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ardour the divine offices. They prefer the statutes of the horns and its rules to the Scriptures that the minister expounds from his high pulpit. In the seventeenth century, the young men, who were passionately fond of this game, preferred it to Divine Service. In certain regions, therefore, the clergy succeeded in suppressing the hornuss. And the members of the choir who omitted to take their place in the bass or tenor groups were fined every time they preferred the song of the hornuss to that of Bach.

Fortunately to-day the situation has changed completely, and on the contrary the Church—mainly Protestant in this part of Switzerland—looks with favour upon games which are clean and healthy. One may even see "Monsieur le Pasteur" take off his cassock and chance his luck. He understands that the joys of the country are few and far between, and that the hornuss may help, better, perhaps, than his sermon, to soften the hard work in the fields.

Where does the game come from and what are its origins? If the learned historians are to be believed, one must delve far back into the Middle Ages to discover the origins of the hornuss. From the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries fierce feuds were carried on by the inhabitants of the different valleys, separated by a high mountain. To frighten their adversaries, certain clans ventured into the enemy territory and slung bits of burning wood into their camp. Torches of firs or pines, rich in resin, were the most suitable for this purpose. To deduce that this primitive strategy degenerated into a game is but a step. In their leisure hours the soldiers amused themselves by slinging their firebrands against imaginary enemies. The idea was to see who could throw farthest. A few forest fires that resulted may have given food for thought to the adepts of the game, who thereafter preferred to use either stones or wooden disks. It is therefore a military practice which is the real origin of the game of hornuss.

German-speaking Switzerland is the only country where this game is played. Formerly, the shepherds in the highlands also tried to have their game of hornuss, but the ground in mountainous regions is not suitable for the sport. To-day, therefore, they prefer wrestling, a much more violent sport, but one which requires no accessories. But in the plain, many a fine Sunday is devoted to the hornuss, and in the evening, in the cafés which serve as a club, the peasants relive their happy strokes or the magnificent catches of a game that was played, perhaps, several months before.

F. G. GIGON.

(Illustr. London News)

WARUM

Warum an alten Wunden nagen
Vergangnem Unheil das vorbeihet
Warum noch nach dem Glücke jagen
Das einmal war im Lebens Mai.

Warum mit immer neuen Klagen
Und Feindschaft krüppeln seinen Geist-
Warum auch andere Menschen plagen
Mit eigner Unvollkommenheit.

H. E.

**INTERCESSION SERVICE
for Pasteur René Hoffmann-de Visme at the
Eglise Suisse, Endell Street, W.C.**

When a few weeks ago Pasteur René Hoffmann-de Visme informed the writer of his departure for Switzerland on medical advice, he expressed a wish that nothing should be mentioned in this paper; conforming with his desire we have made no mention as to the state of his health.

During the last few days however, alarming news have arrived from Switzerland, which makes it advisable to inform the Colony that Pasteur Hoffmann-de Visme is gravely ill.

So serious were the reports that the Consistoire of the Eglise Suisse had hurriedly conveyed an Intercession Service, which took place on Wednesday, September 1st in the evening at Endell Street.

The church was almost full, and had it not been, that it was impossible to advise everybody in time, there would not have been a seat vacant.

The service was taken by Pasteur Emery, who in a short allocution expressed the deep regret with which the news of Pasteur Hoffmann's serious illness, was received amongst his parishioners and his many friends; he hoped that through the infinite grace of the Almighty he might be spared and brought back to health.

M. Brauen, President of the Consistoire, lead the congregation into prayer, his intercession left a deep impression on all those present.

The service, which lasted about an hour, was very simple and in its simplicity most touching. Never before has a congregation at Endell Street prayed more earnestly and sincerely that the life of their beloved Pasteur should be spared, than on Wednesday night.

May their prayers be heard, and may through God's will his health be restored, so that he will be given back to us.

We express to his family and friends our deepest sympathy in their anxiety, we share with them the hope that he will once again mount the pulpit at Endell Street church, which he has adorned for so many years as a faithful servant of his sublime Master.

ST.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

L'ASSEMBLÉE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Mardi 7 Septembre au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Great Portland Street, W.1 et sera précédée d'un souper à 7h. 15 précises (prix 5/-).

ORDRE DU JOUR.

Procès-verbal. Démissions.
Admissions. Divers.

Pour faciliter les arrangements, les participants sont priés de bien vouloir s'inscrire au plus tôt auprès de Monsieur P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 9595).

Le Comité.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

ENGLISHMAN travelling by car to Switzerland (Zurich) on Saturday, September 11th, would like one or two travelling companions. No charge will be made, apart from ticket across Channel (12/-) and one night's lodging. Apply at once, D. P. c/o Swiss Observer, 23 Leonard Street, E.C. 2.

WANTED for Jewish family, working cook house-keeper or cook general, not over 35, good wages, daily help kept. Write: Mrs. D. Solomon, 31, Coudray Road, Southport.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, September 7th — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting — (preceded by dinner at 7.15 sharp) at Pagan's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W. (see advert.)

Wednesday, September 8th at 8 p.m. — Monthly Meeting — Swiss Mercantile Society — at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.

Wednesday, October 6th at 8 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — First meeting of the Philatelic section, at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.

Saturday, October 16th — Annual Banquet — Swiss Mercantile Society — at the Trocadero Restaurant, Piccadilly, W.

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7h—Culte et prédication

Pendant les vacances du pasteur, Mr. le pasteur Emery, de la Chaux-de-Fonds assumera les cultes, etc. Pour tout renseignement s'adresser à lui, le mercredi de 11h. à 12.30 à l'Eglise, ou, par lettre à son domicile, Hôtel Foyer Suisse, 12, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

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

(near General Post Office)

Sonntag, den 5. September 1937.

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst.

Dienstag, den 7. September, 3 Uhr Nachm.
Nährverein im "Foyer Suisse."

TAUFE.

Am 29. August wurde getauft: DORIS Bertha GREUB; geb. am 4. 6. 1937; Tochter des Hans Alfred Greub von Wyssachen (Bern) und Winterthur und der Bertha geb. Wettstein von Pfyn (Thurgau).

TRAUUNG.

Am 28. August wurden getraut: GOTTHOLD HEDIGER von Reinach (Aargau) und GERTRUD Klara BOECKLER von Lamprecht in der Saarpfalz (Deutschland).

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