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efficiency, endurance and capacity to overcome difficulty and danger. But when I challenged Youth in the past, I found him always quite willing for the adventure of the Alps; and I incline to the view, therefore, that it may be that he is ignorant of the thrilling adventure calling to him, or perhaps that, resulting from wartime anxiety, parents prefer to keep their young within the pleasant and very safe confines of an English pleasure resort.

But if there is a sign of the stuff which made England great, assuredly it is to be found among those who, without reward, seek adventure among the rocky peaks, and who cross the great snowfields and glaciers which lead to the summits of the mountains.

Edward Whymper, the conqueror of the Matterhorn, once wrote: "If I could blot out every reminiscence, if I could erase every memory, still I should say my climbing in the Alps has repaid me, for it has given me two of the best things a man can possess—health and friends."

Curiously enough, the development of city life eliminates friendship. When we go to the Alps, we certainly become rejuvenated and return in better health, and, whatever else we do, we certainly make friends. I know of no sport or recreation which so cements the bonds of good fellowship as climbing. There are the long days together, demanding mutual help, sustenance, the strong supporting the weak, a sharing of the burden. There are moments of difficulty, even of danger, in which co-operation and sacrifice are the essentials; there are marvellous nights, spent in the refuge huts ten thousand feet above civilization, when, with tired bodies, minds stimulated by danger over and conquest achieved, and the whole spirit elevated, friendship rises high above the sordid considerations of commercial and social advantage, and man can commune with fellow-man without the restraint of convention. Friendship and all that friendship really means gain immeasurably from human contact in such circumstances.

There is nothing essentially difficult about mountain climbing. True it is that a good head is necessary, but a tendency to giddiness may be overcome by the will. And it is true, too, that strong limbs, a sound heart and good lungs are essential. But even the more frail, after two or three days of careful going, will discover that they have latent powers far in excess of what they often imagine. A lifetime in climbing may not, perhaps, equip the mountaineer with the whole technique of the craft; but the veriest novice, who does not aspire, for his first ascent, to the conquest of the Matterhorn, may derive immense pleasure and much good practice from sealing some of the lesser peaks. Excellent centres for climbing, or indeed for major excursions across the higher snowfields and passes, are to be found, for instance, at Zermatt, Kandersteg, Saas Fee, Chamouix, Grindelwald or Andermatt, and in all these places small hotels may be found, catering for the most modest pockets, so that groups of friends may make these their headquarters and journey over the passes, or from one hut to another, at an inclusive cost of only a few shillings a day. Switzerland provides not only all its natural physical attractions, but also an atmosphere of expectancy, perhaps for the reason that it is a land without conventions. British, Swiss, Germans, Austrians, Italians all come together upon common ground, with common experience and endeavour. The best of national habit, by common consent, becomes the custom of all. In consequence, without restraint, in this pleasant land, man may really have a very happy holiday.

For those who are past the age of adventure, the Swiss Postal Services have devised a system of motor-coach tours, which several times daily traverse the winding roads leading over the mountain passes. Thus all the glory of the Alps may be seen in comfort. But for those who have youth and vigour I commend a mountaineering holiday.

## A Swiss Crosses the Channel in a Canoe.

Our readers have no doubt read in the daily press, that one of our compatriots, Max Vogt from Aarau, age 23, who is a student at the Swiss Mercantile School, has been successful in crossing the Channel in a rubber canoe. Mr. Vogt has been good enough to give us an account of his daring venture, which we have much pleasure in reproducing for the benefit of our readers in abbreviated form. He relates:

Arriving at Folkestone I got in touch with the Rowing Club and the authorities and discussed the matter of my venture very carefully from every point of view.

I made a minute examination of my boat, making sure that everything was in good order, and fixed my compass in such a position as to enable me to change my bearings should circumstances require it. After that I communicated

with the Customs Officers with regard to my return and also asked for telegraphic information regarding weather conditions in the Channel from the Meteorological Office in London. I was quite aware of the danger which a crossing in such small craft entailed and I left nothing to chance; feeling that for my parent's sake and also for that of sport, I should minimise the risk of the undertaking as much as possible.

The departure was fixed for 10 a.m.; everything was ready with the exception that no news as to weather conditions in the Channel was forthcoming. The sea was rough, but the sky, apart from some rather heavy and dark clouds looked not too unfavourable. As I did not wish to delay the start any longer, an arrangement with the Harbour Master was made that should, after my departure, a favourable report from the Meteorological Office arrive, this would be signalled to me by hoisting a flag, but should weather conditions be unfavourable a motor boat was to fetch me back.

The start was quite successful and in record time I accomplished five miles, when I had to come to a decision, as still no signals were made to me from the shore, the omission of which was most awkward and I could not account for it. As I saw some blue sky behind heavy clouds, and also passed several cross channel boats in the near vicinity, which could have picked me up in case of danger, I decided, in spite of the increasing roughness of the sea to "carry on." After I had accomplished the sixth mile, I encountered a heavy storm and in order to avoid disaster I was forced to alter my bearings entirely. I had to fight desperately against a strong head wind and considerable waves. Fortunately after a time the storm quietened down, but the wind still prevented me from making any real progress, and I was unable to benefit by the strong tide which would have helped me considerably to reach Boulogne. In the distance I could see some cliffs but was not able to make out if there were the cliffs of Cap Grisnez. I redoubled my efforts and soon I was able to detect the Lighthouse and the Monument at Cap Grisnez.

Further away in the distance I could see Calais in a mist, and spurred by the thought that I was within reach of my goal I made a further strenuous effort to reach the French coast. In the meantime the sky became very threatening again, and I had to slow down very considerably in order to reserve enough strength to face and endure another storm. Although things looked none too bright I was all the same in the best of spirits and started to sing and whistle defying the wind and waves which were combining to rob me of my success.

Nearer and nearer came the coast, and I had now to come to a decision as to where the landing would have to take place. The landing above Wissant was both difficult and risky and at low tide the reefs were laid bare causing a great danger to shipping. A landing at Wissant was impossible, as according to the chart of the Admiralty no less than eight wrecks are marked in this area.

At 5 p.m. after exactly seven hours hard work I was near the coast, and although I had now for some time sighted land I kept my steering strictly to my compass. I had now the worst part of my crossing before me as I was racing against the turning of the tide. All the seven hours I paddled without a break with cross paddle, which accounts for the relatively short time in which I accomplished the journey in spite of the adverse weather conditions. The landing eventually took place near Wissant.

So far all was plain sailing; I expected, after stepping out of my boat, to get in telephonic touch with Folkestone in order to inform the authorities there of my safe landing on the "other side." Unfortunately the French Customs Officials treated me in a very unpolite manner and I was prevented from any immediate communication. In the meantime the Rowing Club at Folkestone had sent out an S.O.S. to Dover, Calais and Boulogne, as well as to all boats crossing the channel to keep a look out for me. I endeavoured to send off a wire from Cap Grisnez which was quite close, but was told by the French authorities that this was not possible; so it was only on Saturday morning that I could send news to England, that I had landed safely in France. The weather now took a distinct turn for the worse and I decided to make the return journey by channel boat. I had to do the journey to Calais in the company of a French customs official, who after seeing me safely on boardship returned to me my passport and camera.

We tender our compatriot our heartiest congratulations and feel sure that all our readers will join us in this expression. The "Swiss Navy" has decidedly scored in spite of all the ridicule which this expression usually brings forth. We are also pleased to report that the Folkestone Rowing Club has nominated Mr. Vogt an Honorary Member and the Royal Canoe Club has also honoured our compatriot in a similar way.

## Doings in Our Colony.

### SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

It was in the best of spirits that early in the morning of Friday last, the two chosen teams of the S.R.A. accompanied by some other members and friends, left for that splendid and so well organised British shooting ground called Bisley, there to measure our skill once more on the 100 yards range with our British friends. Our President, Mr. Senn, however, to the great regret of all, was prevented because of business reasons from coming with us, and thus we were deprived of his usual cheery company.

Unfortunately we arrived at our destination somewhat late, and therefore some of us could not indulge in the usual "Jass" as a preliminary to the shooting contest, which was sadly regretted by one or two equally as keen contestants on that "field of sport."

Immediately after lunch our shooting started in dead earnest, and it is a source of real satisfaction for the reporter to put on record that the results obtained this time compare very favourably with the best realised by us on previous occasions, and this in spite of the fact that the conditions under which we shot last Friday were anything but good on account of the continually changing light, which all those familiar with shooting know to be the worst enemy of the sport. On the other hand two members of our team (Messrs. J. Haesler and J. Wetter) produced two splendid individual results of 97 points each (out of a possible 100), which we had never before succeeded in registering in the competition proper.

As on previous occasions, we were again fortunate to be accompanied by various lady "mascots" who, needless to say, always serve as a great moral support to us, taking the keenest interest in our proceedings throughout the day. This, however, has its disadvantage, inasmuch as they do not always seem to accept without question the excuses, genuine or otherwise, which we choose to put forward to them when obtaining results not exactly creditable to us. Whilst they are generous enough to give us the impression that we have their sympathy in such cases, we cannot, on the other hand, help having a certain feeling at the back of our minds that unless we succeed in doing better next time we shall utterly and hopelessly fall into disgrace with them! This, it goes without saying, never fails to spur us on to the accomplishment of higher things, and undoubtedly goes to prove that their even stronger attendance on future similar occasions is greatly to be welcomed!

So, Ladies, please take note!

In the afternoon we were all invited by our Member, Mr. Arthur Traies, to an enjoyable tea-party at the North London Rifle Club Pavilion, and this gentleman once more gave us ample proof of the great interest he takes in the welfare of our Association, by assuring us that he will endeavour to enable us to enter in future also for some other competitions at Bisley, more particularly on the longer ranges, where we would decidedly be in a better position to properly show our worth as shots.

Our outing found its happy termination in an extremely jolly supper party at Mr. Alfred Schmid's Hotel in Glendower Place, South Kensington, during which a few short and partly witty speeches were made, more particularly by Messrs. De Bourg and Senn (the latter having now joined us), who both exhorted us to continue persevering in our efforts to secure a higher rank at some future contests in Bisley. E.R.H.

### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during the past fortnight:—

Mrs. A. Graf, Davos: "Deep Thoughts," "Davos." Mr. A. Holliger, Basle: "Importance of Chemical Works." Mr. E. Thomann, Geneva: "Measurement of Mental Capacity." Mr. A. Staub, Basle: "Thinking Capacity." Miss H. Zollinger, Feldmeilen: "Some Impressions of Florence." Mr. F. Lehmann, Zurich: "The Stock Exchange in Zurich." Miss F. Kuhn, Speicher: "My Grandfather." Miss H. Heim, Berne: "Something about Plymouth." Miss S. Merz, Basle: "Modern Periods of Opera." Miss E. Maag, Zurich: "Some thoughts of Modern Education." Mr. W. Jenny, Liestal: "Travellers' facilities." Miss H. Neeser, Berne: "International Language." Mrs. A. Graf, Davos: "Impressions of Davos." Miss R. Krähnenbühl, Basle: "Impressions of London." Mr. R. Arbenz, "Has the Cinema a good or a bad influence?" Miss Y. Merz, Messrs. A. Kummeler, A. Bondolfi, "Have inventions made life more agreeable?" Mr. R. Ferretti, Cuvel: "The Amateur Photographer." Mr. R. Kigi, Zurich: "Electrification of the Railway." Mr. H. Alder, Berne: "International regulation of working hours for Commercial Employees." Mr. R. Ringger, Zurich: "Swiss Broadcasting now and in the future." Miss L. Hinder, St. Gallen: "Whose fault is it if children do not get

on wilt their parents?" Mr. K. Halter, Müllheim: "Mussolini." Mr. G. Aman, Zurich: "Admiral Nelson." Mr. H. Deutsch, Basle: "Should we have a Tunnel under the Channel?"

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Should Persons of Different Nationality Marry?" Proposer: Miss Menzi. Opposer: Mr. Wettenschwiler.

"Is it possible to abolish war?" Proposers: Mr. Strebél, Mr. A. Wagner. Opposers, Mr. Zehnder, Mr. Berlinger.

"Are you in Favour of Vegetarianism?" Proposer: Mrs. A. Graf. Opposer: Mr. P. Renold.

Under the title "Does Money bring Happiness" many highly interesting speeches were delivered. The great majority of the students were against the idea that money alone could bring happiness, but it should be well understood that by disposing of it in a charitable manner, money could pave the way to happiness in the homes of many a poor family irrespective of class and standing, thus doing well to the community at large. Money also was proved by some vivid examples to be a curse to many a man and caused the downfall of whole families through gambling at the green tables and thoughtless speculation on the Stock Exchange, bringing poverty and misery to thousands of innocent people. The recent crash on Wall Street was only one of the many illustrations given. Yet a small amount of money was necessary in modern times for the maintenance of happiness in families, and the old German proverb "Ist kein Geld im Haus, so fliegt die Liebe zum Fenster hinaus"—was another support of the conclusion.

On Friday, July 4th, a most interesting lecture was given by Mr. A. Averill on Canada. Mr. Averill speaking of his personal experience in that country explained in most encouraging terms the great possibilities open to settlers with a will to work. The country was becoming more and more cultivated but progress was slow owing to the great difficulties encountered in felling the vast forests. Men of good health with a knowledge of agriculture and not afraid of putting in a 14-hour day, and possessing a little capital were always welcome, and provided they stuck to their work they would not fail to reap a large harvest after a few years. The prospects of the commercially trained man were not so great, as the agriculturist had first to pave the way for commerce. In conclusion Mr. Averill gave a short geographical review mentioning the great variations of climate. Education was quite on a level with that of Europe and the Administration of the Government was admirable.

#### UNION HELVETIA, GLASGOW. SUMMER OUTING TO OBAN ON SUNDAY 13th July, 1930.

Some 20 members of our Glasgow colony gathered at the "Globe" Restaurant, West Nile Street, Glasgow, the usual meeting place. Although the weather did not look too promising everybody was in good spirits and especially our Ticinesi members did their best with their songs to give everybody a homely feeling. Among the party was Monsieur Josef Scherer, the president of the local branch of the "Union Helvetia" and Monsieur Max Graf who is in charge of our Consulate in Glasgow.

The first part of the trip to Balloch on the shores of Loch Lomond some parts of which have a striking resemblance with the Lake of Zoug or the Lake of Lucerne was scarcely new territory to anybody. From Balloch our char-a-banc followed the road along Loch Lomond via Luss, Tarbet, Ardlui and up the Glen Falloch with its steep gradients and waterfalls to Crianlarich, a place amidst Highland Bens, some of which have a considerable height.

In the Crianlarich Hotel with its tasteful dining room a splendid lunch was ready for the hungry people. Sunshine did not seem to be available on this special occasion. Under the songs of "Addio la caserma" and "Ticinesi son bravi soldati" we went up the solitary valley through which the river Tay with its splendid salmon takes its way cutting right through the range of the Grampian mountains with Ben Lui in the South and Ben Cruachan in the North. Soon the lovely shores of Loch Awe were reached. Quieter and more solitary spots can scarcely be imagined and the evergreen pasture lands for sheep and woodlands give the landscape a charm which is peculiar to Scotland.

After leaving Loch Awe the road enters the wild Pass of Brander which resembles very much some stretches of pass roads in Switzerland. Our Italian speaking congregation kept on singing and the whole party was in excellent spirits. Soon after Loch Etive came in view with its railway bridge at Connel Ferry carrying the iron horse to Ballachulish at the entrance of the rugged and wild valley of Glen Coe. Then our coach descended the steep gradient leading down to Oban, the "Charing Cross" of the Scottish Highlands, wonderfully situated in the Kerrera Sound and a splendid centre for steamer excursions to the Western Islands.

It was a great pity we had not very much time to spare for this lovely spot and after a short stay we returned the same route along Loch Etive and through the Pass of Brander to Dalmally. From here another hill was attacked turning round the road leading through Glen Aray to Inverary with its ancient castle which is the residence of the Duke of Argyll. Inverary commands a very fine situation on the shore of the famous Loch Fyne. From there we had to take the Northern direction again in going round the head of Loch Fyne to Cairndow and the entrance to Glen Kinglass leading up to the "Rest and Be Thankful" pass which might as well be summit of some of the Swiss pass roads. From there the road follows Glen Croe going down in very steep gradients to the shores of Loch Long to Arrochar where tea was served. Unfortunately the weather broke down completely here and the rest of the journey which was, however, no new ground for most of our people had the benefit of a long lasting rainfall. Shortly before ten Glasgow was reached again and the party set down from where they left twelve hours earlier after having seen a good deal of the magnificent Scottish Highland scenery.

MAX GRAF.

#### "CITY OF CHICAGO."

Our readers will no doubt be interested to learn that SCINTILLA magnetos have again proved their great reliability. In a recent issue we mentioned the success with the "Southern Cross," they have now been used most successfully in the "City of Chicago," the machine with which the Hunter brothers set up an endurance record last week in America by a 23 days non-stop flight. This, of course, imposed a severe test on their magnetos, which, as it is reported, have given unfailing service throughout.

#### PERSONAL.

The many friends of Mr. & Mrs. Ch. Rossier, the stewards at the UNION HELVETIA, will be sympathising with them in their bereavement; Mr. Rossier's father having died in Berne at the age of 82 after a short illness.

#### FIVE WEEKS IN AMERICA.

This interesting series of articles by Dr. K. E. Eckenstein will be continued next week.

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Sunday, July 20th.

GIRLS' AFTERNOON EXCURSION

to

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Meet 4 p.m., Highgate Tube Station.

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## Swiss Rifle Association

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

### First of August Competition

Open to all Swiss

300 metre and 100 yards Targets

now in progress

Shooting every Saturday afternoon & Sunday

### CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

#### L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu le MARDI 5 AOUT au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, St. Portland Street, W.1 et sera précédée d'un souper à 7 h. (prix 6/6).

#### ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal. Admissions. Démonstrations. 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 20 juillet 11 h.—M. le Colonel Isely de

L'Armée du Salut.

7 h. M. Marcel Pradervand.

Les cultes du soir seront supprimés dès le 27 juillet.

Heure de réception à l'église: le mercredi de 10.30 à 12 h. et le dimanche après le culte.

### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.3.  
(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 20. Juli 11 Uhr Morg.: Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.

Während der Ferien des Gemeinde Pfarrers wird Herr Pfarrer Walter Pfenniger aus Zürich ihn vertreten. Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen sind an Herrn Pfarrer Pfenniger, Foyer Suisse, 15, Upper Bedford place, zu richten. Die Abend Gottesdienste fallen während der Monate Juli und August aus.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Friday, August 1st, from 3 to 9 p.m.—FIRST OF AUGUST CELEBRATION, at the Rifle Range, Hendon.

Tuesday, August 5th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting at Pagani's (see advert.).

Wednesday, August 6th, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Thursday, August 28th, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE and SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Lecture by Professor Dr. C. Schröter of Zurich with over 100 coloured lantern slides on "Naturschutz in der Schweiz und der Schweizerische National Park," at King George's Hall. Admission free.

SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION: Shooting Practice every Saturday and Sunday at the Range (see advert.).

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