

**Zeitschrift:** The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

**Herausgeber:** Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

**Band:** - (1949)

**Heft:** 1110

  

**Rubrik:** Swiss Club Birmingham

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

**Download PDF:** 18.03.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

The second item played consisted of a selection of melodies by Tschaiikowsky, well played, but somehow too long; for my part, I would have preferred to hear the whole Piano Concerto instead of only the first movement.

Ruth Huggenberg, followed by playing Chopin's Polonaise Fantaisie, Op. 61, again her technique was faultless and her execution without a flaw. As an *encore* she played a Mazurka by Chopin. Amidst loud applause she was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers. The Colony possesses in Ruth Huggenberg a capable and earnest artiste.

Once again the Swiss Male Choir appeared, they lined up to sing "La Chanson du Ramoneur" by Doret and "Zieh' mit mir in den Lenz hinein," both very well sung and with feeling, I especially liked the latter, the baritone solo was finely rendered by Mr. G. N. Ross. It is a sheer delight to listen to this Choir.

The Concert concluded with a few numbers played by our accordionists, their performance was again delightful and most enjoyable, and both Mr. Gandon and his youthful players are to be heartily congratulated.

In concluding this report, I wish to pay a special tribute to Mr. E. P. Dick, the conductor of the Swiss Orchestral Society and the Swiss Male Choir, who has given us an evening full of delight and enjoyment.

ST.



**Four tablespoons makes a gallon of first rate soup!**

Good beef stock makes a grand basis for soup; but when you haven't got it—and, in these days, that's all too often—you'll find Maggi's Beef Bouillon a great help. It is a scientifically prepared Meat Extract, packed in tins of 5 lbs. gross (enough to make approx. 35 gallons of soup at four level tablespoons per gallon) and can be used with great satisfaction to yourself and your patrons as a base to your own soup recipes both thick and clear.

**MAGGI'S** FREE TESTING SAMPLE Recipes and a generous sample of Maggi's Beef Bouillon will be sent on request  
**Beef Bouillon**

MARBER & CO. (FOOD PRODUCTS) LTD. HAYES, MIDDLESEX Telephone: Hayes 3811

CVS-27

**GENEVA IN MODERN FICTION.**  
**"By the Lake," a novel by Kay Dick.**  
 William Heinemann 8/6.

Geneva, that lovely city on the banks of the Rhone, is made to serve as the background to this, Kay Dick's first novel, entitled "By the Lake."

The action — such as it is — takes place in the period during the two world-wars. Robert, an English boy who is an illegitimate child, is sent to a school in Geneva and lives in the house of an old watchmaker and his wife. He provides the subject for a psychological study of mental development from childhood to adolescence, and his feelings and emotions are dissected and analysed.

Through his adoptive father the boy is connected with an old Swiss family, the members of which are introduced in turn. The author, who was herself educated in Switzerland, seems at ease in her descriptions of Geneva and of its inhabitants whose volatile galle temperament she contrasts with the stolidity of the German-speaking Swiss. When, however, she ventures on German-Swiss localities and people, she is on less familiar ground and the result is a travesty.

The story is of the slightest and consists of trivialities interspersed with lengthy dipressions into metaphysics. These are dexterous efforts, not without literary ability, but their style, ornate and flowery, is often laboured and turgid.

The characters are somehow unreal and their conversations stilted and unnatural. Perhaps the most skilfully drawn is that of the boy's frivolous and wayward young mother. The narrative is completely devoid of humour.

In fairness to the author it must be said that the diffuseness of the work and the absence of a plot are not accidental. She has made an attempt at Flaubert's ideal of literary composition and she quotes, in fact, the great French writer's saying that he could think of nothing more beautiful than to write a book on nothing, with scarcely a subject, sustained by the strength of its style alone.

Whether she has succeeded, let the reader judge.

J. J. F. S.

**SWISS CLUB BIRMINGHAM.**

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Club Birmingham was held at the Midland Hotel on Monday, March 21st. The new Committee elected is as follows:— *President*: Mr. F. E. Brunner. *Secretary*: Mr. P. Duvoisin. *Treasurer*: Mr. A. Klötzli.

*Delicious*  
**Ovaltine**  
*for Restorative Sleep  
 and Abundant Energy*