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DE L'OR, DE LA NEIGE ET DES TROUBLES ATMOSPHERIQUES.

On voit parfois dans la vie des gens n'atteindre à la fortune que lorsque, saisis ou en prison, ils touchent à la faillite frauduleuse. Le cas du nommé Emonod, qui passionne aujourd'hui tout le Jura bernois, illustre étrangement ce qui précède.

E. Emonod, qui fabriqua durant la guerre pour l'Italie des quantités énormes de munitions et réussit à accumuler ainsi sacs d'or sur sacs d'or, aboutit malgré tout à une faillite qui aurait pu lui amener les plus graves désagréments s'il n'avait prudemment pris la fuite pour des lieux plus reposants.... On dit qu'il se réfugia en Afrique portugaise et qu'il y vécut misérablement jusqu'au moment où la mort l'appela en d'autres lieux.

Or, Emonod laissait une veuve et des enfants dans le dénuement le plus complet. L'épouse abandonnée mourut de chagrin et de désespoir à l'hôpital de Landeuey.

Ces jours derniers, a été arrêtée, à Lucerne, la seconde femme d'Emonod qui, devenue veuve, est actuellement remariée. Elle aurait détourné à son profit des sommes considérables qui, en droit, auraient dû revenir aux enfants du premier mariage de son époux. Elle aurait touché près d'un million en argent suisse et trois cents mille francs en titres italiens, actuellement encore déposés dans une banque de Milan...

Cela prouve tout bonnement que lorsqu'il s'enfuit en de tropicales forêts notre ex-fournisseur d'armées bien italiennes emportait avec lui des sommes bien suffisantes pour apaiser—et largement—tous ses créanciers; mais il avait certes mieux à faire!

* * *

Si la France et l'Allemagne peuvent, à juste titre, se réjouir du traité commercial qu'elles viennent de signer, il est parfaitement injuste, me semble-t-il, que nous en soyons gravement lésés.

A la récente assemblée générale de la Fabrique suisse de Locomotives et de Machines à Winterthur, on s'est rendu compte que les dispositions d'un décret édicté par le Gouvernement français à la suite de la conclusion du traité de commerce franco-allemand imposaient aux producteurs suisses en la matière des droits de douane désormais doubles et qui porteront le plus gros préjudice non seulement à notre industrie, mais aux relations commerciales franco-suisse. Voici des conséquences bien regrettables et dérivant d'une cause qui, à première vue, n'aurait pas dû nous atteindre.

* * *

L'hiver approche à grands pas. Nos hauts sommets couverts de neige voient leur blanche parure s'étendre vers la plaine. Dans le massif du Saint-Gothard, il a notamment neigé et les petits flocons sont descendus jusqu'à 900 mètres d'altitude. Autour de l'hospice, le blanc et immaculé tapis est déjà haut de cinquante centimètres. Ce sera sans doute une joie pour les nombreux skieurs anglais d'apprendre que le champ où ils aiment s'ébattre se prépare dignement à les recevoir.

* * *

Au moment où l'Université de Berne avait à repousser une chaire de théologie systématique à la Faculté évangélique, une discussion est née, traitant de pures questions théologiques. Il faut dire cependant que ces dernières, pour abstraites qu'elles soient, reflètent les tendances de la population. Or, il a été décidé de tenir compte dans les nominations futures de la nouvelle tendance libérale de la théologie protestante, qui s'affirme de plus en plus, apprenons-nous, dans les communautés bernoises. Lorsqu'on étudie les différents courants de la pensée moderne dans notre pays, c'est là un fait qui valait la peine d'être relevé.

* * *

On s'apprête à Genève à participer à la grande campagne électorale qui, d'ici une dizaine de jours, va mettre en présence tous les partis en une âpre lutte. Je veux vous signaler la naissance d'un nouveau confrère, qui ne manque ni de verve ni d'allant, et qui vibre de l'impulsion toute nerveuse autant que sarcastique du rédacteur en chef de notre plus grand journal du matin. On sent là une "poigne" qui n'est pas du goût du journal de l'extrême-gauche, le *Travail*.

A l'*Eclair* de droite Nicole oppose le tonnerre populaire. Vous devinez par ces mots en quelle atmosphère surchargée d'électricité nous vivons. Il est à craindre que les événements du 22 août dernier ne servent de bonne leçon aux spectacles qui se préparent et dont le moins qu'on pourrait dire est qu'ils seront d'un intérêt cuisant pour le Monsieur de la galerie. C'est ainsi que je signerais ces lignes ce soir...

Le Monsieur de la Galerie.

"THE GENTLE ART."

By Sophie Wyss, the Swiss Soprano.

The Oxford University Press has published the first of the four volumes of Sir Henry Wood's work on "The Gentle Art of Singing." It is a big 'royal quarto' volume, bound in saze coloured half-bound buckram, and contains about 150 pages of music well printed on a super callendar paper—a fine example of the publishing art, and considering its size and scope, certainly not dear at a guinea.

First there come a few pages of general advice to anyone who thinks of beginning to be a singer, and this is followed by about one hundred and forty pages of the most elaborate exercises, designed for all ranges of voices from the high soprano to the bass. These exercises follow, or rather precede, the would-be singer through all the various stages of his or her seven years' battle for improvement. And this volume is but the first quarter of the ordeal!

The exercises seem to me to be more deeply studied than the usual Marchesi studies, which most of us have at one time or another used, and they are, of course, based on them, except that they are designed for the pronunciation of vowels in the English rather than the Continental way. But there is this in the way of practical advantage, namely that this book is so excellently bound that it might conceivably last for ever, whereas the Marchesi pages tear and wilt the way of all much-used music for which one does not afford the extra cost of a binding.

Naturally, anyone so 'musically' as Sir Henry could never have imagined that singing can be taught by book or correspondence class. I therefore imagine that he had in his mind when he arranged this super-exercise book some scheme of helping teachers rather than students. For they it is who need help first. And to them the work should be a godsend.

Of course there may be a few excellent foreign teachers of voice production and singing in London, such as Monsieur Gaillard, and also a few native private teachers, to whom the book would be interesting, but not at all necessary. But these are not many, and the number of those others to whom the book should be a crying necessity must be really staggering. I hope they will get it, and it will do something towards setting the standard of a sane and uniform method. But for a very, very long time to come the art of singing in England will depend upon the example set by foreign imported singers, and methods imported by foreign teachers. If it were not for these the art of singing in England would be dead in twenty-five years.

J. H.'S Weekly Letter to his Friends and Compatriots.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—The falling leaves, the morning fogs, the early evenings, they all remind one that everything has its ups and its downs. Well, have we not been told that stability is not: that stability, where it appears to be, is an illusion, that it is in reality movement, rotation? And true enough our everyday humdrum work, our hustling and hurrying to, from and at work, even at pleasure, seems to indicate that we ourselves are chained up with a whirlwind movement the control of which is beyond our reach and power.

Yet, when it comes to changing ideas, to rearranging standards of thought or action, then we seem to be stability itself. Then we appear to belong to a world of set and immovable idols. But then, what does appearance count at the day of judgment?

We are all different from what we appear to be. We are all apt to judge others by their appearance. We set our standards of living and behaviour in accordance with the standards of the multitude, and condemn that multitude for not letting us set our own standards. Why?

This is the case with nations, and so is it the case even with the "Swiss."

Those who have opportunity to read some of the more important Swiss papers have also the opportunity to notice the endeavour of some of our compatriots at home to stir up sentiment and thought amongst the population. They believe that to remain successful means continually to fight for success. They want us to understand that the fact of the "Swiss hand" being very clever at work demanding great skill does not keep us the markets.

However wonderful the St. Gall embroideries may be in workmanship and finish, the market for them has dwindled away. The watchmakers of Switzerland, up to a decade or so ago, had the field almost to themselves; now they are exporting parts to keep their factories going. Probably in another decade or so Swiss watches will still be looked upon as superior to any other make, but will be bought by the rich only, cheaper makes sufficing for the multitude. So another market is in peril.

In spite of all this, have we cause to despair? No! Stability being rotation, why should we remain stationary? Why should we not move with the times? There is no reason why we should not.

What we should not do, however, is to proclaim our goods, our work, as best, as beating everything the world has seen. Such advertising is just as much an illusion as is stability. It is not true, but—and this is much more dangerous than the rest—leads us to believe such things ourselves. We are good workmen, we produce articles in quality and workmanship among the first in the world, but other people, other nations, do the same, if in other directions. They may one day do the same thing as we do, if we are not careful to produce at such a price or in such a way that they find it easier to buy it from us and to sell to us what they pro-

duce, a product where they have the advantage in one respect or another.

It is, of course, as false to go to the opposite extreme, and to discourage the nation by belittling and negatively criticising any and every thing. What we want and need is criticism which takes things as they are, and not as they appear. Criticism is useless unless it is creative. The criticised must be able to learn, otherwise the critic has not done his duty; nay, he has transgressed the bounds of honour, he has been destructive instead of being instructive and constructive.

Let us leave it at that. Stability being an illusion, there must be movement, rotation. Let us get into a creative, co-operative spirit, and let us mingle belief and hope that we still are a nation of fine workers and of hard workers, but also recognise that there are others who learn from example. Let us remember that whoever has a mission will have an opportunity.

Now it only remains for me to remind you that the "Georges Dimier Fund Concert" at Wigmore Hall (to-day, Saturday) will start at 8.15 p.m. and wish you all a pleasurable evening.

Yours sincerely, JOHN HENRY.

BÜCHER-BESPRECHUNG.

Das Werk, 9. Heft, Sept. 1927. Verlag Gebr. Fretz A.G., Zürich. Dieses Heft ist in der Hauptsache der Darstellung der Wohnungsausstellung in Stuttgart gewidmet, an der auch unser Land vertreten war. Die Ueberschrift über diese ist in dem Plakat enthalten: "Eine luxuriös ausgestattete Wohnung, gedrehte Säulen, schwellendes Sopha, Tisch mit elegant geschweiften Beinen—und durch all die Herrlichkeit (!) ein brutaler roter Strich, und eben so rot die Unterschrift. Wie wohnen?"—Wir fügen unsere eigene Unterschrift hinzu: "Seelenlosigkeit an der jede Kunst sterben muss."—Wann wird sich die Menschheit endlich einmal aufmachen durch die sogen. neue Kunst einen recht breiten roten Strich zu ziehen? Das ist keine Kunst mehr. Das sind lediglich Nutzbauten ohne jegliche Nützlichkeit. Alles verschwimmt. Es fehlt die Individualität des Raumes, es fehlt das Bauen schlechthin, es fehlt jegliche Rücksicht auf das Landschaftsbild und Stuttgart hat durch die Aufstellung dieser Baumschule neuzeitlicher "Kunst" nur an seinem schönen Stadtbild eingebüsst. Wie müsste die Alpenwelt in der "schöpferischen Hand" dieser sog. Architekten aussehen?—Ich nenne das vollendete Cynik in der Baukunst, wie Heinrich Heine—trotz grosser Begabung—Cyniker der Dichtkunst und Salomon Schönberg Cyniker der Tonkunst ist.—Für "Altmödische" bedeutet Kunst immer noch Dichtung, also auch das Bauen. Deswegen lehnen wir armen, ungebildeten Laien diese Wohnungsausstellung entschieden ab und sprechen nur den einen Wunsch aus, es möge "das Werk" im Bund mit dem Heimatschutz diesem neuen "Styl" den Fehdehandschuh hinwerfen, damit solche Wüsteneien unserem herrlichen Land erspart bleiben möchten. Dieses krampfhaft "Sich-los-sagen-wollen" von jeglicher Tradition ist Künstelei und nicht Originalität, ist ein Einbilden nicht Bilden.—Alles aber passt zur Seelenlosigkeit der heutigen Zeit, zur modernen Häuslichkeit, die sich im Auto auswirkt, das zur Bewunderung unfähige Menschen durch die Wunderwelt Gottes rasen lässt. Vorbei die Zeit des Städtebaus, wie uns der so vollendet schön in Städten wie Nürnberg entgegen tritt, oder auch in Neubauten der Stadt Wien. Von dieser neuen Kunst aber wollen wir nichts wissen.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week:—

Miss Elsa Jakob, Berne: "Holiday on the Baltic." Miss A. Imbach, Luzern: "An Outing to Oxford." Mr. C. A. Meyer, Geneva: "Guy's Hospital I." Mr. E. Perucchi, Winterthur: "About Fog in London." Mr. Magnus Wehrli, Lausanne: "Belgian Congo, Africa." Mr. Herm. Jeanrenaud, Basle: "My last trip to South America." Miss Lily Fiehn, Zürich: "Female Suffrage." Miss Elsy Tschöpp, Basle: "Cornwall." Mr. Ernest Schupbach, Wasen: "Holidays with an English Society." Mr. Walter Sieber, Münsingen: "Progress of Tourism and Alpinism in Switzerland." Miss Hanna Storrer, Winterthur: "Something about Joy." Mr. Maurice Rohrbach, Bern: "The Reform of the Lords." Mr. Ed. Steck, Bern: "Woodrow Wilson." Mr. F. Bünzli, Wetzikon: "Something about Geneva." Mr. W. Berthoud, Biel-Bienne: "A Trip in Switzerland."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Is there a possibility of introducing a universal language?" Proposer, Mr. W. Sieber, Münsingen; Opposer, Mr. Ernest Niederer, Wolfhalden.

"Do you consider the British a polite and hospitable people?" Proposer, Miss Elsa Jakob, Berne; Opposer, Miss Hanny Widmer, Basle.

"Are the Latin races superior to the Germanic races?" Proposer, Mr. A. Junod, Vevey; Opposer, Mr. W. Burren, Schönenwerd.

The first football match of the Day School Students was played against the Berkeley Hotel Employees' Football Team on Thursday last in Regent's Park. The result was exceptionally encouraging as the S.M.S. Team won at 4-3 goals.

CONCERT IN AID OF THE "GEORGES DIMIER FUND."

The organisers regret to announce that, contrary to an earlier notice, Miss Juliette Wihl will not be able to assist at the Concert on Saturday next. Owing to a severe attack of bronchitis she has been ordered by her doctor to stay abroad.

Prof. Willibald Richter has, however, kindly consented to take her place, and ticket-holders may rest assured that the programme will not suffer in any way through this change. Prof. Richter may perhaps not be so well known to Swiss audiences as he is to the English public, whose admiration he has long ago won through his masterly playing on the pianoforte.

DIVINE SERVICE AT St. ANNE'S, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Since the opening of the Swiss Church D.S.G. some three years ago, there has never been a more inspiring service than that of Sunday last, 23rd October, held in the wonderful little Church of "St. Anne's by the Willows" in Gresham Street.

The Rev. C. T. Hahn conducted the first part in the German language, and the Right Revd. Bishop Bury, D.D., Assistant Bishop of London, conducted the second part and preached the sermon, in English. The greetings from the official heads of the Church of England, which Bishop Bury expressed in his own name, that of the Bishop of London and the Church of St. Anne's, were of the most cordial character. He said that they felt most happy to be able to offer the hospitality of St. Anne's to the Swiss Colony of London on Sundays when it was not being made use of by an English congregation. He rejoiced at the brotherly feelings which he had always found in the National Church in Switzerland, where our own places of worship are held at the disposal of English congregations. Special mention was instanced of the case of Spiez, where English visitors would otherwise only have the use of drawing-rooms of hotels.

The sermon was based on the Gospel of St. John X, v. 10. It was a most clear and homely exposition of the fundamentals of Christianity. During his many years of service in 17 different countries of Central and Northern Europe, the Bishop found everywhere one great universal longing for a fuller Christian life. To the end that this might be realised his message dwelt on:

1. The personal experience and knowledge of God,
2. "To know that we know," the double affirmative of the Christian faith,
3. The coming into the sunshine of fellowship between God and Man.

The closing prayer touched every hearer most deeply. Bishop Bury implored the blessings of Almighty God on our native land, the centre of so many international activities, and prayed that the small Swiss nation may be more and more able to exert a potent Christian influence among the councils of the nations of the world.

The service was attended by the Swiss Minister, M. C. Paravicini, and family. Also the Swiss Colony responded magnificently, so much so that hardly a vacant seat was to be found. The Church of St. Anne's was represented by the Chief Warden, Mr. Orchard, and Mr. J. A. Batchelor.

May the writer, in conclusion, express the desire that such a service be held annually? B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents and cannot publish anonymous articles, unless accompanied by the writer's name and address, as evidence of good faith.

To the Editor of the *Swiss Observer*.

Monsieur le Directeur,—Pour répondre à certaines rumeurs paraissant avoir circulé, nous tenons à exprimer ici que l'attitude de Mr. Masterman-Smith, Headmaster de notre école, a toujours été irréprochable en tous points et en toutes occasions. Nous apprécions hautement sa façon d'enseigner et ses excellentes leçons, toujours empreintes d'une grande élévation de pensée et d'une moralité parfaite.

En vous priant de bien vouloir accorder à ces lignes l'hospitalité de vos colonnes, nous vous présentons, Monsieur le Directeur, nos remerciements et l'expression de nos sentiments distingués.

Un groupe d'étudiants de l'école de la S.M.S. au nom de tous.

To the Editor of the *Swiss Observer*.

Dear Sir,—In order to dispel various rumours, which appear to have been circulated, we are anxious to declare that Mr. Masterman-Smith's attitude as Headmaster of our School has always been, at all times and in every way, perfectly irreproachable. Without exception, we highly appreciate his methods of teaching and his excellent lessons, which have always been impregnated with the most elevated and moral sense.

We rely on your kindness in granting us the hospitality of your paper, for which we offer our best thanks, and beg to remain, Dear Sir,

Yours very truly:

A Group of Students of the S.M.S.
School in the name of all.

(The above communication has been sent by Mr. M. Rohrbach.)

PERSONAL.

We learn that Madame Paravicini returned to London last Wednesday, the 26th inst. She spent the month of August with her family on her mountain farm in the Emmental and from there, after a fortnight's stay in Berne, went to Lugano and Villa d'Este, where she played in two international tennis tournaments. On her way back Madame Paravicini had to undergo an operation for appendicitis, which kept her for another fortnight at Berne, and from which she has fortunately made an excellent recovery. We sincerely trust her health will permit of her gracing with her presence some of the annual functions which the clubs of the Colony are holding within the next few months.

The marriage is announced of Monsieur Leon J. Faivre, who for a short time was Chancellor of the Swiss Legation in London; the ceremony took place in Liverpool last Thursday, the 20th inst., and the bride is Miss Dorothy G. Horsley, of Bournemouth. Monsieur Faivre, on behalf of whose many friends in London we wish to extend hearty congratulations, is at present Gérant of the Swiss Consulate in Liverpool.

PUBLICATIONS

of the "Verein für Verbreitung Guter Schriften" and "Lectures Populaires."

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TO-DAY, Saturday, 29th October,

CONCERT

in aid of the
SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY
"GEORGES DIMIER FUND"

at WIGMORE HALL, 36, Wigmore Street, W.1.
at 8.15 p.m. prompt.

By supporting this Concert you will help
a good cause.

Book your Seats early.
Swiss Choral Society.
Swiss Institute Orchestra.

SWISS BANK CORPORATION,

Our newly instituted service of TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES,

which are issued in denominations of £2, £5 and £10, should prove of great convenience to all who contemplate travelling abroad. The cheques can be obtained both at our

City Office, 99, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

and at our

West End Office, 11c, Regent St., S.W.1,

which is situated next door to that of the Swiss Federal Railways.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine

Assemblée Mensuelle

aura lieu le MARDI, 1 NOVEMBRE au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, St. Portland Street, W.1 et sera précédée d'un souper à 7 h. (prix 6/6).

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard St. E.C.2. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 9595).

Ordre du Jour:

Procès-verbal.	Démotions.
Admissions.	Banquet Annuel.
	Divers.

SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION

THE Final Shoot "Endschieszen"

will take place at the HENDON RANGE on
Saturday-Sunday, 29-30 OCTOBER.

SKILL and HANDICAP COMPETITIONS
on the 100 yards and 300 metre Targets.

ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS CORDIALLY INVITED.

The ANNUAL DINNER and BALL combined with
Prize Distribution, will be held on THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 17th, at the Union Helvetia.

THE COMMITTEE.

Divine Services.

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

Dimanche, 30 Octobre, 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann - de
Visme: "Ce que réclame l'unité."
6.30.—Service spéciale de musique et d'adoration.
7.30.—Réunion de prière.

Dimanche, 6 Nov.—Réformation; Ste. Cène.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux,
etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme,
102, Hornsey Lane, N.6 (Téléphone: Mountview 1798).
Heure de réception à l'Eglise: Mercredi 10.30 à 12h.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

Sonntag, den 30. Oktober.—11 Uhr vorm.: Predigt.
7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

Sonntag, den 6. November.—Reformationsfest.
Der Näheren findet am Montag, den 31. Oktober
nachm. 3 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse" statt.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche.
Mittwoch, 3-5 Uhr, im Foyer Suisse.

Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen etc., an den
Pfarrer der Gemeinde C. Th. Hahn, 8, Chiswick Lane,
W.4. Telefon Chiswick 4156.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, Oct. 29th, at 8.15 p.m.—SWISS CHOR-
AL SOC and SWISS INSTITUTE ORCHES-
TRA: Concert at Wigmore Hall in aid of the
"George Dimier Fund."

Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 29th-30th.—SWISS RIFLE
ASSOC.: Final Shoot (Endschieszen) at Rifle
Range at Hendon, Old Welsh Harp.

Tuesday, Nov. 1st, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB:
Monthly Meeting at Pagani's (see Advert.).

Friday, Nov. 4th, at 8 p.m.—UNION HELVETIA:
Annual Banquet and Ball at No. 1, Gerrard Place,
Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1.

Saturday, Nov. 5th, at 6.45 p.m.—SWISS MERCAN-
TILE SOCIETY: Candelaria Dance at Midland
Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.

Thursday, Nov. 17th at 8 p.m.—SWISS RIFLE AS-
SOC.: Annual Dinner and Ball combined with
Prize Distribution at the Union Helvetia, 1, Ger-
rard Place, W.1.

Thursday, Nov. 24th, at 8 p.m.—UNION TICIN-
ESE: Annual Concert and Dance in aid of the
"Fonds de Secours" at the Swiss Club, 74,
Charlotte Street, W.1.

Friday, Nov. 25th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB:
Annual Banquet and Ball at the Victoria Hotel,
Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

Wednesday, Dec. 28th.—A.O.F.B. SWISS VAT:
Xmas Dinner and Ball at the Café Monico, Pica-
dilly Circus, W.1, under the patronage of Sir
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