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man and duly honoured. The speeches which followed the dinner were excellent and commendably short. Mr. P. F. Boehringer started the oratorical part by proposing "The Ladies and Visitors," it was as witty as it was short, and the "heroic" touch was not missing; if a man has got the courage to talk about the tonic which the "bright eyes, rosy cheeks and warm red lips" of the ladies provide him with, and the admission that he would still be capable of "losing himself," whilst his dear Lady is sitting next to him, that surely must be heroism. The speaker also extended a hearty welcome to the various guests amongst whom was H. W. the Mayor of Finsbury.

A no less entertaining speech was delivered by Mr. W. C. Dix, who replied on behalf of the Ladies, I was at first just a wee bit disappointed, because, in these days of women's emancipation, that one of the Ladies did not undertake this task, but Mr. Dix made such an excellent speech, that I feel sure everybody took him to be "a real little lady."

The toast to "The Chairman and the Helvetia Lodge" was in the capable hands of Mr. J. J. Schneider; his voice was nearly as strong as the hammer which he had previously handled with such fervour. Like all previous speakers he was short and sweet, and I am sure that the "bouquets" which he distributed were fully deserved.

The reply was made by the Chairman, Mr. G. Laemlé who warmly thanked the members of the Lodge for their loyal support. "This year," he said "is a very important one in the history of the Helvetia Lodge as the Lodge, while being only seven years old, will have the great honour of having the next Reunion of the Anglo-Foreign Lodges held under its banner on the 6th October next."

Amongst great applause the Chairman then presented to Mrs. J. J. Schneider, the charming wife of his predecessor, a gold wrist watch on behalf of the Lodge as "a slight compensation for the absence of her husband from home on so many occasions."— I thought that this was very kind, and I sincerely hope that some of my friends who, at times keep me away from home, will imitate my friends of the Helvetia Lodge.

M. G. Laemlé concluded his very able address with a toast to the health of his predecessor Mr. J. J. Schneider and his wife, and I need hardly mention that it received a hearty response.—

The Chairman's address was the last one on the programme, and I once again wish to mention how much I enjoyed the speech-making, the speeches were witty and short, two features which makes listening to after dinner oration a real pleasure.

During the evening an entertainment was provided by Mr. Arthur Askey who sang several songs, in some of which some rather clever "local" allusions were introduced. Another song gave an opportunity for the company to give an exhibition of community singing, the excellence of which was not to be wondered at, in an assembly largely composed of Swiss. Miss Edith Faulkner, the well-known Entertainer who was billed to appear was unfortunately prevented from doing so on account of illness.—

Dancing then followed under the able direction of some of the M.C.'s, and with the accompaniment of Newman's excellent Band, until the hour of 2 a.m. brought the Festival, which was attended by about 130 members and guests, to a close; it was truly a most enjoyable evening and the Helvetia Lodge may be heartily congratulated on the success of this, its sixth, Ladies Festival. ST.

**THE EDITOR'S POST-BAG.**

*The Editor of the Swiss Observer.*

Tief bekümmert liest der Auslandschweizer, welchen Standes er auch sein mag, von dem wüsten Streit und selbstsüchtigen Hader, mit dem sich eine grosse Anzahl staatlicher, kantonaler und städtischer Beamten dem auch nicht annähernd den heutigen Verhältnissen angepassten von ihnen nun erwarteten minimalen Lohnabbau widersetzen. Ganz abgesehen von den "Für" und "Dawider" im Lichte national-ökonomischer Betrachtungen wirkt es beelendend sehen zu müssen, wie diese, oft nur wenige Stunden Präsenzzeit absolvierenden, vertraglich ungebührlich geschützten und kaum zu entlassenden, Pensionen und andere Vergünstigungen geniessenden Beamten nicht zu würdigen im Stande sind, dass ihre Brüder in der Privat- und speziell in der Exportindustrie längst stillschweigend und voll Verständnis der Zeitbedürfnisse Lohnopfer auf den Altar der Allgemeinheit gelegt haben. (Gottlob es gibt auch viele, redlich arbeitende, einsichtige Leute darunter, die das Unfäre der Mehrzahl ihrer Klasse einsehen.)

Sie scheinen nicht begreifen zu wollen, dass ihre gesicherten Existenzen fast ausschliesslich dem Exportarbeiter, dem Gewerbl. und dem Landwirt, also den eigentlichen Produzenten zu verdanken sind; dass der Staat sie überhaupt nicht mehr ernähren kann, wenn einmal der Zusammenbruch der Staatswirtschaft, den sie mit ihrem ebenso egoistischen wie törichtem Verhalten

heraufzubeschwören helfen, unabwendbar geworden ist. Dass nun gar der sonst so kluge Herr Professor Laur sich in den Reihen der "Lädli-Besitzer" gefüllt und die Bauern einladet mit den ersteren zu argumentieren: "Wenn der Beamte weniger verdient, so kann er auch weniger ausgeben" ist bemühend. Das ist doch gewiss eine Aritmetik, die nur im engsten Sinne stimmt; hier anschliessend gilt viel triftiger: Wenn die Industrie darnieder liegt und der Handel still steht, bleiben die Steuern aus — und die Gehälter und die Spendkraft verschwinden.

Der Auslandschweizer sieht der eigenössischen Abstimmung vom 28. Mai mit Bangen entgegen. Er hofft, dass "Einer für Alle; Alle für Einen" nicht ein vergessener Spruch sei; dass rationales Ueberlegen und der Wille jedes Einzelnen das seine zur Erhaltung des Vaterlandes beizutragen, durchdringen mögen, und das Gesetz über die Besoldungsanpassung gutgeheissen werde.

*Ein Auslandschweizer.*

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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**

Wednesday, June 7th, at 7.30 p.m. — Société de Secours Mutuels, Monthly Meeting, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Tuesday, June 13th, at 7 o'clock — City Swiss Club — Dinner and Dance at Brent Bridge Hotel, Hendon (Dinner 6/6).

Wednesday, June 14th, at 7 p.m. — Société de Secours Mutuels, Committee Meeting, at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Sunday, June 18th — Unione Ticinese — Outing per Coach to Southsea. Departure from 74, Charlotte Street, at 9 a.m. sharp. (Tickets 12/6 including coach fare, luncheon and tea.)

Wednesday, June 21st, at 7.45 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting to be followed at about 8.15 by a causerie by Dr. Charles Ferrière on "Insect pest in Switzerland" at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Thursday, June 22nd, from 7 - 10.30 p.m. (Tea from 6 o'clock, buffet from 8.9 o'clock) Fête Suisse — at Central Hall, Westminster (opposite Westminster Abbey) Tickets 1/6 including Tax.

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"Regarder en arrière?..." Luc. IX, v. 62.  
M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.  
7h. — M. R. Desaulles.

Dimanche, le 4 Juin — Pentecôte, Service de Ste Cène, matin et soir.

Lundi, le 5 Juin-Sortie à Ashtead. Rendez-vous Quai 3. à 10.15 a.m. Waterloo Station, billet 1/10.

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Sonntag, den 28. Mai 1933.  
11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst und Sonntagsschule.  
7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst.

**TRAUUNG.**

Am 20. Mai wurden getraut: Samuel Christian Dreyer von Trueb (Canton Bern) und Alma Mills von Shipton-Moyné (Gloucestershire).

Anfragen wegen Religions- bzw. Confirmationsstunden und Amtshandlungen sind erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde: C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W. 4 (Telephon: Chiswick 4156) Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12.2 Uhr in der Kirche, Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."