped that the Swiss Colony in London will support the Gymnasts in large numbers to carry on this Swiss national sport in London.

### MISS VIOLETTE BROWNE'S RECITAL.

We see with pleasure that VIOLETTE BROWNE is shortly giving another recital (see announcement). On each previous occasion we felt invigorated and refreshed, for, to quote some of our contemporaries—"this artist has a charming personality"—"makes skilful use of a good voice"—"communicates happiness to her audience."

The programme, in German, Spanish, Italian, French and English, ranges from Bach to van Dieren, from Donizetti to Roussel. Miss Browne will also sing an unpublished work by Arnold Bax, with the composer himself at the piano.

### QUOTATIONS from the SWISS STOCK EXCHANGES

| BONDS.                             | Nov. 20 | Nov. 24 |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Confederation 3% 1903              | 81.50   | 82.15   |         |
| 5% 1917, VIII Mob. Ln              | 101.25  | 101.50  |         |
| Federal Railways 3½% A—K           | 86.35   | 87.00   |         |
| " " 1924 IV Elect. Ln.             | 101.20  | 101.70  |         |
| SHARES.                            | Nom.    | Nov. 20 | Nov. 24 |
| Swiss Bank Corporation             | Fr. 500 | 825     | 840     |
| Credit Suisse                      | 500     | 944     | 947     |
| Union de Banques Suisses           | 500     | 745     | 753     |
| Société pour l'Industrie Chimique  | 1000    | 3265    | 3273    |
| Fabrique Chimique ci-dev. Sandoz   | 1000    | 5225    | 5217    |
| Soc. Ind. pour la Schappe          | 1000    | 4175    | 4200    |
| S.A. Brown Boveri                  | 350     | 587     | 582     |
| C. F. Bally                        | 1000    | 1497    | 1492    |
| Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Cond. Mk. Co. | 200     | 935     | 943     |
| Entreprises Suisse S.A.            | 1000    | 1200    | 1210    |
| Comp. de Navir n sur le Lac Léman  | 500     | 515     | 515     |
| Linoieum A.G. Giubiasco            | 100     | 320     | 318     |
| Maschinenfabrik Oerlikon           | 500     | 800     | 780     |

### WIGMORE HALL

#### Song Recital

on MONDAY, DECEMBER 10th, at 8.30

## VIOLETTE BROWNE

Soprano

Assisted by JOSEPH SLATER Flautist

At the Piano — MAURICE JACOBSON

TICKETS (inc. Tax): Reserved 10.6 and 5.9. Unreserved 3.6, may be obtained at the Box Office, Wigmore Hall, Libraries, usual Agents, and from Miss VIOLETTE BROWNE, 80 Oakley Street, Chelsea, S.W.3 (Tel. Kensington 5219): Imperial Concert Agency, Empire House, 175, Piccadilly, W.1.

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### CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine

#### Assemblée Mensuelle

aura lieu le MARDI 4 DECEMBRE au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Gt. Portland Street, W.1 et sera précédée d'un souper à 7 h. (prix 6/6).

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard St. E.C.2 (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 9595).

#### Ordre du Jour:

Procès-verbal. Admissions. Démonstrations. Divers.

The Publisher will be pleased to forward free specimen copies of "The Swiss Observer" to likely subscribers whose addresses may be supplied by readers.

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### Divine Services.

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79, Endell Street, near New Oxford St., W.C.3.

Dimanche, 2 Décembre, 11h.—1er Advent. M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6.30: 20e Etude sur la vie de St. Paul.

7.30: Réunion de prière.

#### BAPTEME.

Cornelia Gabrielle BRYSON, née le 21 Août, 1928, fille de Frederick Bryson, de Kilsyth (Ecosse) et de Berthe née Schaub, de Huttlingen (Thurgovie)—le 25 Nov., 1928.

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

### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 2. Dezember 1928. Advent.—Vorm. 11 Uhr: Gottesdienst und Sonntagsschule.

Abends, 7 Uhr: Gottesdienst; 8 Uhr: Chorprobe.

Getauft wurde am 25. Nov. der am 18. Okt. 1928 geborene Peter Jan FREI, Sohn des Hans Frei von Pfäffikon am See (Zürich) und der Mathilde geb. Trümpler von Küsnacht (Zürich).

Sprechstunden: Dienstag, 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche. Mittwoch, 4-6 Uhr im Foyer Suisse.

Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen, etc. erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde: C. Th. Hahn, 8, Chiswick Lane. Telephone: Chiswick 4156.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, December 1st, at 7 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOC.: Cinderella Dance at Midland Grand Hotel.

Tuesday, December 4th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting at Paganini's Restaurant, 42, Gt. Portland Street, W.1.

Tuesday, December 4th: SWISS RIFLE ASSOC.: Annual Dinner and Prize Distribution at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

Sunday, December 9th, at 3.45 p.m.—SWISS GYMNASTIC SOCIETY: Gymnastic Display at the Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1.

Wednesday, December 19th.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Council Meeting at 7.45 p.m., followed about 8.15 by a causerie by Mr. Henri Buchi, entitled "A New Approach to Economics," at Swiss House, 34-35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Saturday, January 26th, at 6.30 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Cinderella Dance at the Hotel Metropolitan, Northumberland Av., W.1.

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