

SWISS TOURIST OFFICE.

The first herald of the coming New Year is perhaps the appearance of the annual calendars. The Swiss Tourist Office has already sent out an interesting and artistic one for 1923, which contains a large and varied collection of beautiful views of Switzerland, with footnotes, in prose or poetry, suitable to the scenes reproduced. These are admirably chosen, and the calendar is well adapted to lure the undecided traveller to our "Alps, the palaces of nature," to quote from the poetic text.

The Swiss Tourist Office has also published a number of delightful pamphlets, illustrating every phase of winter sports, with the usual groups of happy skiers, skaters, tobogganists, etc., in the foreground, these being even more attractive as a holiday magnet than the calendar. The Swiss Tourist Office prudently send along with these pamphlets various hotel guide books, with complete price lists issued by the Hotel-keepers' Association, and one learns from them, with agreeable surprise, that the minimum tariffs for the coming season range from 8 fr. to 20 fr. per day *en pension*, with the exception of one or two of the "super" palaces, where the minimum tariff is 25 fr. per day *en pension*. These booklets should make even Britons long like homesick "Auslandschweizer" for those sunny, snow-clad heights and blue skies. A few copies can still be obtained by readers for distribution among English friends by making an early call at the offices of *The Swiss Observer*.

Telephone Service between the United Kingdom and Switzerland.

As a result of the letter addressed on the 23rd October, 1922, by the Swiss Commission for the Study of Economic and Commercial Questions, under the signature of its president, Mr. Gustave Aguet, to Sir Evelyn Murray, K.C.B., Secretary-General to the Post Office, on the question of the telephone service between the United Kingdom and Switzerland, a deputation from the Swiss Commission, composed of Messrs. E. Steiner, U. Bretscher, H. R. Napp, A. Duruz, Dr. P. de Wolff, and Jules Zimmermann, called by appointment upon Sir Evelyn Murray and expressed to him the desirability of improving the telephone service between the two countries, which at present is practically useless for business' purposes.

The question, which has the full support of the Swiss Minister and of the "Département fédéral des postes et télégraphes," has already received, and is still receiving, the sympathetic attention of the British authorities. The solution of the problem, however, is not free from difficulties, but it is hoped that a satisfactory solution may, within reasonable time, be found affording the facility of direct telephone communication between the two countries.

SWISS BANK FOOTBALL CLUB.

SWISS BANK 1st XI v. LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND 3rd XI.
(London Banks' Senior "B" Division.)

Played on the London Joint City & Midland Bank's ground at New Beckenham. Good football was out of the question owing to the frost on the ground obliterating the usual chalk lines and making the going very slippery; added to which a slight mist hung over the players, causing visibility to be bad. However, the game was kept at a fast pace throughout. The Swiss Bank were good value for their two goals scored in the first half, although there was an element of luck about the first one. They were distinctly unlucky on at least two other occasions. The second half was evenly contested, the home team missing one glorious chance of reducing the lead. A goal eventually came their way as the result of scramble in the Swiss Bank goal. Many good movements on both sides were spoilt owing to the difficult conditions.

Result: Swiss Bank 2, London Joint City & Midland Bank 1.

Team: Grob; Herzog, Habluerzel; Kurz, Way, Bormand; Tobler, Hickson, Rufer, Tobin, Holton.

SWISS BANK 2nd XI v. NATIONAL PROVINCIAL & UNION BANK 3rd XI.

A friendly game at Preston Road. The National Provincial 3rd XI fielded, as usual, a very smart team. The home side's goalie did not turn up, and in the last minute their groundsman had to be called upon to replace the custodian. The game was transferred into lively action under brilliant sunshine. Dangerous positions were engineered by the visiting forwards in front of the Swiss goal, but the ball was eventually booted up the field, sending the Swiss forwards to their performance. The National Provincial wings were fast and dangerous raiders, the home defence having a busy time in keeping them away from the target. Half-time: no score. In resuming play, the visitors seemed to be pinned to their half; their goalie made two saves in smart style. Pressure was transferred again to the other side, and the visitors succeeded in taking the lead before the final whistle broke up a very clean, fast and enjoyable game.

Result: National Provincial & Union Bank 1, Swiss Bank 0.

Team: Batt; Peter, Zurlinden; Bonjour, Steiner, Kebbell; Binz, Schranz, Schwendener, Smith, Hillebrand.

A.1. SPORTING CLUB.

The first Annual Dinner and Ball of the above Club was held at the Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1, where over 100 guests sat down to an excellent dinner (customary at the Helvetia Club).

The Chairman and Captain of the A1 Club, Mr. G. Burger, after giving the toast to the King, in a few humorous words welcomed the gathering and gave us the delightful assurance there would be no speeches, which innovation was greatly appreciated.

The after-dinner Concert, rendered by several well-known artistes, was simply great and reached its climax when Mr. R. S. Stoddon's orchestra of 16 players struck up "William Tell," followed by a potpourri of Swiss Folk Songs, which was received with deafening applause.

Mr. A. Wyss, in a few well-chosen words, expressed the thanks on behalf of the company assembled to all artistes who gave their services voluntarily, and especially thanked Mr. Stoddon for selecting the appropriate music for the occasion.

Dancing then followed until 3 a.m., when we all went home with the satisfaction of having spent a most enjoyable evening with the members of the A1 Sporting Club, and more so after hearing the nett benefit of £30 will be handed over to the Prince of Wales Hospital Fund. — Well done, A1!

A PARTICIPANT.

FROM THE SWISS COLONY IN PARIS.

The 12th of November was a great day in the sporting annals of the Swiss Colony in Paris, when the inauguration of the new All-Swiss Stadium took place in the presence of a festive gathering, attended by the Swiss Minister, Mr. Dunant, and many well-known personalities in French municipal and sporting circles. The sum required for the erection was frs. 600,000, and this was entirely raised in the Swiss Colony by the formation of a company, the "Union sportive suisse" alone investing frs. 150,000 in shares. The site is well chosen near the Bois de Vincennes.

Though small, as compared with others in Paris, the Swiss Stadium is considered a model of its kind and has aroused universal admiration. It contains a large football field, a cinder path, a gymnastic ground and a grand stand, seating 500 people.

First a series of gymnastic exercises were admirably gone through by the "Société suisse de gymnastique." Then the football ground was opened, the first kick-off being given by the champion wrestler Roth, of Berne. 3,000 spectators gaily applauded the victory of the "Union sportive suisse," who scored two goals to the one secured by the "Football Club Clichy."

This arena should be the scene of much happy, albeit strenuous, recreation for Swiss athletes in Paris, where future aspirants to Olympic honours should develop bringing fresh laurels to the Helvetian flag.

UNIONE TICINESE.

Dopo l'apatia, le incertezze e i tentennamenti del periodo di guerra è avvenuto nella nostra Società il risveglio vivificatore, e negli ultimi tre anni con moto continuo essa è ascesa nella sua via a quel punto, a cui i nostri ideali e il nostro carattere etnico ci danno diritto. Ne abbiamo prova irrefutabile nel florido stato delle nostre condizioni finanziarie, e nella stima universale nella Colonia Svizzera, per cui da sconosciuti e dimenticati ora siamo additati come esempio e modello alla intera Colonia Svizzera.

Ne abbiamo avuto una ancora più palpitante prova Giovedì il 23 Novembre, alla Festa Familiare con Concerto, Cena e Ballo allo Schweizerbund. Per ragioni ovvie la festa sociale che teniamo in primavera non può essere frequentata che da ristretto numero dei nostri concittadini. E quindi opera savia quella della Festa Familiare in autunno, a cui quest'anno tutti accorso. E non abbiamo avuto bisogno di nessuna propaganda all'inizio dell'avviso ai nostri Soci. Le sale abbastanza vaste dello Schweizerbund erano gremiti. Molto gustato e applaudito fu il Concerto che cominciò alle 8.30, svolto, in parte da professionisti ed in parte da amatori tra i quali deve segnalare la Signora Lunghi colle sue recite di poesie Ticinese, la Signorina Brambilla che cantò squisitamente e in compagnia col Sig. Delzi e Sigr. A. & V. Poli ci offrirono con vero gusto ed interpretazione artistica un gioiello di bozzetto da fare onore ad artisti progettisti. Dopo una Cena a cui parteciparono tutti i fortunati che poterono ottenere un posto, incominciarono le danze che si protrassero tra la più amichevole gioialità fino alle due del mattino. I proventi andranno a favore del Fondo di Soccorso per gli Svizzeri Poveri in questa metropoli, che in questi tempi difficili ha bisogno di tanto sostegno.

Molte spiccate personalità della Colonia Svizzera ci fecero l'onore della loro presenza. Sono care ed indimenticabili funzioni che in questa vasta città ci danno occasione di rivederci e di rinnovare e rinfrancare i vincoli di amicizia e fratellanza, e per una sera intera dedicare i nostri pensieri alla lontana Svizzera all'indimenticabile Ticino. S. B.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

(The figure in parentheses denotes the number of the issue on which the subscription expires.)

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The Publisher will be pleased to forward free specimen copies of "The Swiss Observer" to likely subscribers whose addresses may be supplied by readers.

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Cet avit lieu de convocation. Tous ceux désirant y participer sont invités à s'annoncer en temps utile au Trésorier, M. G. Dimier, 46, Cannon Street, E.C.4. (Téléphone: Central 1321).

Ordre du Jour.

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EGLISE SUISSE, 79, Endell St., W.C.2.

Dimanche, 3 Dec., 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 6.30.—Pfarrer U. Wildbolz.

SERVICES FUNEBRES.

Hermann ROHR, de Lenzburg (Argovie), décédé le 19 Nov. 1922, âgé de 41 ans—le 23 Nov.

Ada MARGOT, née Flowers, de Ste. Croix (Vaud), décédée le 17 Nov. 1922, âgée de 39 ans—le 23 Nov.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, Dec. 2nd, at 6.30 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance at the Midland Hotel.

Sunday, Dec. 3rd, at 3 p.m.—SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY: Concert at Steinway Hall.

Monday, Dec. 4th, at 8 p.m.—French Y.M.C.A.: Lantern Lecture by M. Audra, Director of l'Institut français, on "La Touraine," at Central Y.M.C.A., Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1.

Tuesday, Dec. 5th, at 6.30 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting, preceded by a Supper (see adv.).

Wednesday, Dec. 6th, at 7 p.m.—SWISS BANK CLUB: Whist Drive at Slaters, 34-35, High Holborn, W.C.1.

Friday, Dec. 8th, at 8.30 p.m.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Lecture on "Busy Days in Geneva at the Palais des Nations and the International Labour Office."

Friday, Dec. 15th, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HÉLVETIQUE: Lecture at Westminster Central Hall.

Wednesday, Dec. 20th, at 7.30 p.m.—SWISS BANK CLUB: Dance at the Suffolk Galleries, Suffolk Street, S.W.1.

Thursday, Dec. 21st, at 8 p.m.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Christmas Party for members and friends.

Saturday, Jan. 6th, 1923, at 6.30 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Cinderella Dance at the Midland Hotel.

Saturday, Jan. 20th, 1923, at 6.30 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Cinderella Dance at Gatti's Restaurant.

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