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SWISS CLUB MANCHESTER.

Lecture-demonstration on Equestrian Work : How to Educate Horse and Rider. By Captain Felix E. Goldman.

(Incorporating an outline of the remarkable career of Captain Goldman.)

The fourth lecture by our members of the series started three years ago on the subject of "My Job" was held on Sunday, 3rd June at the Equestrian Establishment of our member Captain F. E. Goldman.

It was a most pleasant outing through a lovely part of rural Cheshire and the participants exceeded sixty, which was a great encouragement to both organizers and lecturer.

Captain Goldman's exposition covered all essential phases of the education of horse and rider. Given in a manner that could be understood by an audience of mostly uninitiated in equestrian art, it was listened to with great attention and in great silence; even the dozen or so young children did not cause the slightest disturbance, which shows that they also appreciated the subject. Such an achievement by the lecturer shows that he is indeed an expert at his job.

The charming team of three young ladies and three extremely well trained horses illustrated most of the points given in the lecture, whilst some of the more intricate and difficult parts were demonstrated by Captain Goldman himself mounting one of his horses. The lecture and part of the demonstration were given in a well appointed indoor manège and then the cross-country display was given out of doors in what appeared to me a most difficult cross-country with awe-inspiring obstacles. But neither the horses nor the riders seemed to worry.

The whole performance, both lecture and demonstration, lasting just over an hour and a half, were a masterpiece of concise exposition on a most intricate subject, and we need not wonder that this is so when we know of the qualifications of the exponent.

Captain Felix E. Goldman — who comes from Canton Zürich — was passionately fond of horses as a child. He had learned to ride in his teens. In 1916 he joined the Swiss Army, strangely enough not in the Cavalry but in the Field Artillery. For several years he was full Lieutenant Adjutant of the 18th Artillery Group and was later promoted Captain. Having meantime perfected his riding and specialized in jumping he won many jumping awards in England. For two consecutive years, in 1924 and 1925, he won for Switzerland first prizes at the Richmond Royal Horse Show. He won besides, first prizes at Islington, Maidenhead, Hurlington and Banham. In 1926 he was the only representative of Switzerland at the International Horse Show at Olympia, where among ten nations who were competing he won five prizes at the various competitions.

He took part also, with good success, at International competitions until 1933, in Switzerland, Germany, France and Austria.

Captain Goldman tells me that he attributes this progress, to a great extent, to the help and inspiration of the late Colonel Haccius, Chief of the Federal Remount at Berne.

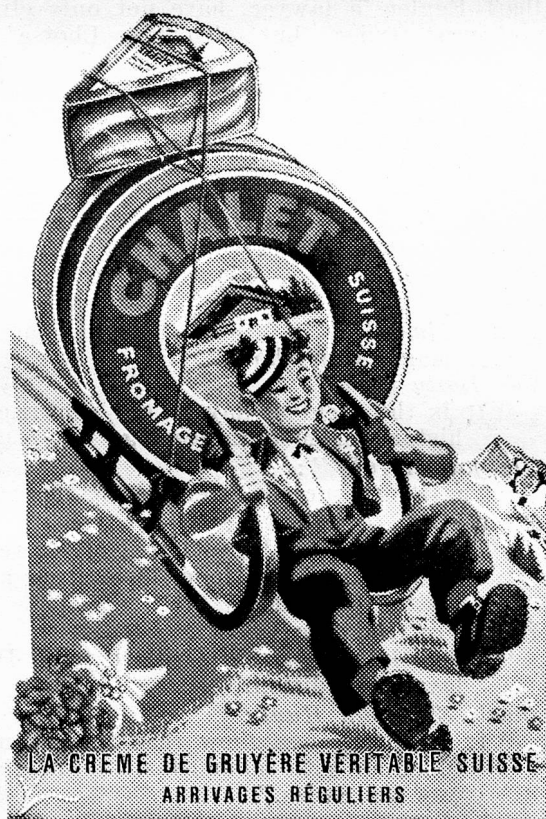
In 1933, Captain Goldman decided to devote the whole of his life to horses and to make riding his profession. So he turned "professional". He opened

then various Equestrian Establishments in the Middle East as the climate there suited his health. But he had the great misfortune of losing most of his horses during the riots in Palestine. Thanks to his connections with the British Police for whom he had trained horses and riders, he was given a commission in the Palestine Police Force and so in 1938 and 1939 he was the officer in charge of the Dead Sea Police. At this time he trained the Police Jumping Team that was unbeaten in the Middle East for three years.

In 1941, Captain Goldman was offered a commission in the British Army in which he served first as Lieutenant and later as Captain. In 1944, the War Office posted him to Newcastle in Staffordshire where he served until his demobilization in 1949, when he was offered residence in this country.

He was then persuaded by many of his old friends from his jumping days, to take up his riding career again so as to give them the benefit of his long experience. He began by conducting more than 40 jumping courses at the principal equestrian establishments in this country, from the south of Sussex to Edinburgh in Scotland. The continuous travelling proved too strenuous however, and he finally settled in Cheshire where he organized and built, with the assistance of his friends, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Bower, the Cheshire Equestrian Training Centre at Cotton Hall, Holmes Chapel, where we had the privilege and pleasure of enjoying his hospitality for this Lecture-Demonstration.

Horses and riders from here and abroad, trained and led to success by Captain Goldman, are too



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numerous to be enumerated here, but I will mention Miss Diana Mason with her "Tramella" and Miss Sheila Wilcox with her "High and Mighty".

To end this report I will just add that last year, before her continental tour, Miss Pat Smyth entrusted the training of her horses to Captain Goldman. This is indeed a testimony as Miss Pat Smythe surely knows what is best in equestrian work.

H.M.

VISIT OF BERNER YODLERKLUB AND LAENDLERKAPELLE BRIENZER BURLI.

This year, as in 1950, the Berner Jodlerklub are competing again at the Welsh International Eisteddfodd which will take place at Llangollen next month. They will be accompanied by the Laendlerkapelle Brienz Burli.

During their stay in this country two concerts have been arranged, one in London and one in Folkestone, in order to give the members of the Swiss Colony an opportunity to hear them.

The concert in London has been fixed for Sunday, July 15th, at 7.30 p.m. at the Assembly Hall, Walthamstow, whilst they will appear at Folkestone on Sunday, July 8th.

A very attractive programme will be presented, and we hope that many of our readers will take this opportunity of attending one these two performances.

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