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and Peasant" Overture were equally well rendered, Mr. Dick having his players well in hand for the Overture, which left a very good impression. Less convincing was perhaps the playing of the Selection from Bizet's "Carmen," but such difficulties as may have presented themselves and that slight lack of cohesion which made itself felt here and there will undoubtedly disappear in time after very regular rigorous practice. Blen's "Sizilietta" Intermezzo and Holzmanna's "Blaze away" completed a very good orchestral programme.

The re-appearance of Mademoiselle Madeleine Theiler, A.L.C.M., at the piano was, of course, eagerly awaited, and this talented young artist did not disappoint our expectations. Her art is improving as time goes on, and it certainly contributed in a large degree to the enjoyment of the afternoon. In Grieg's "Morning" Mlle. Theiler gave us a fine example of the delicacy of her touch, and one was simply delighted by the sweetness of this composition which the pianist expressed in such an admirable way. The "Hall of the Mountain King," also from "Peer Gynt Suite," gave the artist an opportunity of displaying the excellence of her technique, although it may be doubted whether this piece is of a kind that is to be recommended for a piano solo and whether it allows the artist to show herself at her best. "Sea Idyll" was replaced at the last minute by that popular "Kustle of Spring" by Stinding, and, needless to say, Mlle. Theiler's subtle and efficacious handling of this charming music and the way she overcame the deficiencies of the instrument, which was not very kind to her, created an exceedingly favourable impression. Owing to indisposition, Mr. Blacke, the tenor, was unfortunately unable to sing, which is greatly to be regretted. The hall was, however, soon captivated by the splendid elocutionary feats of Mr. Stanley A. Gaze, I.L.A.M. (Silver Medal), who put such vim into his recitations. He gave us "The Highwayman" of Alfred Noyes and "Jones Mchor's Recitation." Mr. Gaze's elocution is certainly of a very high standard, and his performance was one of the very pleasing features of the afternoon. Both artists, Mlle. Theiler and Mr. Gaze, received much applause and had to concede several encores.

Whilst on the subject of these concerts, we understand that the hall is available also later in the afternoon, and the question, we suggest, might be considered by the Swiss Institute as to whether concerts arranged to begin at 6.30 p.m. or 7 p.m. would not be found more convenient to members and friends interested. It is doubtful whether the custom, which has prevailed ever since these concerts were instituted, to begin at 3.15 or 3.30 p.m. is a favourable one for all concerned. It would be interesting to hear the opinions of our readers on this point, and we shall welcome any correspondence on the matter.

**UNIONE TICINESE.**

This Society held its last Ordinary General Meeting of the year on the 6th inst. at the Schweizerbund. The agenda proved quite interesting. The Secretary reported, on behalf of the Committee, on the various functions and entertainments which took place during the year, all of which were quite successful, and informed the meeting that the recent Concert and Dance, in aid of the Fonds de Secours, yielded a nett profit of £26 2s. 1d.

The Auditors for the year now drawing to a close were elected, as well as five new active members. As usual, there were no resignations. The meeting was then asked to devote its attention to the question of representation on the Council of the N.S.H., a matter which had already been thrashed out by the Committee, and Mr. W. Notari, President, on its behalf, submitted a resolution, the salient points of which are:—

"Considering that the changed conditions and environment under which, in its exceptional position, the Unione Ticinese pursues its aims and unfolds its activities within the Swiss Colony in London, require full and absolute liberty and independence of action, free from any outside influence whatsoever, while reaffirming its unwavering determination to concur, within the limit of its own strength and the provisions of its rules, in any cause calculated to further the good name of the Swiss and the general interest of the Swiss Colony in London, this Society decides no longer to nominate a delegate to represent it on the Council of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique."

After some discussion the resolution was endorsed by all the members present, with only one dissentient.

The appeal on behalf of the Georges Dimier Fund was then submitted to the meeting, and the President asked the Secretary, Mr. O. Gambazzi, as Hon. Vice-President of the Fonds de Secours, to enlighten the members on the matter. As the democratic and charitable instincts of the late Georges Dimier were admired by all the Ticinesi who knew him, and as the object to which the Fund is to be devoted has the wholehearted support of the members and constitute in effect a continuation of the fundamental aims of the Unione Ticinese, all were agreed that something befitting the

Ticinese Colony should be done. The Committee proposed, therefore, that a list should be circulated among the Ticinesi and that the Society should open it with a donation of 50 guineas. A fair volume of opinion considered that this sum represented rather too small a contribution on the part of the Society, but as it is fully expected that the list will find good support among the individual Ticinesi, it was voted unanimously, with the expression of the wish that the ultimate amount will do justice to the excellent cause. O. B.

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\* Soeben erschienen: Josef Reinhart, der uns einen kleinen Schatz heimlicher Lieder und Erzählungen in Solothurner Mundart geschenkt hat, weiss auch in seinen schriftsprachlichen Dichtungen den echten Volkston zu treffen. Man wird es dem Zürcher Verein für Verbreitung guter Schriften Dank wissen, dass er den eben fünfzigjährigen durch Herausgabe einer seiner besten Erzählungen ehrt: "Balmbergfriedli" heisst sie und steht in dem schönen Sammelband "Der Galmisbub." Es ist die Geschichte eines elternlosen, verschupften und darum verschlossenen Knaben, dessen herkeusches, starkes Empfinden durch eine schwere Krankheit seines verehrten und geliebten Meisters zum Ausbruch kommt. Wie nun alles Unwahre, Alltägliche oder Erträumte von ihm abfällt, sein ganzes Denken sich in der einen Frage sammelt: wird er gesund?, und wie ihm kein Opfer zu gross ist für den Mann, der alle Liebe des scheinbar Liebeleeren auf sich vereinigt — das ist bei aller Einfachheit ergreifend dargestellt. Das Büchlein, das sich auch für jüngere Leser eignet, sei allen Freunden gediegen volkstümlicher Art empfohlen.

Prices include postage; in ordering, simply state number or series, remitting respective amount preferably in 3d. stamps) to Publishers, *The Swiss Observer*, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

**Mrs. J. R. GOETZ †**

Mrs. Goetz, widow of the late Mr. J. R. Goetz, died on December 6th, aged 81, at her home at 14, St. John's Park, N.19.

In her younger days Mrs. Goetz was an ardent worker in the Swiss Colony, and her house at 19, Buckingham Street, Strand, was then a rendez-vous for Swiss young and old. She was an exceedingly graceful and attentive hostess. With her late husband she used to regularly attend all the functions in the Colony until recent years. She was well known and much beloved by all, and her death will be greatly regretted.

The cremation took place at Golders Green on Wednesday, Dec. 9th, in the afternoon. The service was conducted by Pasteur Hoffmann-de Visme, and among those present were Mr. Forrer, Mr. and Mrs. Ritter, Mrs. Aufenast, Mrs. Hoffmann-de Visme and Mr. Bühner. J. G.

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**Christmas Celebration**

Saturday, December 19th, at 5.30 p.m. (Reception at 5 p.m.)

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**Divine Services.**

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

Dimanche, 13 Déc., 11h.—"Le bonheur, en Israël"—3e étude de l'Avent. M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

3h.—6h. au Foyer.—Club missionnaire des Enfants de l'Ecole du Dimanche.

6.30.—Phil. 2, 6—11. M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

Samedi, 12 Déc., 8h., au Foyer, 15, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1.—Causette sur l'Escalade de Genève—par le pasteur. Thé ensuite. Cordiale invitation à chacun.

Jeudi, 17 Déc., 7.30, au Foyer.—Le réunion de Noël offerte aux jeunes filles. Invitation à toutes. Le programme des fêtes de fin d'année sera encarté la semaine prochaine.

**NOEL APPROCHE!**

Prière à tous les compatriotes d'expédier maintenant tous leurs vêtements usagés (habits, souliers, etc.) à l'Eglise Suisse, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2, pour distribution. Tout peut servir et tout est bienvenu! Grand merci d'avance!

**SCHWEIZERKIRCHE**

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

Sonntag, 13. Dezember (3. Advent), 11 Uhr vorm.—Predigt, Recitativ und Aria für Alto aus Bach's Weihnachts-Oratorium.

Mittwoch, 16. Dez., 5 Uhr nachm.—Weihnachtsfeier des "Schwyzerchänzli."

Die Weihnachtsfeier der Gemeinde wird später bekannt gegeben.

Pfr. C. Th. Hahn.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**

Friday, Dec. 18th, at 8.30.—SWISS INSTITUTE: Musical and Social Evening at 28, Red Lion Sq., W.C.1.

Saturday, Dec. 19th, at 5.30.—SWISS Y.M.C.A.: Christmas Celebration at the City of London Y.M.C.A., 186, Aldersgate Street. Reception at 5 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 2nd, at 6.30.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Fancy Dress Ball at the Midland Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.

SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.—Rehearsals every Friday evening. Every Swiss heartily invited to attend. Particulars from the Hon. Secretary at 1, Gerrard Place, W.1.