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SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

On Sunday afternoon, April 2nd, this Society gave one of their delightful Concerts at Steinway Hall to a large and keenly appreciative audience.

The Choral Society, under the consummate direction of M. Pestou, proved a great success. The reading of "s'Grindelwald," "Heimweh" and "Bild der Heimat" was superb. M. Pestou distinguished himself as an excellent singer. The "Joddler," by Mrs. Aebersold and Mrs. A. Heintz, stirred everyone present and was received with rapturous applause. Mrs. Rossier supplied the comedy and proved a delightful diversion. Miss Adère, accompaniste, and a selection of her pupils from the Adère Academy gave a splendid item of Russian and Spanish dancing. An Octette who sang "Italian Salad" was accorded a great ovation, the solo part being rendered by M. de Beer at short notice, owing to the absence of Dr. Davies. Miss Pauline Theurer, who sang the Bacarolle from "The Tales of Hoffmann," with personal accompaniment on the harp, was given a tremendous reception by the audience, who expressed their great regret that no encore could be accorded, time not permitting.

A vote of thanks is certainly due to the organizers of these splendid concerts and it is hoped that in the near future another will be given.

THE UNION HELVETIA.

The Old Members' Evening, which is an annual event, was celebrated at the Union Helvetia Club, 1, Gerrard Place, W.1, on Friday, March 31st, when 139 Old Members sat down to dinner, which was excellently prepared.

The toast of "The King" was given by Mr. V. Burkhart, the National Anthem being sung with great gusto. Mr. Burkhart also proposed the health of all Old Members. Mr. F. Isler proposed "The Ladies" in his usual merry-and-bright style.

After the tables were cleared the real fun of the evening commenced with a sketch by Mr. F. Maeder entitled "E Strubi Stund": this was produced in Swiss dialect. The "A 1" Skittle Club also provided great amusement with their "Brighter London" stunt, in which poor old Killjoy suffered a frightful death and was consigned to a dustbin. "King Joy" was next introduced, accompanied in very pompous manner by the Helvetia Brass Band. We next had the "Grand National," with horses, jumps, bookies, sportsmen, etc. After many disasters one horse negotiated the very stiff hurdles and was declared the winner, the jockey, Mr. F. Schneeberger, being carried round shoulder-high in recognition of his excellent riding.

The evening concluded with dancing, which terminated about 3 a.m.

G. H. N. B.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

Owing to the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race a big attendance was not expected at the last Cinderella Dance; nevertheless, 160 members and friends found their way to the Midland Hotel, where every one present spent a most enjoyable evening. It was noticed with particular pleasure that our City Swiss Club friends, who have patronised our dances throughout the season, were present.

Knowing that it was the last dance of the season, the ladies looked particularly sweet, and it made one feel rather sad to realise that it would be some time to come before one would see their happy, smiling faces again.

During the supper interval Mr. C. Chapuis made a charming little speech in honour of the President of the Entertainment Committee, Mr. J. Pfaendler, to whose untiring efforts the success of the dances is principally due. He has been very ably seconded by the members of his Committee, Messrs. H. Senn J. Veil and C. Chapuis, and they fully deserve the praise which Mr. Pfaendler later on bestowed on them, and we hope that on the occasion of the approaching General Meeting someone will remember the valuable services these gentlemen have rendered in this particular sphere to the Society.

Since last November six dances have been held at the Midland Hotel, with an average attendance of 180 members and friends, and we can consider this result as being highly satisfactory; it only proves once again the popularity of the S.M.S. dances.

It is only fair that we pay a tribute to Mr. Freeman and his band; they have proved themselves not only reliable, but most efficient, and we hope that their good services will be procured again for the next season.

The Entertainment Committee works independently of the Society funds, and we are pleased to state that in spite of the increased expenses the accounts show a profit, and the Committee therefore proposes, at the next meeting, to vote a donation of £10 10s. towards the funds of the "Fonds Secours"—a proposal which will undoubtedly have the unanimous support of all the members of the Society.

The general verdict with regard to the Entertainment Committee will be: "Well Done." A. S.

SCHWYZERDÜTSCH.

Welchen der Deutschschweizer, ob er nun seit Jahren hier gelebt hat oder erst kürzlich den Sprung übers Wasser machte, kann es gleichgültig lassen, dass am Freitag, 21. April, in der Westminster Central Hall beim Parlament ein Vortrag gegeben wird, in dem uns von berufener Seite und in deutscher Sprache auseinander gesetzt werden wird, wie unser Dialekt beschaffen ist, wie er sich entwickelt hat, welches sein Verhältnis zum Hochdeutschen war und ist, endlich, welchen Gesetzen er unterworfen ist. Es ist der Neuen Helvetischen Gesellschaft gelungen, in der Person des Herrn Dr. Jakob Zollinger von Zürich, einem jungen Sprachgelehrten, der zurzeit an einer der grössten Secondary Schools dieses Landes unterrichtet, einen Referenten zu gewinnen, der sowohl für sachlich einwandfreie als auch darstellerisch gediegene Behandlung der Materie bürgt. Herr Dr. Zollinger, der seinerzeit mit einer Abhandlung über den "Uebergang Zürichs zur neuhochdeutschen Schriftsprache unter Führung der Zürcher Bibel" doktorierte, hat sich während seiner Universitätsstudien, denen er meist bei Prof. A. Bachmann, dem verdienten Herausgeber des "Schweizerischen Idiotikons," oblag speziell mit Sprachgeschichte abgegeben. Dass er darum glänzend befähigt ist, uns über unsere Sprache, die wir leider zu oft während des Krieges verleugnen mussten, manch Interessantes zu sagen und uns ihre Schönheit und Kraft ins rechte Licht zu setzen, das dürfte jedem Landsmann einleuchten. Und Sie alle ladet ja die Neue Helvetische Gesellschaft freundlich ein, die aus diesem ersten öffentlichen deutschen Vortrage, der je in ihrem Schosse gehalten wurde—während des Krieges, während dessen sie gegründet wurde, war das aus begreiflichen Gründen ausgeschlossen—einen rechten und echten Deutschschweizerabend zu machen hofft, an dem alle die vielen Nuancen unserer Sprache, das lustige Appenzellerische wie der breite Zürcherische, das geläufige St. Gallische wie das bedächtige Bernische munter durcheinander summen und surren sollen. "Die Deutschschweizerischen Mundarten, ihre Entwicklung und ihr Verhältnis zur neuhochdeutschen Schriftsprache" heisst also der Vortrag, und um 8 Uhr fängt er pünktlich im oben angegebenen Lokal an. Sagt's weiter, Deutschschweizer! Nehmt Eure Kameraden mit! Alle ladet Euch die Neue Helvetische Gesellschaft aufs herzlichste ein! Zeigt wie viele von Euch in London wohnen und wie Ihr zu Eurer Sprache zu stehen gesonnen seid, der sich wahrhaftig keiner zu schämen braucht!

P. L.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Der Seldwyler Hinkende Bote, Glasgow & St. Gall.—This is an essentially literary journal, edited by Dr. Max Rich. Scherrer, of Glasgow (69, Bank Street), and the first number contains a leader by the Editor on contemporary German writers and his impressions of a visit to Stratford-on-Avon, as also a large number of quotations, chiefly from Gottfried Keller. The journal appears for the present six times per annum, and the subscription price is 10/6.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

W. Schomberg, F. Lier, F. Isler, H. R. Tobin, Miss L. Braendli, L. Jobin, E. Meyer, A. Emonet, H. A. Prager, J. H. Corthesy, F. C. Cottier, F. Fankhauser, E. Widtman, Mrs. R. Homberger.