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SWISS GYMNASTIC SOCIETY, LONDON, at the Gymnastic Festival at Geneva.

A very happy party of some 20 gymnasts and friends left Victoria Station last Friday morning for Geneva. After a joyous but tiring journey in the heat, via Paris, Dijon, Vallorbe and Lausanne, Geneva was reached on Saturday morning, and the gaily beflagged city, with its unrivalled natural beauty, welcomed the tired travellers. It was indeed Switzerland at its best that we saw.

After a short excursion to the scene of action on the "Plaine de Plainpalais," where thousands of gymnasts were already at work, we retired to our allotted quarters, only to meet with our first disappointment. Those in charge of the "logement" of our section evidently were keen on playing a practical joke on us, and instead of allotting us beds after a 24-hours journey, we found that straw was going to be our "bye-byes," and although there was a little proverbial grousing, eventually nature demanded her toll, and contented or not, we went to rest. It is not exactly known whether it was in spite of the straw or on account of it that the whole party in truly gymnastic manner was early astir on Sunday morning (with the larks) in order to train and finish off our preparation for our work in the afternoon.

At 9.30 we left our quarters for the great "cortège," where we had to join the other "foreigners" at the Bould. du Théâtre. The procession proved to be the biggest ever held at any festivity in Switzerland and certainly the most enthusiastic. Considerably over 20,000 gymnasts took part in it, belonging to 815 sections, and the procession took 2½ hours to pass.

Perhaps the prettiest touch of it were the Geneva lady gymnastic societies, the members of which, in a very delicate mauve or lilac, looked really splendid. The gymnasts of the various sections, in truly fine and manly bearing, followed one after the other, the head of the procession having been made up by the historical groups and the authorities, including Mr. Musy, President of the Swiss Confederation, and Federal Councillor Scheurer, who were walking the whole distance in truly democratic style, whilst the "dames d'honneur," accompanying the Gymnastic Federal Banner, were conveyed in motor-cars!

Our London boys had a great reception, and in addition to the beautiful Union Helvetia banner they also carried a Union Jack as a sign of respect to the country whose hospitality we enjoy. The English visitors and the English Colony in Geneva gave us hearty cheers as we passed and showered flowers upon our boys. An elderly English gentleman actually came across the road to present our leader, Mr. W. Schneeberger, with a handsome bouquet and to wish him good luck.

At 12.30 p.m. we had to break away from the procession in order to have just a snack before having to work. Unfortunately, the sweltering heat had already taken toll of our boys, and some of them looked not at all comfortable as we sat down to a short meal.

True to time at 1.20 our team started the parallel bar (freely chosen apparatus) and gave quite a good account of themselves, especially after other foreign sections competing before us had truly had "a rough time" of it. Next came the horse jump, which was also quite good, in fact, if anything, a trifle better than the bars had been. The long jump, however, fell short of expectations, and probably the long tramp in the morning had not done us much good, but in any case our average of 4.33 m. was below expectations. After a rest of half-an-hour, still standing about in the broiling hot sun, the team started for the "Préliminaires" and the "walking exercises" (the latter of which had worried us most), yet strange to say, these important two items were by far the best of all we had done and were indeed done brilliantly; I do not believe the boys could have excelled their performance, had they tried to do so.

Result: Couronne de Laurier (142½ points). On Tuesday morning the telegraph flashed this message to London, and it was indeed a very proud moment for those who had worked for and brought about this result, namely, our leader, Mr. W. Schneeberger, to whom the greatest credit is due for all he has done, and to our hon. instructor, Mr. Rud. Oberholzer, without whose advice we should certainly never have done anything like it.

The Swiss Gymnastic Society London was founded on the 21st March, 1925, and exactly four months afterwards, on the 21st July, 1925, they received a Federal laurel crown! E. B.

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TO THE TICINO BY MOTOR-CYCLE.

The many friends of Mr. W. Notari will, no doubt, wish him a pleasant journey when he leaves this Saturday for six weeks' holiday in the Ticino. He is making the trip by motor-cycle, by way of Newhaven, Dieppe (he will not attempt the Channel this time), Soissons, Pontarlier, Lucerne. As he has done the road several times before, he ought not to miss his way. The two eldest sons of Mr. A. Meschini, Joseph and Carlo, are accompanying him on their motor-cycles.

Glad as the Ticinesi at home always are to welcome back any of their fellow-citizens resident abroad, the party will not find really difficult roads until they reach their native soil.

To all of them a pleasant holiday and safe return! The President of the Unione Ticinese will, no doubt, bring back plenty of vigour to tackle the important agenda in hand for the coming season. O. B.

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* Das soeben erschienene Juliheft des Basler Vereins für Verbreitung guter Schriften bringt eine neue Probe der Erzählkunst eines unserer Mitbürger, der sich unter dem Namen Anders Heyster verbirgt. Warf die erste, "Der Sohn des Reifwirts," einen verschönderten Schein in das Düstere des modernen Erwerbslebens, so löst diese zweite, "Porzellanpeter," ein Problem aus dem Verhältnis der Geschlechter zur Liebe und zur Kunst, und zwar in höchst zierlich geistreicher Gestaltung. Ein Künstlerhahn emporgestiegenen Mädchen. Ihr Erfolg beim Publikum weckt in ihm tolle Eifersucht, und er würde sein Liebesglück wegwerfen, wenn ihm nicht die Künstlerin durch die reinste hingebende Liebe beschämte und bekehrte. Eine schöne Lektüre für stille Ferienstunden.

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1st AUGUST CELEBRATION

AND PATRIOTIC CONCERT

TO BE GIVEN BY THE

SWISS INSTITUTE ORCHESTRA AND FRIENDS,

AT CAXTON HALL, Westminster

(nearest Tube station St. James's Park).

ON Thursday, July 30th, at 8 p.m. sharp.

All Swiss and friends are cordially invited.
THE COMMITTEE.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine

Assemblée Mensuelle

aura lieu le MARDI, 4 AOUT à 8.30 h., au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Gt. Portland Street, W.1

Ordre du Jour :

Procès-verbal. Démissions.
Admissions. Divers.

SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

As some of the Range Officers are away on holidays and most of the others are taking part in the competition against the Wandsworth Borough Rifle Club and Lyons', which takes place on Lyons' Grounds at Sudbury on Saturday next, JULY 25th, the Range at Hendon will remain closed on that afternoon.

THE COMMITTEE.

Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE (1762), 79, Endell St., W.C.2
(Langue française.)

Dimanche, 26 Juillet, 11h. et 6.30.—M. le Pasteur André Houriet.
Dimanche, 2 Août, 11h.—M. Alexandre Berthoud.
The evening service is suspended from the beginning of August until further notice.

N.B.—S'adresser pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., aux remplaçants d'été du pasteur, MM. Houriet et Berthoud, qui recevront à l'église comme de coutume le Mercredi de 10 h. 30 à midi. Adresser toute correspondance à l'église.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Sonntag, 26. Juli, 11 Uhr vorm.—Gottesdienst.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag, 12—1 Uhr, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2 (St. Anne's Church).
Mittwoch, 12—2 Uhr, 12, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1. Pfr. C. H. Hahn.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Thursday, July 30th, at 8 p.m.—SWISS INSTITUTE: 1st of August Celebration and Patriotic Concert at Caxton Hall, Westminster.
Tuesday, 4th August, at 8.30.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting at Pagani's Restaurant, 42, Great Portland Street, W.1.
SWISS GYMNASTIC SOCIETY.—Exercise Evenings: Wednesdays at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1. Fridays at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

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