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programme. I must not omit to place it on record that Mr. G. Marchand was in charge of the arrangements and right well did he deserve the praise bestowed on him.

Alas, all too soon we had to part, but to all of those who had the privilege to attend this festival it will remain in good remembrance; it was truly a most enjoyable evening and the Helvetica Lodge may be heartily congratulated on the success of this, its fourth Ladies' Festival. St.

#### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Mr. B. Rieter, Geneva: "Is Education a Failure?" Mr. A. Delor, Geneva: "The Russians in Exile." Mr. C. Pfenniger, Stäfa: "The Alsatian Home Ruler." Mr. A. Kilcher, Rheinfelden: "Tea." Miss E. Liechti, "Happiness." Mr. N. de Weck, Fribourg: "The Free City of Danzig." Miss G. Pfeiffer, Vevey: "William Shakespeare." Miss V. Steger, Lichtensteig: "My First of August Fire in England." Mr. A. Isotta, Lugano: "Is Novel-reading a Waste of Time?"

The debating classes dealt with the following subject:—

"Does the Aim justify the Means?" Proposer: Mr. A. Seiler. Opposer: Mr. O. Freitag.

On Friday night, the 24th October, Mr. E. Yates delivered a most interesting lecture on hidden beauty spots of London. Mr. Yates took us for a stroll from Tower Hill to Temple Bar, and showed us with the help of lantern slides how London had developed since the Roman conquest.

Many Londoners would be surprised if they knew that a large number of their offices have been erected on the remains of Roman walls.

Very interesting were the descriptions and pictures of old City Churches, which, hidden behind massive blocks of modern office-buildings, appear non-existent to the thousands that pass close by to earn their daily bread, yet harbour untold beauty and historical value.

The lecture was savoured by real English humour, and one joke appealed particularly to the audience, namely that of the American lady, who, wishing to take back a souvenir to her native country, implored the old porter of a middle-century building, which she had just visited, to give her just a small relic, no matter what it was.

The old porter scratched his head and expressed his regret, saying that what was to be taken had already found its way to the New World.

Suddenly the American lady caught sight of the door-knocker, an old 16th century masterpiece of ironwork. "Oh yes," said the porter, "I had overlooked that." Money passed. The knocker was carefully unscrewed and the lady left beaming all over her face and pressing a valuable door-knocker under her arm.

But how great would her surprise have been if she had waited a few minutes and heard the porter call up to his wife: "Liz, Liz! Bring down a new knocker; this one has already gone!"

#### SWISS INSTITUTE ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Swiss Institute Orchestral Society was held at Swiss House, Fitzroy Square, on Thursday the 9th October, 1930.

The meeting was very well attended and the members of the Orchestra were extremely gratified to find that their Patrons were represented. It is indeed a pleasure to find that, in addition to their valuable assistance in other directions, some of our Patrons find themselves really interested in the activities of the Orchestra in between concerts.

As regards the election of officers Mr. W. Pellet was again elected as President and the indefatigable Mr. Dick will again act as Secretary with Mr. W. Wagner as Treasurer and Messrs. H. Sobey and C. F. Clarke in completion of the Committee of five.

Considerable enthusiasm was shown in the discussion of the various questions that came before the meeting and it was very evident that the playing members of the Orchestra are keenly interested in its welfare and activities.

We hope that the following preliminary notice will be of the greatest interest to all readers of the *Swiss Observer*. It was decided that another Concert should be given at the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, on the 19th February,

1931. It will be remembered that a Concert was given in that Hall in February of this year and the Orchestra was delighted to receive the most complimentary expressions from all sides regarding the performance on that occasion. No effort will be spared to make the next venture even more acceptable and successful and the Committee and members of the Orchestra feel certain that they can once more rely on the wholehearted support of the whole of the Swiss community in London in their enterprise.

Please note the date—19th February, 1931—and help the Orchestra to make the next Concert an outstanding success. A.B.

#### SWISS Y.M.C.A.

The Swiss Y.M.C.A. held its first Social Evening of the season on Saturday, 25th October. Mr. L. G. Zimmermann gave a lecture on "My Holidays on the Danube by Canoe and Tent." The Lantern slides, which were kindly lent by the Austrian Federal Railways, were of great variety and beauty. The good attendance, especially of young men, was encouraging, and none will easily forget the unique impressions of that lecture.

#### FIVE WEEKS IN AMERICA.

The series of articles which appeared in the *Swiss Observer* under the above title by our friend Dr. K. E. Eckenstein have now been published in pamphlet form. The text has been revised and a few interesting additions have been made.

The pamphlet contains 36 pages demy 8vo. and is published at the price of 1/- post free. The author is offering any profits from the sale equally to the Fonds de Secours and the Société Française de Bienfaisance. Copies may be obtained at this office 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

#### Home News—(Continued)

##### CENSORSHIP?

The *Libera Stampa* of Lugano and other papers publish the astonishing fact that two parcels containing copies of a book entitled "Mussolini," by Signor Alcide De Ambris, and published in Marseilles have been returned to the French printers with the remark "Returned because contents not admitted."

The two parcels were addressed to the office of the Trade Unions of Lugano. On arrival at Lugano the post office passed them over to the Customs Office which, acting apparently on previous instructions, asked Berne for guidance and received orders not to allow the books to be delivered but to return them to France. The press is shocked at this procedure because the book is written by one of Signor Mussolini's old time friends and is allowed unrestricted distribution in France and other countries. Some of the papers ask, since when has Switzerland sunk to the level of an Italian colony and must abstain from reading facts unfavourable to the Fascist Régime?

The *Libera Stampa* apparently intends to publish the prohibited book as a Feuilleton or even print a special edition, in order to give the Federal Council the opportunity of establishing under what law they are acting in setting up such a censorship.

#### SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY

#### Annual Banquet & Ball

Friday, the 7th November, 1930

at the

#### FIRST AVENUE HOTEL

HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.1

RECEPTION	DANCING	DINNER
at 7.15 p.m.	till 2 a.m.	at 7.45 p.m. sharp

Tickets at 10/6 can be obtained from Mr. F. Conrad, 8, Paternoster Row, E.C.4, or Mr. John Gerber, 99, Gresham Street, E.C.2, or any other Member of the Choir.

#### FOYER SUISSE, 15, Upper Bedford Pl., W.G.1

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd.  
at 4 o'clock.

#### The Work of Dr. Albert Schweitzer

By E. METTLER, Esq.

AT

FOYER SUISSE

Every Swiss Girl Welcome.

Tea Provided.

#### SWISS BANK CORPORATION,

(A Company limited by Shares incorporated in Switzerland)

99, GRESHAM STREET, E.C.2.

and 11c, REGENT STREET, S.W. 1.

Capital Paid up £6,400,000  
Reserves - - £1,960,000  
Deposits - - £43,000,000

**The WEST END BRANCH**  
**opens Savings Bank Accounts on**  
**which interest will be credited**  
**at 2½ per cent. until further notice.**

#### Swiss Rifle Association

Headquarters: 1, Gerrard Place, W.1  
Shooting Range: Opposite Welsh Harp, Hendon

#### RESPITE

**The Committee is granting all Members until**  
**the 2nd November to finish the "Endschiesen"**  
**Competitions.**

Snacks at the Bar provided.

#### CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

#### L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

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

##### ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.	Démotions.
Admissions.	Banquet Annuel
Divers.	

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).

#### Divine Services.

##### EGLISE SUISSE (1762),

(Langue française.)  
(Les services ont de nouveau lieu à l'église, 79, Endell Street.)

Dimanche 2 Novembre 11 h.—Reformation  
"Toujours joyeux" I Thess. V. 16.  
Ste Cène. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6.30 h.—M. Pradervand Service de Communion.

##### BAPTEMES.

Rosa Elizabeth Skousbo, née le 16/4/28 fille de Carl, Uzugby (Danemark) et de Rosa Steiner son épouse, de Huttwyll (Berne) le 26/10/30.

##### SERVICE FUNEBRE.

Berthe Weideli, née Brunner, de Kreuzlingen (Thurgovie) née le 28/7/1879, décédé le 19/10/30 le 23/10/30.

##### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.8.  
(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 2. November: REFORMATIONSFEST.  
11 Uhr morgens: Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

8 Uhr: Chorprobe.

Dienstag 4. November, Nachmittags 3 Uhr:  
Näherein im Foyer Suisse.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, November 1st from 7 to 12 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.1.

Wednesday, November 5th, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIÉTÉ DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Friday, November 7th.—SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY: Annual Banquet and Ball at the First Avenue Hotel, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Saturday, November 8th, at 2.30 and 4 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE: Film Show, at King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.1. "WITH THE SWISS MOUNTAIN TROOPS IN THE ALPS."

Friday, November 28th.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Annual Banquet and Ball, at May Fair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.

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#### CITY SWISS CLUB.

PLEASE RESERVE  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28th

for the  
ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL,  
at the

May Fair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.