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NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE.

A lecture by Professor Bovet is a pure intellectual pleasure which the memory keeps fresh for ever after. The wide range of original thought and the peculiar charm of his character—the combination of his "Wissen" and his "Leben"—concur to make Professor Bovet one of our most brilliant and successful lecturers.

On Thursday, 9th December, he addressed the University on a literary subject: "Une loi de l'histoire littéraire, Epopée, lyrisme, drame."

Mr. Bovet has treated this subject more fully in a pamphlet which was published a few years ago, and which has made his name well known in the literary world.

On Friday, 10th December, at Steinway Hall, Mr. Bovet addressed us on "L'Évolution de la Suisse." This lecture has since been repeated before the Manchester and Liverpool groups of our Society. Those who were present will agree that no short account could do the lecturer and his work full justice. We never heard a finer message from home and a more intelligent and moving interpretation of the soul of Switzerland, of her history and her mission in the world of to-day and to-morrow. As a popular leader of the young and an earnest critic of public life the Professor had a few home-truths for every one of us and a great deal of food for the minds of thoughtful men. In his sincerity lies the secret of his spiritual strength and the cause of his fascinating influence on the audience.

As our President, Mr. Jean Baer, put it in his opening words: "No man is better fit than Professor Bovet to interpret and represent intellectual Switzerland. In his personality he unites the best qualities of the three 'races' (though he objects to this word)."

Of Vaudois origin, he possesses to the fullest extent the eloquence and mastery of form of the Romands; their cheerful conception of life, their precision of thought, their passion for every noble movement on the field of political, social and intellectual life—the genius of liberty. From Italy and the Ticino he brought back those finest elements of the Latin spirit which Mr. Motta somewhere calls "la gentilezza del cuore ed il candore confidente dell'animo."

The German-Swiss consider him as one of their own. He speaks their dialect and knows every corner of their heart. A full generation of their young intellectuals consider him as a guide and a friend. As the professor of Romance languages at Zürich University and as the editor of the valient review "Wissen und Leben" M. Bovet has long been doing most meritorious work for the expansion of Swiss culture within and without.

He has given lavishly and without ever thinking of himself, therefore the gratitude of his countrymen now goes out to him spontaneously and sincerely, as did the applause of his friends in London.

A. L.

MONSIEUR RODOLPHE GAILLARD'S SONG RECITAL.

On Saturday last, Monsieur Rodolphe Gaillard gave his yearly concert at Wigmore Hall. His friends and admirers went there in large numbers as usual, and got a great deal of musical enjoyment. M. Gaillard's voice gives us more each time we hear him. This is a proof of the excellence of his voice and schooling and the fruit of very conscientious and persevering labour.

Monsieur Gaillard was admirable in the classical songs of Handel and Bach. We have never heard his voice give such "heroic" expression before, yet we shall always like his lyrical songs best. This seems to be the more natural expression of his mind and temperament.

The pearl of the evening was to me "La Vieille Chanson Espagnole," by Flaubert, in which song and accompaniment flow into each other in enchanting harmony. The duets, with which Monsieur Gaillard and Signorina Marga Stella surprised us, were all taken from Mozart's operettas. Everyone knows what Mozart's music means to-day in a world altogether out of tune. Is there anything more directly appealing to the heart of the average man as well as to the critical spirit of the professional musician than those classical melodies which are ever fresh and modern?

From the modern songs of Cyril Scott Monsieur Gaillard sang with perfection "The Watchman," and with great dramatic effect the song "My Captain," after the text of Walt Whitman.

Monsieur Gaillard (with Miss Cooper at the piano) has done his best to make these modern compositions dear to us. In short, it was a fine and successful evening, and we are looking forward to Monsieur Gaillard's next concert.

GERTRUDE LATT.

SCHWEIZERKOLONIE—SCHOTTLAND.

Am 9. Dezember versammelte sich die Schweizerkolonie in Schottland im Grand Hotel in Glasgow zum Supper und Tanz. Aus allen Gauen Schottlands fanden sich die Repräsentanten der Kolonie ein. Trotzdem das Konsulat für Schottland erst Ende 1916 in Funktion getreten, ist bereits ein lobenswerter und zu begrüßender "Esprit de Corps," ein wahrer patriotischer Helvetiengeist, zur Geltung gekommen. Letztes Jahr gestatteten die politischen und sozialen Verhältnisse eine erste Zusammenkunft, wo das Verlangen nach einer jährlichen Réunion wachgerufen wurde.

Das Ergebnis einer solchen Zusammenkunft lässt sich nicht gleich von Anfang an schätzen, sie bildet aber einen starken und dauernden Eckstein zum Aufbau eines wertvollen, weitreichenden Gefühls der Zusammengehörigkeit, die sich u.a. in einer vielseitigen Entwicklung unserer Hilfsgesellschaft für Schottland äussert.

Es fehlt hier an Raum um nur die wichtigsten Fälle der wohlthätigen Mitwirkung der einzelnen Mitglieder anzuführen.

Beim diesjährigen Supper nahm, wie beim ersten Anlass, der Schweizerische Konsul für Schottland, Herr Alfred Oswald, den Vorsitz, und in seiner bündigen, kurzgefassten Ansprache ermutigte er die versammelten Gäste zur Mitwirkung am edlen Werke der Fürsorge für die weniger Begünstigten unter uns.

Er betonte insbesondere auch die Notwendigkeit der Zusammenwirkung in allen Sachen, die unsere Landsleute betreffen, und dass die Interessen des Vaterlandes, wie sehr auch diese zweite Heimat viele Vorteile gewähre, nicht ausser Sicht zu lassen seien, sondern dass die Pflege des wahren Patriotismus mehr wie je der Beachtung verdiene.

"Ubi bene ibi patria" sei wohl ein bekanntes Sprichwort, dagegen fehlt darin der Kern der gesunden Vaterlandsliebe, die auch im Ausland frisch und gesund erhalten werden soll, jene Achtung und Wertschätzung für das Heimatland im vollsten Sinne des Wortes, namentlich wenn es Liebe für ein Land ist, worauf jeder wahre Bürger Grund hat stolz zu sein.