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"Of course not, dearie," she murmured, reassuringly. "But we're never lucky, Tessa, are we? You shall have a nice new dolly all the same, though—if I've got to work all night to pay for it!"

Suddenly she started up and stood listening intently. From the next room came the lilting strains of the *Rhapsodie Hongroise*. What irony—if her husband but knew it!

The music died away and the handle of the dining room door turned gently.

"Hallo, my dear," cried Signor Pedrini, entering the dingy little room with a new spring in his step and a bright smile suffusing his usually grim features. "The gods have smiled at last—it is good!"

"I—I don't understand—" His wife regarded him with a tearful, puzzled look. "Did you think I had won—"

"No, no!" cried the old man, excitedly. "I have offered to me the post—the grand post! Look at me!"—he threw out his chest proudly—"look at ze new conductor of ze Venetian Symphony Orchestra! We packa ze bag, we takka ze train—and goodbye to England!"

Chuckling goodhumouredly, he put his arm around her shoulders and caressed the curly locks of Tessa with his sensitive fingers, eager already to be grasping the baton before a vast audience.

"I—I'm so happy!" His wife was now almost tearful again—but this time with joy.

With an amazing agility, Signor Pedrini darted out of the room and returned with his 'cello, and in a few moments the mellifluous cadences of the "Spring Song" were wafted out of the window on the perfumed evening breeze.

"So you hoped to win ze Calcutta lottery?" questioned old Signor Pedrini, looking up with a quizzical expression from the trunkful of music he was busily sorting.

"Well, I did think that perhaps—" his wife broke off in the middle of her sentence.

"And ze happiness—would dit have com?"

Mrs. Pedrini thought for a moment, then gently shook her head. "No, Luigi, I know now it wouldn't. Still, all's well that ends well," she finished, smilingly, and Tessa shall have her dolly after all!"

"Huge great big dolly!" cried the happy little girl, capering around the room.

Signor Pedrini laughed heartily and brushed his wife's hair with his lips.

"She shall have a dolly," he assured her, "and—oh, a ride on ze gondola as well!"

Discord had taken unto itself wings and fled. And the Muse had returned to her rightful home. G.C.B.

#### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Miss C. Fischer, Winterthur: "English People and English Customs." Miss O. Fraisse, Geneva: "Character." A. Zeller, Berne: "Disarmament." Miss L. Eckert, Basle: "Happy Days." A. H. Weimann, Zurich: "Betting and Gambling." R. Breiter, St. Moritz: "A Winter Night at St. Moritz." E. Schaad, Biberist-Soleure: "Friendship." W. Fenigstein, Zurich: "The Possibility of War." F. Clericetti, Lugano: "South America." S. Kornfein, Berne: "Hand-made Carpets." K. Isler, Schaffhausen: "Science and Religion." S. Mueri, Oberentfelden-Aargau: "Coal Mining." Miss E. Schenk, Burgdorf: "Cheese-making in Switzerland." H. Vogel, Buchs-Aarau: "Holidays." F. Aellen, Bienne: "London."

The debating classes dealt with the following subject:—

"Is the Modern Girl a Good Housekeeper?" Proposer, Miss E. Keller; Opposer, Mr. F. Streit.

Saturday: SWISS SPORTS: 13 Students competed in the Swiss Sports at Herne Hill and the following successes were achieved: 100yds.: 1st, Mr. E. Schutz. Long Jump: 1st, Mr. W. Kurth; 3rd, Mr. W. Braehm. High Jump: 1st, Mr. P. Hofer. Putting the Weight: 2nd, Mr. G. Dreier.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

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

E. Beutler (442), E. Forster (443), E. Frey (444), W. Gamper (444), L. Lauchheimer (443), A. Doumoulin (445), W. Bachmann (446), J. B. Brutsch (446), L. Chapuis (446), G. Engesser (446), H. Epprecht (446), C. W. Guignard (446), G. A. Heinzelmann (446), J. Keller (446), F. Kienast (446), F. Kreis (420), E. Marchesi (446), E. Martig (446), Mrs. C. Muller (420), C. A. Staub (446), H. Pfirter (446), J. Tache (420), P. Walser (446), P. Grether (481), N. Battilana (447), W. G. Gattiker (447), J. C. Nussle (447), J. C. Rathgeb (447), G. Sigg (408), R. J. Bickel (444).

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#### 60me SOIREE ANNUELLE SUISSE.

Ces dernières années, la "Fête Suisse" a connu une vogue renouvelée. A juste titre, car elle est bien la fête de famille de la Colonie! Et celle du 13 Juin prochain qui sera la 60e, ne le cédera en rien aux précédentes, surtout avec les concours de Mlle Sophie Wyss, qui nous a promis quelques-uns de ses meilleurs chants.

Et puis, outre le plaisir de se retrouver, de communier dans l'amour du pays, de sentir revivre les souvenirs de son enfance en entendant les airs de jadis, il y a une satisfaction aussi à penser qu'on contribue par ses 18 pence d'entrée à soulager quelque compatriote dans le besoin... Eh oui c'est un fait: grâce au grand nombre de billets vendus l'an dernier, il a été possible de verser une somme supplémentaire de dix guinées au Fonds de Secours, en sus de cinq précédentes.

Procurez vous donc un billet, même si vous n'êtes pas très sûr de pouvoir venir en personne. Vous pourrez toujours le passer à quelqu'un d'autre qui en sera reconnaissant et même si cela n'était pas le cas, vous auriez la satisfaction de contribuer à une bonne oeuvre. R.H.V.

#### ARTHUR PALLISER.†

Arthur Palliser passed away in his Ascot home on 16th May, 1929. He was a well-known figure in our Colony, at the manifestations of which he very often took part, together with other members of the Legation.

Switzerland has lost in him a true friend, a man who had acquired an intimate knowledge of our national customs, of our political as well as economic needs, and who, in the difficult War and after-War periods, used his influence with his own Government to work in the interests of Switzerland.

Following his father's footsteps, who was an Officer in the British Army and a personal friend of the Iron Duke, Arthur Palliser was destined to join the Army. An accident, however, forced him to leave Sandhurst and to choose another career. Still a young man, he emigrated to India, where he was called upon to organize and carry out a wide plan of road-construction and plantation work.

On his return to this country, he joined an engineering firm, in which he was a partner for several years. Illness in his family interfered with the progress of this new venture of his, and Arthur Palliser was henceforth condemned to lead a quiet, modest and sometimes difficult life in the country.

At the outbreak of War he placed his services at the disposal of his fatherland, and collaborated in the organisation of the British Submarine Fleet.

It was at this time that he was chosen as the London Representative of the S.S.S. (Société Suisse de Surveillance Economique), thus assuming a very delicate and arduous task, which he fulfilled with the greatest success. He very soon won for himself the entire confidence of both the Swiss and the British Governments, due above all to his extraordinary sense of fairness, his honesty and his strength of character. Arthur Palliser was truly the product of the best English traditions, of the sound English system and of the strong position of Great Britain in the world.

After the winding up of the S.S.S., Palliser, now stimulated by his great love for Switzerland, offered our Government his services for the solution of various economic problems. Since 1918 he represented Switzerland on the International Wheat Commission. He also took part in the activities of the "Office Suisse des Transports Extérieurs" and looked after our interests in the execution of the decisions of the Washington Conference for the distribution of freight. In this capacity he was able to render the Confederation invaluable services in obtaining for her important tonnage concessions. The "Union Maritime," the "Coopérative Suisse des Charbons," the Rhine Commission, all derived great profit through the untiring and unselfish work of this friend of Switzerland. In the last few years he was entrusted with the defence of the interests of the Basle Mission, yet another delicate and difficult task which he was able to carry through successfully.

It would be impossible to describe all that Arthur Palliser has done for the Swiss Government and, in particular, for the Swiss Legation in London, with which he was, up to the last moment of his life, closely connected.

All those who have been fortunate enough to know Arthur Palliser have found in him a friend always ready to help and to give them the benefit of his good advice, based on a life of experience and devotion.

*Drink delicious "Ovaltine"*  
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#### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

Clergyman near Neuchâtel is prepared to receive in to his home one or two Students. Every modern convenience. Terms en pension Frs. 220 per month. Tuition can be arranged for, if required. Will take well recommended children wishing to improve their French during school holidays.—Apply to 'Pasteur,' c/o Swiss Observer, 23, Leonard St., London, E.C.2.

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#### Shooting Practice

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#### CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que la prochaine

#### Assemblée Mensuelle

aura lieu le MARDI 4 JUIN au Brent Bridge Hotel, Hendon. Cette assemblée sera précédée d'un souper familial à 7 h. précises (8/6 par couvert) et suivie d'une danse.

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).

#### Divine Services.

#### EGLISE SUISSE (1762),

(Langue française.)

79, Endell Street, near New Oxford St., W.C.3.

Dimanche, 2 Juin, *Hospital Sunday*.—11h: "La domination de l'homme" (Genèse 1/26). M. R. Hoffmann-de Vime.

7h: Culte et Réunion de Prière. M. R. Hoffmann-de Vime.

#### BAPTEME.

Betty Ethel DISERENS, née le 23 Février, 1923, fille d'Alexis et d'Ethel Mary née Caton, de Lutry (Vaud)—le 26 Mai 1929.

#### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.  
(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 2. Juni 1929, *Hospital Sunday*.—11 Uhr morgens: Gottesdienst und Sonntagsschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

Der Reinertrag beider Collection ist für den Metropolitan Hospital Fund bestimmt. Wir bitten unsere Mitbürger dieser Sammlung zu gedenken und nach Kräften beizusteuern.

Dienstag, den 4. Juni 1929.—Nachm. 3 Uhr: Nähverein im Foyer Suisse.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, June 4th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting at the Brent Bridge Hotel, Hendon. (See Advert.)

Wednesday, June 5th, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Friday, June 7th, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Annual Dinner at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Wednesday, June 12th, at 8.30 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOC.: Monthly Meeting at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Thursday, June 13th, at 7 p.m.—60e SOIREE ANNUELLE SUISSE at Caxton Hall, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

Wednesday, June 19th, at 7.45 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Monthly Meeting of the London Group at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1., followed by a causerie on "Some Aspects of Tuberculosis in Switzerland," by Dr. B. Lancel, of the French Hospital in London.

SWISS RIFLE ASSOC.: Every Saturday and Sunday, Shooting Practice on the Rifle Range near the Welsh Harp, Hendon.

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