

Swiss travel lectures in Yorkshire

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EDITOR'S POST-BAG.

5, Keats Close,
London, N.W.3.
3rd July, 1951.

The Editor,
The Swiss Observer,
23, Leonard Street,
London, E.C.2.

Dear Sir,

DEATH TRAPS IN SWITZERLAND.

In April last I decided to recuperate in Switzerland, and after staying a few days in Basle and Lugano, I decided to visit some friends in Spiez.

On the 12th May (the Saturday before Whitsun) we went for lunch to a small hotel in Spiez, and whilst walking along a corridor I stepped on a flimsy runner which just sailed away from me, with the result that I broke my knee-cap and tore the two tendons covering it.

Instead of enjoying my stay in Switzerland, I had six weeks of pain and worry. I felt like a prisoner in Spiez, and it will be another three to four months before I can use my leg properly.

This accident is no doubt due to the negligence of the hotel proprietor, and is by no means an isolated instance.

During my forced inactivity, a good many English visitors I met confirmed that they themselves had suffered similar accidents, or were very wary of the over-polished floors and flimsy carpets.

No doubt such a deplorable state of affairs cannot be conducive to British and Swiss people visiting Switzerland, and some Official steps should be taken to overcome this unsatisfactory situation.

I shall be glad if you will publish this letter in the "Swiss Observer".

Yours faithfully,

G. BERENGER.

* * *

London, June 29th, 1951.

The Editor,
Swiss Observer,
London, E.C.2.

Dear Editor,

Your appeal to your subscribers should have a salutary effect on all those hesitants, whose "Steckenpferd" is "Economy". I heartily agree with all you say and I for one would not for anything in the world miss my S.O.

I think I am one of your oldest subscribers, and for that reason alone I hope that your appeal will "strike home."

With my best wishes for a prosperous and long future,

I am, dear Editor,

Yours sincerely,

J. GUGGENHEIM.

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SWISS TRAVEL LECTURES IN YORKSHIRE.

The people of Wakefield, Yorkshire, recently gave a remarkable demonstration of interest in, and enthusiasm for, Switzerland and the Swiss. The occasion was one of a series of illustrated travel lectures being given at present in Wakefield Technical College. For the lecture on Switzerland the response was so great that the lecture hall, hurriedly adapted to increase seating capacity to a maximum, was filled from wall to wall, while a large number had to be turned away, but fortunately not before the speaker, Monsieur Jean Inebnit, Senior Lecturer in French at Leeds University, had been prevailed upon to promise a second visit the following evening. The programme consisted of a series of short films interspersed with explanatory and illustrative talks. But this evening produced something more than a mere travel lecture. The large and enthusiastic audience, under the spell of a speaker with the cause of international goodwill at heart, created an atmosphere which was literally inspired. At the end of the second evening, when again a large and appreciative audience warmed to the speaker and his subject, Monsieur Inebnit showed, for the first time in public, a colour film taken some weeks earlier, to give the audience a glimpse of the life of sixteen Yorkshire children at the children's village of Pestalozzi. It is gratifying to record that, as a tribute to Monsieur Inebnit (the result of a spontaneous gesture by the audience), a cheque for three guineas is being sent to the Pestalozzi Committee in London.

The films for this lecture were supplied by the Swiss National Tourist Office.

W. M. SYMON.



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