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cess; that, if there was an opposition, this was not a sign of weakness but, owing to the remarkable and satisfactory manner it was overcome, much rather a sign of strength and efficiency. His Secretary further suggested, he said, that he should put in a word about the great interest which the Legation at all times, and more than ever in difficult times, takes in the welfare of the S.M.S. and that no opportunity is missed to keep in touch with and to assist, the President and Members. And when he (the Swiss Minister) observed, that surely the S.M.S. knew this long ago and that it would hardly be necessary to rub it in again, he was told, he said, that the audience of an annual Banquet always liked to hear it once more and that he might take it for granted, it could never be said enough.

Mr. Jenne, Vice-President of the S.M.S., greeted the guests and the ladies as follows:

We are glad to observe the presence of so many of our old and valuable friends, though we sadly miss some hitherto familiar figures. On the other hand we rejoice in having with us numerous new friends.

This should be an indication that our organisation is not obsolete, for as long as we do not get estranged from our old friends and keep on enlisting the goodwill and sympathy of new ones, our destiny seems secure.

The edifying presence of an adorable company of charming ladies on this occasion gives it, you will agree with me, the finishing touch.

We gratefully appreciate their coming here in such numbers and we can only hope this evenings enjoyment will be complete for them as well as for all our guests and friends present.

Mr. Carlo Chapuis, Vice-President of the City Swiss Club, was so carried away by the charm of the ladies that he commanded a ban de coeur in their honour which was heartily responded to by all men present.

Mr. E. Werner, President of the City Swiss Club, replied on behalf of the guests in the following terms:

I have been asked by Mr. Paschoud, your President, to reply to-night on behalf of the Guests. This strikes me as what you might call a rather bewildering task, for I have always felt very much at home at the Swiss Mercantile Society which I have long considered to be my spiritual home.

The easiest way out of my dilemma would probably be to forget my past associations with your Society for a moment and simply to assure you, Mr. President, and Members of the S.M.S. that you have entertained us royally, that you have lavished kindness and hospitality on us all this evening, to thank you on behalf of my fellow guests, etc., etc.

It is customary, I believe, to make an after-dinner speech more palatable by including a funny story. I am afraid I am no good at either making or remembering stories, but I am going to try and tell you one which may not be very funny, but which has the treble advantage of being perfectly true, of forming a not unimportant part of the inner history of the S.M.S. and of being known, I am sure, by less than half a dozen of its members.

About 8 or 9 years ago, when I had the privilege of being President of the S.M.S. I was fortunate enough to have a very able Secretary. As you know even very able Secretaries are apt to make mistakes or to become guilty of errors of omission.

At one of our monthly meetings this particular Secretary was severely censured for having forgotten to address the usual circular convening the meeting to the Contributing and Honorary Members. A day or two before the next meeting I happened to meet him and he casually informed me that he had written personal letters to all Contributing and Honorary Members, asking them to attend the meeting as it was of special importance. "What did you do that for?" I asked him, "we have nothing of importance on the agenda of our next meeting." "Well," he remarked, "that's your

funeral, I am not going to be told off again . . . and," he added, "I have also written to the Minister, and, what is more, he is coming!" And he did come.

All's well that ends well! The close of that meeting, a very late one, saw the birth of the special Commission—with our Minister as Chairman—which subsequently launched the appeal for the Educational Fund, the result of which enabled the S.M.S. at long last to bring its scholastic activities under one roof.

In the meantime the S.M.S. has gone from strength to strength, its school has expanded beyond recognition, thanks to the unselfish devotion of its President and of the members of the various Committees. We fully realise, Mr. President, that by influencing in the way you do the life and careers of so large a number of our young compatriots, your Society is doing work of National importance under particularly trying circumstances. I am sure that I am speaking in the name of all my fellow Guests in heartily congratulating you on your achievements. I feel convinced that you have the moral support not only of those present and represented here to-night, but of the whole Swiss Colony of Great Britain.

Finally Mr. Pfändler, Manager of the Employment Department of the S.M.S., as usual made an eloquent appeal on behalf of the Swiss Benevolent Society, which last year spent over £3,000 in support of needy compatriots. The collection yielded the sum of about £40.

While the room was being cleared for the dance the company retired to another room, where Mrs. Aebersoll and Mrs. Rossier delivered most competently two yodel-songs which were enthusiastically applauded. The evening, altogether a most pleasant affair, finished all too soon at 1 a.m.

Apart from those who are separately mentioned in the Report the following invited Guests were present:

Mr. A. Schupbach and Mr. & Mrs. Gamper, Trustees of the Education Dept.; The Rev. & Mrs. T. H. Hahn, M. le Pasteur Pradervand; Mr. & Mrs. Werner, City Swiss Club; Mr. & Mrs. C. Campart, Société de Secour Mutuels; Mr. & Mrs. Oertli, Fonds de Secour Suisse; Mr. C. de Maria and Mr. Oberto Braga, Unione Ticinese; Mr. & Mrs. Silvani, Swiss Club; Mr. & Mrs. A. Finger, Union Helvetic; Mr. & Mrs. A. F. Suter, Nouvelle Société Helvétique; Mr. E. P. Dick and Mr. W. Pellet, Swiss Institute Orchestral Society; Mr. E. Ritzmann accompanied by Miss D. Clark, Swiss Choral Society; Mr. & Mrs. A. Schmid, Swiss Rifle Association; Mr. H. Humbel, Swiss Gymnastic Society; Dr. & Mrs. H. W. Egli, "Swiss Observer;" and Mr. Eric Kessler, "Neue Zürcher Zeitung."

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Miss Lily Hetzel, Wetzikon-Zurich: "Heligoland." Miss M. Wirz, Lucerne: "On tour to Monte Carlo." Miss M. Egle: "Gloss." Mr. J. Becker, Ennenda (Glarus): "Glarner Landsgemeinde." Mr. H. Ries, Lenzburg: "Gas war and Switzerland." Mr. L. Renner: "Aeroplanes." Miss E. Neuman, Geneva: "Camping." Mr. A. Delapraz, Vevey: "One day in the Advanced Class of the S.M.S." Mr. J. Menoud, Le Locle: "A collection of Blue Bottles." Mr. E. Berdoz, Vevey: "Bosco, Canton of Tessin." Mr. J. Zeller, Zurich: "Finsteraarhorn" (2nd part).

The debating classes dealt with the following subject:

"Capital punishment should be abolished." Proposer: Mr. G. Du Bois. Opposer: Mr. J. Equey.

Friday, January 31st. Lantern Lecture by Mr. A. Levy (Headmaster), on "The making of a Modern Newspaper."

Saturday, February 1st. Excursion to Tate Gallery. Mr. V. Burraston as leader.

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CITY SWISS CLUB.

Dinner and Dance

MAY FAIR HOTEL, BERKELEY SQUARE W.1

Saturday, February 22nd, at 7 p.m.

Tickets at 12/6 (incl. Supper), may be obtained from Members of the Committee.

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Fancy Dress Ball

MASKENBALL

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SPECIAL BAND (5 men)
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Dimanche 9 Février:

11h —M. Marcel Pradervand: Jean 3/3.
6h30—M. Marcel Pradervand.

Dimanche 16 Février:

11h—M. le Capitaine BACH, des "Chevaliers de la Paix."

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2
(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 9 Februar 1930.

11 Uhr vorm.: Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.
7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst und Chorprobe.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, February 12th.—SWISS INSTITUTE ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY: Concert at Conway Hall, W.C. (see advert.)

Thursday, February 13th.—SCHWEIZERBUND, Fancy Dress Ball. (see advert.)

Wednesday, February 19th at 8 p.m.—"NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE": Annual General Meeting of the London Group, at 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1. All members cordially invited.

Saturday, February 22nd at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Dinner and Dance, at the May Fair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.

Wednesday, February 26th at 8 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Annual General Meeting at Swiss House.

Tuesday, March 11th—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Banquet, Ball and Cabaret at The Monico Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, W.1.

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SWISS INSTITUTE ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

CONCERT

CONWAY HALL
Red Lion Square, W.C.1

Wednesday, February 12th, 1930, at 8 p.m.

TICKETS 2s. (including Tax) may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Swiss Institute Orchestral Society, 34-35, Fitzroy Square, W.1; The Hon. Secretary, Swiss Choral Society, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1; The Secretary, Swiss Mercantile Society, 34-35, Fitzroy Square, W.1, and 24, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.