

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1921)

Heft: 14

Rubrik: Swiss Benevolent Society

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NOTES & GLEANINGS.

A short article which appeared in "The Observer" of May 1st, called for a correction from the pen of Dr. P. Lang, which, however, was not granted space in "The Observer."

For the information of our readers we append both article and reply hereunder:

PAN-GERMANISM ON THE REBOUND.

(By our Diplomatic Correspondent.)

The result of the Tyrolean plebiscite seems to have started a general move on the part of the German minorities in Austria, SWITZERLAND, Czechoslovakia, and Poland for reunion with Germany. Salzburg decided to hold a plebiscite last Friday, and Upper Austria and Styria intend shortly to follow suit. Simultaneously the irredentist agitation in Italian Tyrol and the German parts of Czechoslovakia is being systematically stimulated from Vienna.

The liberal policy pursued, for instance, by the Czechoslovak Government towards the German minority has had no effect, apparently, on such Pan-German leaders as Dr. Lodgman and Herr Korec, who are increasing their agitation for reunion with Germany.

To the Editor, "The Observer,"

22, Tudor Street, E.C.

Sir,—Would you kindly allow me to correct the article entitled "Pan-Germanism on the Rebound" which appeared in your issue of 1st May. Your diplomatic correspondent states that as the result of the Tyrolean plebiscite "a general move seems to have started on the part of the German minorities in Austria, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and Poland for reunion with Germany."

So far as Switzerland is concerned, let me state clearly once again that there is no such thing as a "German minority" in Switzerland, and still less is there one moving for reunion with Germany. The idea that any real Swiss should look forward to a reunion with Germany is simply ridiculous to everyone who knows anything about our country and its population. The "German minority" your correspondent seems to aim at probably consists of the majority of our fellow-countrymen, 70% of whom speak the so-called German-Swiss or Alemannic dialect, a tongue at least as different from the German of Germany as German is from Dutch. The ancestors of these Swiss seceded from the old German Empire more than six centuries ago. To call those people a "German minority" is far more confusing than to call the Americans an "English minority" because they happen to speak a similar tongue. The average Berliner does not understand a word of the genuine Swiss dialect, whereas a native of Boston can get along pretty well with London English—so I have been told at least.

There are neither German, nor French, nor Italian minorities in Switzerland, there are but Swiss—different from any other people in this: they have overcome altogether racial rivalries amongst themselves and are inspired by the

higher ideal of a commonwealth wherein people of different languages live in harmony and peace.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. PAUL LANG,
Secretary of the London Group of the
Nouvelle Société Helvétique.

3rd May, 1921.

From the "Glasgow Herald":—

SWITZERLAND AND THE WORLD MARKET.

"Switzerland as a Distributing Centre for the World Market" was the subject of an address delivered by Mr. Alfred Oswald, Swiss Consul in Glasgow, at the City Business Club luncheon in the Royal Polytechnic yesterday. Mr. J. F. Austin occupied the chair. Mr. Oswald explained how business relations between Britain and other European countries might be developed through the medium of Switzerland by means of a central office through which business transactions might be arranged. In this way it might be ascertained what was required by the various countries, and trade would be facilitated. He pointed out that the chief obstacle to trade was the difficulty of transport. Switzerland had no direct communication with the sea, but he suggested that much could be done to overcome this difficulty by making the Rhine more navigable by means of deepening its bed and removing certain bridges which prevented the passage of large vessels up the river. Another hindrance to trade was the lack of an international currency by means of which transactions with foreign buyers might be assisted.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"DIE GARBE."

Unter diesem Titel erscheint seit vier Jahren im Verlag von Friedrich Reinhardt in Basel eine Zeitschrift, die sich in der ganzen Schweiz überraschend schnell eingebürgert hat und auch den Schweizern im Ausland aufs wärmste empfohlen sei.

Der Schriftleiter der "Garbe" ist der bekannte humor- und gemütvolle Berner Schriftsteller Rudolf von Tavel, der wie kaum ein zweiter Schweizer Dichter mit der Heimat verwachsen ist. Etwas von seinem Geiste ist auch auf die Zeitschrift übergegangen, denn sie entspricht nicht nur bezüglich der literarischen und illustrativen Darbietungen höheren Ansprüchen, sondern gibt, was bei einer Familienzeitschrift besonders wichtig ist, Herz und Gemüt ebenfalls volle Befriedigung.

"Die Garbe" bringt ausschliesslich Originalarbeiten, und es ist erfreulich, sehen zu können, welch grossen Stab hervorragender Mitarbeiter aus allen Wissensgebieten sie, neben den bessern Schweizer Schriftstellern, um sich zu scharen verstanden hat, sodass sich ihr Inhalt nicht nur durch grösste Vielseitigkeit, sondern auch durch absolute Zuverlässigkeit und Gediegenheit auszeichnet.

An der Spitze jeder Nummer steht ein Roman oder eine Erzählung, dann folgt ein illustrierter Artikel historischen, kunstgeschichtlichen, naturwissenschaftlichen oder biographischen Inhalts. Diesem schliessen sich Novellen und Skizzen an, sowie Reisebeschreibungen,

Erörterungen über Zeitfragen und allgemein belehrende Aufsätze. Eine ständige Rubrik "Was die Zeit bringt" bietet Rundschauen über die kirchlichen, sozialen und wirtschaftlichen Bewegungen der Gegenwart und orientiert besonders über Neuerscheinungen des schweizerischen Büchermarktes. Den Schluss bilden abwechselungsweise Anleitungen von Frauenarbeiten oder eine Rätselcke, die von den Lesern besonders geschätzt werden. Von den politischen Fragen hält sich die Zeitschrift prinzipiell fern, da sie nicht trennend, sondern einigend wirken möchte.

Ganz besonders anerkennend sei noch hervorgehoben, dass Text und Illustrationen so ausgewählt sind, dass alle Hefte der "Garbe" unbedenklich in jugendliche Hände gelegt werden dürfen, ohne dass befürchtet werden muss, dass durch irgendwelchen Anstoß zu erregen. Erst dadurch wurde es ihr möglich, ihre Aufgabe als Familienzeitschrift zu erfüllen, und das ist vielleicht neben der guten Druckausstattung auch das Geheimnis ihres Erfolges.

Der Bezugspreis beträgt jährlich Fr. 17.50, halbjährlich Fr. 9.—, wozu noch die Portospesen von Fr. 7.— resp. Fr. 3.50 kommen. Der Verlag der "Garbe" hat sich aber bereit erklärt, die Zeitschrift Interessenten kostenlos 2 Monate zur Einsicht zu senden, sofern ihm die Adressen zugestellt werden. Der Herausgeber des "Swiss Observer" ist gerne bereit, diesbezügliche Wünsche weiter zu leiten und damit an der Verbreitung der Zeitschrift mitzuwirken.

SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Following we publish a few details from the 50th Annual Report of the above institution, whose silent but good work is deserving of widest publicity in the Swiss Colony, many members of which are probably unconscious of the Society's existence and its struggle to cope with the constantly increasing numbers of the necessitous.

Founded in the year 1870 under the title "Fonds de Secours pour les Suisses Pauvres à Londres," the Society celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, on which occasion a special appeal resulted in donations totalling nearly £800, which amount was attached to the "Fonds Carlin," a fund created and endowed by our former Minister, M. Carlin, for the purpose of guaranteeing payment of regular pensions to a number of deserving aged Swiss.

During the long period of the war the society's work increased tremendously, severely taxing its resources; many families being deprived of their breadwinners, who had hurried to our native country's call to protect its frontiers, became destitute and had to be provided for out of the funds of the Swiss Benevolent Society.

Unfortunately, the post-war period, instead of relieving the difficult situation, has rather intensified same, social unrest, industrial and commercial crises fostering unemployment enormously, and many of our compatriots, especially those engaged in the hotel industry, became subsequent victims of the "Employ British Labour" movement, necessitating repatriation in a good many instances, while many other

cases, whose repatriation being for various reasons impracticable (such as marriage unions between Swiss and British subjects, etc.) continue to be a heavy draw on the available funds of the Society.

Under these adverse circumstances the Swiss Benevolent Society's task is to-day an extremely hard one, for not only have the past difficult days greatly increased the ranks of the necessitous, but they have also simultaneously decreased the Society's revenue from donations, which for the year 1920 amounted to £1,362 11s. 8d., while the expenditure for the same year rose to £1,854 3s. 6d., creating a deficit of nearly £400.

The following main items have absorbed the Society's disbursements in 1920: 21 pensioners, whose ages range from 63 to 91 years, the contributions towards whose livelihood involving the Society in annual expenditure of just over £400; monetary support to 57 families with 65 children, 15 widows with 21 children, 21 female and 57 male dependents, and one orphan; in all 296 compatriots have been recipients of financial aid, and 43 persons have been repatriated.

The headquarters of the Society are at 79, Endell Street, W.C.2, where Miss Muller with unfailing devotion attends daily between 2 and 4 p.m. to receive applications from any Swiss in need, investigating each case and preparing her reports, which are then submitted every Monday for consideration to the acting Committee, who subsequently interviews candidates eligible for relief. The fact that in the course of the year 405 interviews and 322 investigations were gone through, is ample evidence that this Committee has more than abundant work to cope with, as in addition to the numerous callers applications from the provinces are also continually received through the post, necessitating a great deal of correspondence, in connection therewith the Committee would gladly receive help from any young Swiss gentleman, willing to devote some of his spare time to this particular work.

While the Committee wishes to repeat through these columns their sincere thanks to all the supporters who in past years rendered such valuable assistance by the aid of donations, it also wishes to give expression to the hope that, seeing the exceptionally heavy calls on the resources of the Society's funds during these difficult times, support will not be relaxed but on the contrary increased, so as to enable the Society to carry on its relief work among our less fortunate compatriots.

Any subscription, however small, will be thankfully received by the President, Mr. Georges Dimier, 46, Cannon Street, E.C.4, or by the Treasurer, Mr. R. Dupraz, Swiss Bank Corporation, 43, Lothbury, E.C.2.

CONCERTS by SWISS ARTISTES

Swiss people will no doubt appreciate the fact that they will have an early opportunity of attending a recital of our fellow-countryman, Emile Frey, in London. This famous pianist, who was born in Baden-Argovie in 1889, was awarded the First Prize at the Paris Conservatoire. In 1910 he competed for the Rubinstein

Prize, gaining First Prize (composition) and the Diploma of Honour (piano playing). In 1912 he was appointed Professor at the Imperial Conservatoire, Moscow, where he remained until 1917. Since then he has lived at Zurich. Although Mr. Frey has given recitals all over the Continent, he has not yet played in England. His first appearance will therefore be awaited by music-lovers of this country with all the greater interest. Mr. Frey will give two concerts, the first on May 25th at 3.15, the second on June 3rd at 8.30 p.m., both at Steinway Hall. (See advertisement.) The programmes contain selections from Beethoven, Mozart, Chopin, Schubert, Liszt, Scriabine, Rachmanikow, and Emile Frey himself, for he is not only a brilliant pianist of whom a critic of the "Courier Musical" of Paris once said "Il me fut donné d'entendre un artiste comme il en existe peu," but he is also quite a remarkable composer.

Miss Felia Dorio (from Lucerne) is giving another Classical Concert at Mortimer Hall, Mortimer St. (near Queen's Hall) on Tuesday, 31st May, at 3 p.m.

This versatile artiste is already well known to music lovers in London, but, like the prophet in his own country, she is still, to a large extent, a stranger to the Swiss Colony.

The varied and interesting programme includes, besides early Italian songs, a selection of Brahms's Lieder, which will be rendered in German, and which cannot fail to offer an exceptional afternoon treat.

Tickets (including tax, 8/6, 5/9, 3/-) can be obtained from Miss Felia Dorio, 16, Park Village West, Regent's Park, N.W.1, or the E. L. Robinson Direction, Empire House, Piccadilly, W.1.

PERSONAL PARS.

Dr. P. Pettavel, Chevalier of the Légion d'Honneur, Swiss Consul at Johannesburg, in the course of his sojourn in London, paid a visit to the City Swiss Club on the 10th instant.

He has left London on Monday last by aeroplane for the Continent.

Mr. J. H. Speich has joined the firm of H. & C. J. Feist, of London and Oporto.

Mr. Robert Gossauer, who has for many years been a member of the Swiss Colony in London, has just been wedded to Miss Olga Stadtmann, of Zurich. The happy couple will spend their honeymoon in London, arriving here on Friday, the 20th instant.

The Swiss Colony in England was represented at the recent Auslandschweizertag in Bâle by the following gentlemen: Mr. Alfred Oswald, Consul for Switzerland in Glasgow, Dr. A. Lätt, Mr. A. Stauffer, and Mr. P. F. Boehringer.

To the regret of the Committee of the Swiss House, Mr. G. Aguet has resigned from the chairmanship of this institution, his numerous other engagements preventing him from giving as much time as he would have liked to devote to the Swiss House affairs.

On the 19th ultimo the Committee was re-constituted as follows: President, Mr. Georges Dimier; Vice-President, Mr. Chas. A. Barbezat; Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. Dupraz; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. Schupbach.

EGLISE SUISSE.

Dimanche 22 Mai 11h.—M. Henri Junod, missionnaire: "Christianisme et Paganisme."

6h. 30.—M. Hoffmann-de Visme.

Dimanche 29 Mai 11h.—M. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6h. 30.—"Service Musical." Invitation spéciale à chacun.

BAPTEMES.

Paul ZIMMERMANN, né le 14 Oct. 1920, fils de Jules et d'Olga, née Treyvaud; de Schwändi, Glarus—le 8 Mai.

Dorothy Gladys Joan BLEIKER, née le 5 Avril 1921, fille d'Adolphe et de Gertrude Ada, née Cox; de Genève—le 8 Mai.

William Eugen René SCHNEIDER, né le 16 Fév. 1920, fils d'Ernest William et d'Emma, née Schmidiger; de Bâle—le 15 Mai.

Anton George Albert NELL, né le 4 Avril 1921, fils de Joseph Anton et de Rose, née Matter; de Göschenen, Uri—le 15 Mai.

CONFIRMATION.

Robert Pierre LAINE, né le 10 Sept. 1901 à Paris, baptisé à St. Marie, Paris.

Jean Louis LAINE, né le 19 Oct. 1902 à Paris, baptisé à St. Marie, Paris.

Annette Louise Sophie ROHR, née le 14 Mars 1904 à Londres, baptisée à l'Eglise Suisse—ont été reçus le 8 Mai 1921.

SERVICE FUNEBRE.

Charles George ALIAS, décédé à l'âge de 70 ans. Service au Crématoire de Golders Green, le 14 Mai 1921.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, May 25, 3.15 p.m.—EMILE FREY'S PIANOFORTE RECITAL at Steinway Hall (see special adv.).

Saturday, May 28, 2.30 p.m.—SWISS SPORTS at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

Tuesday, May 31, 3 p.m.—MISS FELIA DORIO'S CLASSICAL CONCERT at Mortimer Hall, Mortimer Street, W.1 (near Queen's Hall).

Friday, June 3, 8 p.m.—EMILE FREY'S SECOND PIANOFORTE RECITAL at Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour St., W.1.

Thursday, June 23, 7 p.m.—SOIREE ANNUELLE SUISSE at King George's Hall, Y.M.C.A., Tottenham Court Rd., W.1.

A full report, with names of the winners of the various competitions at the forthcoming Swiss Sports, will appear in our next issue.