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Le pianiste Paul Baumgartner a donné 4 concerts à Belgrade, qui ont provoqué l'enthousiasme des quelque 1200 spectateurs qui assistaient à chacun d'eux. Les milieux musicaux de Belgrade considèrent Baumgartner comme le meilleur interprète de Beethoven. Elisabeth Wyss a donné une soirée de chant à Amsterdam, qui a été chaudement accueillie par le public et la presse.

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Le Choeur Bach des Grisons, renforcé par des membres de la Cécilienne de Glaris, sous la direction de Jacob Kobelt, et avec l'accompagnement de l'Orchestre de chambre de Thurgovie, a donné le "Messie" de G.-F. Haendel à La Haye, Rotterdam et Amsterdam. Les solistes étaient: Dora van Doorn-Lindemann, Katharina Marti, Heinz Huggler et Hermann, Schey. De nombreux membres des corps diplomatique et consulaire ont suivi les concerts de La Haye et d'Amsterdam. Cette tournée a remporté un grand succès et la presse a qualifié l'exécution d'excellente.

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Adrian Aeschbacher a joué à la radio danoise. Le concert au studio a été honoré de la présence du couple royal. Le ballet "Don Quichotte," d'après le livret et la musique de Robert Gerhard, un argovien résidant à Cambridge, a été donné en première au Covent Garden de Londres, avec Margot Fonteyn et Robert Helpman dans les rôles principaux.

THE 34th SWISS INDUSTRIES FAIR IN BASLE.

The Swiss Industries Fair which has just closed its doors was characterised by the fact that the exhibitors, present in just as large numbers as the previous year (2,200), had not placed very great hopes in this year's Fair, owing to the present economic situation.

However, the Fair was a huge success from the point of view of visitors, having attracted something like 650,000 altogether, and this figure was only exceeded in 1948 and 1946. As for foreign buyers, their numbers increase every year; this year more than 10,000 were recorded at the Foreign Visitors Office specially organised for them, and it is known that a large proportion of the visitors from foreign countries omit to have themselves registered by the office in question. Germany was there once again for the first time since the war, and headed the list, followed by France, the Benelux countries, Italy, Austria, Great Britain. For the first time, the number of visitors from overseas exceeded 500.

It is rather difficult to gain an exact idea of the volume of business done at this year's Fair, owing to the fact that opinions vary from one group to another

and even amongst firms in the same line of business. Still, it can be said, in a general way, that the exhibitors who sell their goods mainly on the home market were surprised to have to deal with such a steady demand for their goods. This was particularly the case in the furniture section and in the important group comprising domestic supplies, but it also applied to other industrial sectors, e.g., lighting equipment, building materials, etc.

Amongst those firms working specially for export trade, those connected with technical lines such as the electrical industry, machinery and particularly wood-working machinery and textile machinery aroused a great deal of interest amongst foreign visitors. The textile industry, which is leaning more and more towards the home market, has nevertheless still a large number of foreign firms interested in the particular specialities in that line of business. The watchmaking industry is able to hold its own as a result of efforts to make suitable propaganda, but it is meeting increasing difficulties in the form of customs restrictions and quota regulations in other countries.

Mention should also be made of admiring comments heard from foreign visitors about the excellent presentation of the exhibits at the Fair, in a compact and well ordered display of Swiss industrial production in all its varied aspects, and that is assuredly not the least of the successes booked by the Swiss Industries Fair in Basle this year.

The next Swiss Industries Fair will be held in Basle from the 7th to the 17th April, 1951.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, May 26th, 1950.

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