

Swiss Male Choir

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SWISS MALE CHOIR. (Gemütlicher Abend.)

A "Gemütlicher Abend" was held on Friday, April 18th, at the Schweizerbund, Charlotte Street, W.1.

The very good dinner catered for by the steward, Mr. F. Wyss, laid the foundation of the good things ahead of us.

The President, Mr. F. G. Sommer, opened the proceedings with the usual toasts, and an assurance that speech-making was not to be the prime factor of the evening, but singing and some surprises which he had in store for us.

He read out two letters, one regarding the *Pestalozzi* Fund and another from Zurich regarding Swiss literature. The choir then gathered on the stage and rendered, "*Mein Herz ist fröhlich.*"

The audience listened with rapt attention, for it was obvious that the choir was on top of its form ably led by its indefatigable and ever-popular conductor, Mr. Dick. This song was received with great applause and the choir followed with "*Soldateliedi.*"

Here we saw Mr. Dick's technique at its best and the response by the choir was truly magnificent. Their timing was perfect and the song was received with obvious enthusiasm.

The President then informed the company that Mr. Filiez had applied for passive membership. This was well received and Mr. Filiez replied suitably.

Then followed surprise No. One. Mr. Ross (Baritone) sang two excellent songs for which he was loudly cheered.

The next surprise was some yodelling songs by Mr. Luterbacher, those assembled joined in the well-known choruses, with relish and obvious enjoyment.

The popular Vice-President, Mr. Jobin, then gave us surprise No. Three. This, he explained to us, was not going to be a monologue in "Schwyzerdütsch" but in French.

The monologue he presented was warmly received and thoroughly enjoyed by the audience who appreciated the quite considerable gesticulations and facial expressions of the performer.

The Choir then gave us "*Das Wandern.*"

This was undoubtedly the song of the evening. Here it was that Mr. Dick excelled himself in the direction of the choir, resulting in a perfect rendering. The applause was loud and long, and here indeed was a "Gemütlicher Abend."

It was now that another surprise greeted us. Two well-known representatives of the Passive Members then took to the stage, and to the accompaniment of cheers and laughter proceeded to shed their jackets.

No! This was not the preliminary to some "Ringä and Schwingä" but to a serious effort of singing by that ever popular, and, may I say "Evergreen" Mr. Gusty Wyss and debonair Mr. Emile Siegrist.

They delighted us with several songs and choruses, which were heartily received.

Undoubtedly this was one of the finest evenings held in the twice-bombed Schweizerbund, but there was yet a further surprise when into the hall marched Mr. Gandon, leading his group of accordionists on to the stage. They then proceeded to give us some of our beloved Swiss tunes played with the verve and rhythm which we all enjoy so much.

Their playing, ably led by Mr. Gandon, was in accordance with the evening and was loudly acclaimed by everyone present.

This indeed was a fitting climax, and the Male Choir have certainly achieved a notable success with the "Gemütlicher Abend."

Here was Swiss lore at its best, and once again we were back in our dear beloved Switzerland in spirit, if only for a few brief hours. Thank you Swiss Male Choir for one of the happiest evenings I have ever spent.

The success of the Choir has been achieved by the untiring and talented efforts of Mr. Dick, who has made the Choir what it is to-day, and we look forward with assurance to their inevitable future successes.

TEMPO.

MISTAKES.

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When a lawyer makes a mistake it is just what he wanted, because he has a chance to try the case all over again.

When a carpenter makes a mistake it's just what he expected.

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When a judge makes a mistake it becomes the law of the land.

When a preacher makes a mistake nobody knows the difference.

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