

Our next issue

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tion machine was attracting the attention of the world, and to what extent the products of this machine were being sought after. The influx of foreign visitors becomes greater and greater, and the great Industries Fair at Basle expands continually.

At the present day approximately twenty million Swiss francs are invested in the buildings of the Swiss Industries Fair at Basle. Year after year, the grounds on which the Fair is held take on the appearance of a building site on which ever more and more massive exhibition halls and, to provide additional accommodation, temporary buildings, are erected, yet in spite of all this activity applications for exhibition space for exceeding the available room have to be turned down.

Although, up to the present, the Fairs have been purely national demonstrations at which the exhibits, which took the form of samples or specimens not for sale in quantity, had to be of proved Swiss origin, the question has been raised in Basle of holding an international Trades Fair. There are two ways in which this could be done; firstly by the internationalization of the existing Swiss Industries Fair, i.e., the admission of goods of foreign origin, and foreign pavilions, and, secondly, the holding of two separate fairs, one national and the other international, at different times. In 1947 there will be opened for the first time at Basle, during the Swiss Industries Fair an international fair confined to a particular trade being thus associated with the national Fair devoted to industry in general. Whether or not this represents the first step towards the creation of an international fair of general character will depend on estimates as to whether the internationalized Fair is likely to provide a more extensive and therefore more interesting market for Swiss products.

Geneva has for years possessed a special type of international trade fair in the form of its Motor Salon, which was re-opened on a lavish scale in March, 1947, after an interruption brought about by the war.

Switzerland, thanks to its intensive international connections, should be so much the more a suitable site for an International Fair of general character in that other international fair centres have, with their spheres of economic influence, lost their importance for a long time to come.

S.N.T.O.

CONTINENTAL TOUR OF A SWISS ARTISTE.

Madame Sophie Wyss, the well-known Swiss Soprano, has just returned to London from a very successful concert tour in France and Switzerland.

She was sent by the British Council, together with Antony Hopkins, to bring British Music to these two countries.

Audiences in France were very appreciative and the artistes received hearty ovations. They were delighted to hear works by Alan Rawsthorne and Antony Hopkins.

In Switzerland they gave four concerts and two broadcasts in one week, there too audiences were enthusiastic, and the Press notices were excellent. We heartily congratulate Sophie Wyss on her successful tour.

SWISS CLUB DUNFERMLINE.

Social Evening held on Friday, 7th March, 1947.

Once more members and friends of our Club gathered in one of the works canteens in Dunfermline for their Annual Social. The main attraction was again a Play which our Dramatic Circle has rehearsed during the winter months.

Our President, in his own humorous way, heartily welcomed the large company and expressed the hope that everyone would spend an enjoyable evening in a truly Swiss atmosphere. Mr. Gurtner extended a special greeting to the compatriots from the Swiss Club, Balloch, whom we were all happy to see amongst us. Our honorary member from Balloch, Mr. Hofstetter, Consular Agent, was, unfortunately, prevented from attending but his greetings and best wishes were conveyed to us by our Balloch friends.

The Play which followed soon after, was a real Comedy in Swiss Dialect and, judging by the laughter and merriment during the performance, was obviously greatly enjoyed by everyone. Its title was "Alles Wegeme Hemperchnöpfli" and truly it was most amusing and amazing to witness the confusion and upheaval a missing stud can cause to a, no doubt, otherwise smoothly running household. As usual in the end everything turned out for the best and even the stud turned up at last, discovered by "Dr. Häberli" in "Heiri Denzler's" stud-hole where it had been all the while poor father Denzler and his family searched the house for this most important implement in a gentleman's attire.

All the artists acted their parts extremely well and were fully recompensed for their efforts by a tremendous applause at the end of their performance. Let us hope this was an encouragement to them for future productions.

After the Play the audience indulged for some time in singing a number of the better known Swiss Folk Songs and during the remainder of the evening various attractions with prizes for the lucky ones kept the company in good spirit. In the intervals we were splendidly entertained by Mrs. Meier and Mrs. Bosshardt at the piano. In spite of ration difficulties a tasty supper was served during the evening — thanks to Mr. Schönenberger's skill in making a perfect "Härdöpfelsalat" and the Vienna sausages coming off points just at the right time.

Only at a late hour the happy company began to disperse and all appeared to have fully enjoyed our this season's Social.

F.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, April 25th, 1947.

We take this opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind donations: S. Jeker, J. C. Wetter, J. W. Frick, E. Devegney.

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