

Swiss Orchestral Society

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY.

SWISS ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.

As will be seen from the enclosed handbill, the Swiss Orchestral Society in conjunction with the Nouvelle Société Helvétique (London Group) is giving a Concert, at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, W.C.1, on Thursday, November 3rd, 1938.

The Swiss Orchestral Society is by now, well-known to everybody in the Colony, and they hardly need to have their trumpet blown (they can do it so much better themselves) and yet we are very anxious that the forthcoming Concert should get the whole hearted support of the entire Colony.

They deserve it, not only because they are a really efficient body, but in the past they have always been ready to take part in the various functions which are held throughout the year in the Colony; we need only mention the "Fête Suisse" at the Westminster Hall, where their performance before a Swiss audience of well over a thousand has become the star turn in the programme.

Only a few days ago they played at the "Arosa Ball" at the Hotel Savoy, where their splendid performance before, a principally English audience, was acclaimed a great success.

During the last few years this Orchestra under the very efficient conductorship of M. E. P. Dick, has given untold pleasure to hundreds of our compatriots, and the Swiss Colony can be proud, that they alone, amongst all the foreign colonies in this great Metropolis, have such an excellent orchestra at their command.

Their readiness to help whenever their services have been required, has often put their slender financial resources to a heavy test; and they have looked into the future not without misgivings, and with the thought that they might not be able to carry on much longer.

An undaunted optimism coupled with a will to carry on, even under difficult circumstances, has prevailed and so we shall have once more the pleasure to hear them on the 3rd of next month.

Last April, on the occasion of their Annual Concert, we were able to inform our readers that the attendance was satisfactory, although quite a number of seats were vacant, this time these seats should be occupied, and we make a sincere appeal to all those who are fond of good music to bring their friends along, we feel sure they will not be disappointed, by doing so they show their gratitude to the Orchestra for so many hours of sheer delight which they have enjoyed in the past.

The programme is most promising and includes such giants of the musical world as Beethoven, Chopin, Bach, Schubert, etc.

The Swiss Orchestral Society has been fortunate enough to gain the collaboration of a really first class artiste in the person of Mlle. Marguerite De Siebenthal, a compatriote of ours, who is, in spite of her youth well-known on the Continent.

She has gained great honours such as "Double premier prix de piano et de violon du Conservatoire National de Paris, Lauréate du Concours international Chopin à Varsovie 1937, Prix de Violon du Liège de Suisse 1938, etc., etc.

Here are a few Press notices picked out at random:—

PARIS.

... it is not often that one may see a violinist's art exhibited in such fullness: masterly technique, beauty of tone, quality of style, these are its characteristics. And at the piano it is the same thing, with a delicacy of touch and a sense of expression that are exceptional. It is the first time that we have witnessed a double talent so marvellously developed.

EXCELSIOR.

Marguerite de Siebenthal, pianist and violinist, presents a case which we believe unique. In the course of one evening she plays on both instruments, in a manner equally remarkable, and the double and difficult programme was rendered with incomparable ease and charm.

MONDE MUSICAL (J. Trawel).

Marguerite de Siebenthal is a remarkable artist by reason of the suppleness of her style and virtuosity which she displays alternately and with equal facility on the violin and on the piano. She has both charm and vigour.

ECHO DE PARIS (Carol-Bérard).

FLORENCE.

We do not recollect having seen such a crowded hall for a concert. ... The fact of owning with a mature and clear technique the two chief instruments of concerting art lives by its very nature a particular significance and asserts her pure musicality in its efficiency and calls for expression by means of the violin as well as of the piano. ... Thus we may say of Mademoiselle de Siebenthal that she is above all a musical interpreter ... Ceaseless thunder of applause greeted the strange and exceptional artist.

IL TELEGRAFO (A. H.).

ZURICH.

She arouses the interest of her audience at once by the vigorous and lively manner in which she renders the different works.

NEUE ZÜRCHER ZEITUNG.

GENEVA.

We have here a very extraordinary case, which shows evidence of musical organisation of a superior order.

JOURNAL DE GENEVE (A. P.)

The whole of this weighty programme was presented with an absolute purity of technique, a full and warm tone, an admirable self-mastery.

LA TRIBUNE DE GENEVE (O. W.).

There is not the slightest doubt that this Concert will appeal to almost everyone, and we therefore sincerely hope that this time Conway Hall will be packed to its full capacity.

Will you help the Swiss Orchestral Society to make this evening a full success?

ST.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

The surprise that has been promised for the forthcoming monthly meeting of the City Swiss Club is going to take the form of a musical 'Regal.' Arrangements have been made with Mr. Dick of the Swiss Orchestral Society that the concert, which was originally planned for the 1st November, should be postponed to the 3rd November so that it should not clash with the monthly meeting of the City Swiss Club. The members who attend the meeting will have the first opportunity to hear Mademoiselle Marguerite de Siebenthal, who has kindly consented to delight our members with a short recital. Her continental reputation is such that the committee has no doubt members will flock to the meeting in great numbers, and be so enthused with their evening that they will then decide to take their families and friends to the concert organised by the Swiss Choral Society and the N.S.H. at the Conway Hall on Thursday the 3rd November. No doubt all lovers of good music will want to be there, and it is advisable to reserve your seats by sending your name to Mr. Boehringer, as usual.

The last monthly meeting proved such a success that we look forward with confidence to the fullest support of all the members who attended last month, and rely on them bringing as many friends as they like, and also making sure that all members who missed last month's meeting will be present on November 1st.

Rendezvous a tous les membres et leurs amis
— Mardi 1er Novembre. Dîner comme d'habitude.

Le Secrétaire,
HENRY BINGUELY.

A TRAVERS LA SUISSE.
London Group of the N.S.H.

It is a great satisfaction to the Council to be able to announce that future Film Shows will be held at

The KINGSWAY HALL,
Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

This Hall has a seating capacity of close upon 2,000 and full Sound-film equipment.

The inauguration will take place on Saturday, November the 12th, with a *Single* afternoon show from 3.00 to 5.30. Handbills with further details will be issued as usual.

A hearty invitation is extended to all Swiss, their families and friends, and it is hoped that a record attendance will express the Colony's approval of the new arrangements.

The Council,
London Group of the N.S.H.

PRESENTATION TO THE REV. C. T. HAHN.

Following the notice which appeared in the issue of this paper on October 15th, the Farewell Dinner (price 5/-) and Presentation to Mr. Hahn, has definitely been fixed for **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17th** (not the 18th as previously announced) at:

PAGANI'S RESTAURANT,
GREAT PORTLAND STREET, W.1.
At 7 p.m.

Friends who have not already sent in their names should do so as early as possible to any one of the undermentioned. Further signatures to be joined to the illuminated address are also solicited.

W. Fischer,
30, North Villas,
Camden Square, N.W.1.

G. Jenne,
41, Woodside Park Road,
Finchley, N.12.

F. G. Sommer,
"Hepple Lodge,"
Holly Park, N.4.

AROSA BALL AT THE SAVOY HOTEL.

The above mentioned function was organised by a number of Arosa Hoteliers for the benefit of their English visitors and was extremely well attended, about 600 people being present.

M. Paravicini had accepted the patronage, but in his absence Mr. de Jenner represented the Legation and made a witty and well-received speech. His speech followed that of Mr. Zuber, Director of the Kurverein Arosa, who drew attention to the new winter sport amenities of Arosa, including three new ski-hoists. Arosa is looking forward to a good, though perhaps late season and will do its level best to help dispel the after effects of the crisis for all those who can be persuaded to exchange the London fog for the blue sky of an Arosa winter.

Entertainment was provided by the London Swiss Orchestra under the able Conductorship of Mr. E. P. Dick, further Mr. Gandon and his accordion players and Mr. von Bergen who did the Yodelling. One of the high-lights of the evening was a fashion show staged by Messrs. Reville Ltd., and also a display of winter sports clothes by Messrs. Lilliwhites. There was an excellent dance band and a few cabaret items, all of which contributed to a highly successful evening.

H. W. J.

FAMILY DINNER OF THE SWISS CLUB
LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday 22nd October, 1938, at the Bears Paw Restaurant.

The Committee of the Club used the opportunity of the presence of Pasteur C. Th. Hahn in Liverpool, to call all Swiss of the Liverpool neighbourhood together to an informal dinner and the response to its call led to a gathering of over 100.

Pasteur Hahn and his wife were our principal guests and along with them we also invited their hosts Pasteur Gareke and his wife. The personality of Pasteur Hahn appeals to us both as "Eidgenosse" and as "Seelsorger" and we appreciate his vision to extend his parish of London to include his countrymen of the North. We are sorry to lose him and wanted to wish him and his wife Godspeed.

Long speeches are hardly wanted in a family gathering so the President, Mr. Ls. C. Comte, limited himself to a short welcome of our guests. But he cited other guests as well, such as the two Swiss Ladies Mrs. Mcquarie and Mrs. Davidson, who have adopted our Swiss girls, most of them new arrivals. He also welcomed Mr. P. Brun, President of the Birmingham Swiss Club, and Mr. Wyss of Birmingham, Mr. E. Guller of Coventry, and Mr. Luisoni from Manchester. Only the principal guest was allowed to make a speech and he delighted us by speaking in English, French and Schwyzerdütsch.

The company was in high spirits and after an excellent dinner the rest of the evening was spent in dancing.

The Keynote of the remarks one heard was "We want more such gatherings," but someone must do the preparing and most of this work fell on the Chancellor of the Consulate Mr. L. J. Faivre, who had a busy time.

E.N.