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Continuing in the matter-of-fact tone of a man describing a round of golf, Biner then related an adventure on the sinister "Four Donkeys Ridge" of the Dent Blanche, which would have turned most people's hair grey.

"I was on the ridge with an Englishman when we were overtaken by a terrible blizzard. In semi-darkness we struggled on for six hours, only to find we could neither go on nor turn back, all the landmarks being hidden. Eventually we struck a knife-like ridge of snow and got astride it as though on horseback.

"On both sides there was a sheer drop of 3,000 feet. We were afraid to cut steps, as each blow of the axe started an avalanche. Lightening played around the ridge, and several times I was almost stunned by shocks.

"Once the Englishman fell over the side, and I had to drop over the other to hold him. My four candles were soon burnt out, and in complete darkness we straddled along the ridge until we reached the flank. I pushed my companion between two rocks and lay on him to keep him warm.

"It began to snow, and he was shivering terribly, so I made him take my jumper. Soon we were completely buried under the snow. Dawn came at last, and more dead than alive we crept out of our refuge—to find that we were only a few hundred feet away from the glacier and safety."

And then, as though to change the subject from himself, this modest hero told of the amazing stoicism of a climber on the Zinal Rothorn.

"Two Viennese and a Swiss were crossing a narrow ridge when the first man on the rope slipped, dragging the second with him. As the latter fell his leg caught between two rocks, and he remained wedged there. His companion, suspended in space, was already dead.

"Powerless to help, the Swiss wound his end of the rope round a rock and started off alone to get help from the Mounteb hut. It was late next day before the guides discovered the injured Austrian and released him from his terrible position.

"Throughout those agonising thirty hours he had fought against the impulse to cut the

rope and relieve himself of his gruesome burden."

Few guides have looked death so close in the face as William Perren and lived to tell the tale.

"One day," said Perren, "I was crossing an unfrequented glacier alone when I fell down a deep crevasse. I wasn't badly hurt, and after a few minutes I sat down to think things out. It was no use shouting because I knew that few people ever passed that way.

"All I could see above was a tiny speck of sky. I tried to cut steps in the ice with my knife, but the crevasse was too wide for me to get a foothold on both sides. Every now and then I slipped further down the gulf. To keep up my strength, I ate all the food in my ruck-sack. Time after time I tried to cut steps but in the end I gave it up and sat down wondering how long the end would be.

"Then I fell asleep. How long I slept I don't know, but I awoke with a start. Up above I could hear excited voices. I shouted wildly and a face peered down into the darkness. A rope was lowered. I kissed it before slipping the noose round my body. Then the next thing I remember was finding myself lying on the snow in the sunshine. By an extraordinary piece of luck an Italian nobleman and two guides chance to be on the glacier that day and saw my ice axe lying in the snow."

### AUSLANDSCHWEIZERTAG.

The "Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger de la N.S.H." has issued the following circular:

"Après 4 années d'interruption, c'est de nouveau à Bâle que se tiendra la Journée des Suisses à l'Etranger. C'est de Bâle que vint, pour la première fois, en 1918, l'idée de convoquer une Landsgemeinde des Suisses de l'étranger, et c'est à Bâle que ces réunions eurent lieu régulièrement, de 1918 à 1925.

"Le Conseil d'Etat de Bâle-Ville se fait un honneur d'accueillir les hôtes que viendront de près et de loin, et de leur prouver combien il apprécie l'activité des Suisses de l'étranger au service du bien du pays.

"Les délibérations auront lieu l'après-

### Five Weeks in America.

By DR. K. E. ECKENSTEIN.

#### V. INTER ALIA.

CONTINUED.

In America they have numerous fish which are unknown in Europe such as Bluerock and Red Snappers. They seemed to me to be rather tasteless, but perhaps this was due to the method of cooking, for electricity and steam are largely used. Lobsters often make their appearance on the menu and are prepared in different ways and, of course, Homard à l'Américaine thrives on its native heath although under strict observance of the law it is difficult to make it according to the original recipe. Salads are many and various and frequently contain fruit; I once tried one which contained an "alligator pear," though what an "alligator pear" is really like is quite beyond my powers of description. The one thing in which America excels is ice-cream, and the soda fountain provides drinks which are pleasing to the palate even if they are bereft of alcohol. A soda fountain is usually an integral part of a drug store and a drug store is a wonderful institution because it generally seems to contain everything except drugs. Apart from a soda fountain and a perfume counter one can buy paper, cigars, books, sweets and, tucked away in a corner, drugs.

In New York we went to one restaurant something on the lines of the old "Gambrinus" in London which was quite good and I also visited an "Automat" restaurant about which a few words may be of interest. The restaurant consisted of a large room lined with white tiles and looked something like a cross between an operating theatre and the cooling room of a turkish bath. It certainly was scrupulously clean. Round the walls were small nickel-plated cupboards with glass fronts in which were all kinds and descriptions of viands starting with hors d'oeuvres and finishing with fruit, each item in its own little cupboard. On entering the restaurant the first thing to do is to get change at the desk and to obtain a supply of the small coins known as "nickels." A tray is next obtained containing a plate, knife and fork and glass and a tour is made of the room and one, two or three nickels placed in the slot beside the selected cupboard when the glass front automatically springs open and the contents after removal are placed upon the tray. When a selection has been made the tray is carried to one of the small tables which are scattered about the restaurant and the meal partaken of in the usual manner.

Restaurant cars on the trains are particularly well managed and a very great variety of food provided. The meals are well served and ices and iced water can always be obtained. During the

midu du samedi 30 et le matin du dimanche 31 aot dans la Salle du Grand Conseil de l'Hôtel de Ville, à la place du Marché. Au cours de ces deux assemblées plénaires, on traitera les questions prévues par la Commission des Suisses à l'étranger que les groupes de l'Organisation des Suisses à l'Etranger de la N.S.H., les Sociétés suisses, les Ecoles suisses, les Chambres suisses de commerce à l'étranger auront proposé de soumettre à la discussion. C'est pourquoi, nous prions instamment ces diverses associations de faire parvenir leurs voeux à temps au Secrétariat des Suisses à l'Etranger à Berne (Bundesgasse 40), afin que l'on puisse dresser la liste des sujets qui seront débattus. Pour que la discussion soit fructueuse, il est désirable que chaque question, que l'on voudra voir figurer à l'ordre du jour, soit formulée avec précision.

"Le Comité d'Organisation de Bâle a tenu à ménager également aux hôtes des occasions de contact personnel et de délassement. C'est pourquoi, il a prévu, pour le samedi soir, une libre réunion des participants au Solitude-Park (Grenzacherstrasse) avec un programme récréatif et, pour le dimanche, un banquet à midi au Casino de la ville, suivi, l'après-midi, d'une excursion en bateau à vapeur à Rheinfelden.

"Comme la Journée des Suisses de l'étranger à Bâle coïncidera avec l'Exposition Suisse de l'Habitation (WOBA), les participants à la Journée auront le samedi et le dimanche le faculté, en faisant estampiller leur billet de chemin de fer à l'Exposition (bâtiment de la Foire d'échantillons) d'utiliser pour le retour, sur les C.F.F., un billet de simple course. Renseignements aux guichets des C.F.F.)

"Tout est prévu pour que la 11e Journée des Suisses à l'Etranger continue dignement celles qui l'ont précédée, pour qu'elle constitue, à l'instar de celles que se déroulèrent en 1926 à Lausanne et en 1928 à Lucerne, une imposante manifestation de la Suisse de l'étranger. Les circonstances actuelles, les courants politiques et économiques rendent aujourd'hui l'union de toute la Suisse plus nécessaire que jamais; aussi, le lien étroit qui unit à la Patrie les Suisses vivant à l'extérieure ne saurait-il se manifester de façon plus significative et plus élevée que dans une Journée des Suisses à l'Etranger.

a track motor car race and will give a very good idea of what an American journalist can do when he really gets going:—

"The rip-snorting crusaders of speed and Napoleons of danger will have their day today at the Florida State Fair when auto races will get under way promptly at 2.30 o'clock.

"Present indications are that today will be the only time that speed fans will have the opportunity for some time, for no word has been given out that the motor maniacs will be listed over into next week. Over a score of the best benzine battlers who ever pushed the throttle of a race car and who are as unfeared of danger as his Satanic majesty himself, will go out to cop the prizes and risk their neck in this most fascinating of sports.

"The race secretary is frank in his admission that while the track will be fast and dustless, it will be very dangerous and arrangements have been made with the ambulances and first aid tent to take care of the Spartans of Speed who fall by the wayside or go careering through the fence.

"Before the auto races will be the Motor style show, and during the speed events there will be plenty of aerial stunting, some added speed novelties and a blindfold drive of the track by "Dead-eye Dick" Ellsworth, magic master of the blocked optics.

"Florida followers of the knights of the roaring road and wrecked ribs hang with Shorty Gingrich of Tampa to win if his Golden Arrow Special holds up to advance reports.

"Sam Purvis, Jacksonville's creme de menthe of hot shots and Hayden Smith, the untamed speeding Jaxon, are primed to give Gingrich or any of his emulators plenty of grief and uphold the honors of the old home town.

"Some say that prophet is without honor in his home bailiwick, but Sam and Hayden along with Hick Jenkins and Scooter Hamilton will have plenty of boosters.

"Crash Waller, who made more noise by wire, letters and postcards about the Jacksonville races than anyone else, has not turned up at the fair-grounds yet. Waller had a ruckus in Jacksonville at one time and is said to be the target of evil desires of several certain parties and he will likely pull up at the race track at post-time. If not it will appear that Wildman Norman's entry and Sam Purvis's several challenges have silenced the loquacious Georgian.

"Those who hearken to the Roman gladiatorial contests, and who like bull fights or machine gun battles will join the more cautious fans today in a program preponderant with pep."

Listen folks, this sure is the dope and if any guy would just hand it out to the S.O., or if that gink K...g will dish up some more pep, I guess it would make the little old paper look up. And so it would. Will K...g please note. Swell fellows, these pressmen.

TO BE CONTINUED.

“C'est pourquoi, chers Compatriots, nous vous invitons cordialement à venir nombreux à Bâle le 30 août; Bâle est prêt à vous accueillir avec joie et empressement.”

#### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

M. Schaefer (Miss): “Literature.” W. Sturm: “An Excursion to Vesuvius.” A. Bondolfi: “A Visit to the *Times*.” R. Bucher: “The Girls’ Village at Barking.” H. Paravicini: “Portofino.” A. Graf (Mrs.): “Dreams.” H. Neeser (Miss): “Influence of War on Nations.” S. Menzi (Miss): “Teachers, Lessons and Experiences at the S.M.S.” A. Gentsch (Miss): “My first Days in England.” E. Thomann, Geneva: “Letter to a Friend.”

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:

“Are you in favour of Autocracy?” Proposer: G. Du Bois. Opposer: W. Stoll.

On Tuesday, August 12, a party of nearly 300 students visited Canterbury. It was a magnificent day and the journey was most pleasant. The first stop was at Rochester, where the students visited the magnificent old castle. This was an object of so much interest to them that it was some time before the journey could be continued. One or two enterprising students dashed across to see the Cathedral.

Canterbury was reached by 1.45 p.m. St. Martin’s, the oldest Christian church in England, was first visited, though our students were so numerous that it was really quite a job getting them all inside. Afterwards our party visited St. Augustine’s Abbey, the lovely gate-house, in particular, being much admired. Later on we viewed the magnificent Cathedral and many stayed here for two or three hours, so much was there to be seen and admired. The beautiful old West Gate Towers were afterwards visited. The little Museum of Arson, the first floor was of special interest, though the old man in charge rather cynically denied the authenticity of some of his exhibits. The famous “scold’s bridle” caused much merriment.

Finally the Dane John Gardens with their beautiful lime avenue awakened much admiration. Many students ascended the curious conical mound in the centre, from which a fine view of Canterbury was obtainable. Of particular interest to most students was the “Invicta,” built by Stephenson in 1825, and the first engine used for passenger traffic. Many photographs of this interesting locomotive were taken.

Some students also discovered Marlowe’s birthplace, a quaint little house in a side-street. The poet’s name was engraved on the pavement.

At 6.30 p.m. our party left Canterbury and reached London three hours later after a most enjoyable day in which instruction and pleasure had been ideally combined.

#### PERSONAL.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. H. Despond-Hulin will sympathise with them in their bereavement; Mr. Despond’s father having died in Switzerland at the age of 65.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

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

W. Lehmann (472), H. Hugli (506), Th. J. Egg (504), L. P. Haussauer (506), B. Albertelli (506), L. C. Hilpert (506), O. E. Wetzel (506), G. E. Schoop (467), Miss S. Ehrler (506), H. Binguelli (506), A. Meschini (505), E. Etter (506), Mrs. L. M. Rudin (467), R. Hangartner (499), A. Bieri (506), M. Grether (502), E. Winzeler (506), A. Koerber (506), E. Hungerbühler (506), P. Schindler (506), Cowie & Co (466), E. Geiger (467), E. Lauper (506), Miss A. L. Achermann (480), J. H. Oltramare (502), W. Renz (481), J. Weber (506), G. Pape (501), L. Lauchheimer (497), J. Hauenstein (507), P. Isacco (506), M. Seymour (506), R. Bricer (480), J. Brentini (507), E. J. Krebs (537), H. Zimmermann (506), P. Meckenstock (481), C. Vonaeisch (507), J. M. Hess (506), Miss O. Muller (468), F. L. Buhmann (506), P. Godenzi (507), A. Dellenbach (507), R. Chappuis (505), C. H. Paris (507), E. Vogel (468), M. Ritter (509), H. Diener (559), J. Haesler (506), O. Bastadin (474), E. Albertini (506), Miss J. Eugster (469), A. Arm (506), O. Meyer (508), C. Campari (499), A. P. Cima (507), H. Kirchhofer (507), J. Hirter (466), M. J. Newman (508), F. R. Lier (480), Dr. G. E. Haefeli (500), Aug. Favre (509), J. Lanz (465), G. Steyer (507), E. Greiner (470), L. Schlaepi (506), W. Wirz (506), J. C. Dekker (466), J. Jordan (510), C. Mayr (509), A. A. Schutz (529), O. H. Honer (506), A. Stauffer (480), Jean I. Hardy (506), J. Maurer (510), A. Im Obersteg (506), A. Sulzberger (527), P. W. Schoop (506), J. A. Compagnoni (510), P. E. Meister (510), A. von Dach (506), J. H. Wartenecker (506), V. Kolb (469), F. Conrad (505), A. Bleiker (510), F. Caprez (483), W. Wyss (510), G. T. Grotz (511), G. Hederig (509), Mrs. A. G. L. Couper (510), A. M. Scholer (482), E. Chatelain (517), H. A. Türler (477), E. Ferrari (467), J. E. Buchi (510), E. H. Schlatter (510), M. Giuliani (505), W. Kirchmeier (508).

#### Home News—(Continued)

##### BERNE.

The Municipal Buses seem to have taken the fancy of the Bernese population, and the authorities are doing their best to meet the wishes of their passengers. On August the First another new line was put into operation, the route connecting the Bahnhofplatz with the Wyler.

##### ST. GALL.

St. Gall also has its traffic troubles. The solving of the problem of West to East traffic is most difficult, as in the small valley of the Steinach only a few parallel streets exist. In connection with this problem, better traffic regulations in the old town, where the bottle-neck near the Union causes a lot of trouble, will have to be studied. The Town Council has now opened a competition and a credit of 45,000 frs. has been voted for prizes to be given to those who are able to suggest a successful solution of this most urgent problem. The competitors must have been residents of the Canton of St. Gall for at least twelve months. N.Z.Z.

##### BASLE.

Two serious accidents have happened in the vicinity of Pratteln. A workman, E. Rot, driving a horse and van, arrived at a level crossing and found the barrier closed. Although an express train was due, the barrier-keeper opened the barrier in order to let a cyclist pass, and Rot apparently followed under the impression that the crossing was clear. Just as he was passing the track he saw the train approaching; he jumped off the van and was trying to pull the horse back, when he was caught by the engine, which dragged both man and horse along for about 100 metres. Rot was killed outright whilst the horse was so badly injured that it had to be destroyed. The barrier-keeper, a woman aged 51, is suffering from nervous shock and has had to be taken to hospital.

Only about 600 metres from where this accident happened, a car, driven by a M. Heiss from Bâle, arrived at a level crossing shortly before midnight. After waiting for about three minutes for a goods train to pass, the barrier was opened, when, just as the car was crossing the line, a passenger train from Bâle approached, catching the car broadside and carrying it along for about 40 metres. Two passengers, Messrs. Heiss and Käbli, were killed instantaneously, whilst the other two occupants had a miraculous escape from death, but both sustained injuries and had to be taken to the cantonal hospital. The barrier-keeper has been arrested. N.Z.Z.



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Les cultes du soir seront supprimés dès le 27 Juillet.

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

#### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 17. August 1930.

11 Uhr vormittags: Gottesdienst.

Adresse d. Pfarrers, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W.4.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Thursday, August 28th, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE and SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Lecture by Professor Dr. C. Schröter of Zurich with over 100 coloured lantern slides on “Naturschutz in der Schweiz und der Schweizerische National Park,” at King George’s Hall. Admission free.

Wednesday, September 3rd, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Wednesday, September 10th, at 7 p.m.—SOCIETE DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Committee Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Wednesday, September 10th, at 7.30 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Monthly Meeting, followed by an Extraordinary General Meeting, at Swiss House.

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