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now eight months old, a happy smiling baby and as good as gold. May he always be as happy with his Swiss relations as he was with us.

The party was delighted to receive a telegraphic message from our Minister, Monsieur Thurnheer, who inspite of his manifold duties had not forgotten his countrymen in the North. We thank him for his kindly thought of us. The war disrupts. We used to be in fairly good touch with the Manchester Swiss, but we only see some of them occasionally as visitors here. Nevertheless we also want to associate with them in wishing Vice-Consul Hirs, transferred to New York, the best of luck in his journey and satisfaction and success in his new sphere of work. We looked upon Mr. Hirs as firmly acquired for Manchester, but the Service of the State knows no such thing.

**"ROULEZ TAMBOURS"**  
(A Battle-Song.)

(1) *The Drums:*

Ye war-drums, beat!  
Our frontiers we are guarding,  
Along the river lead us to the fight.  
Beat gaily on, all thoughts of peace discarding,  
We're soldiers all when we first see the light.  
Keep steadfast hearts, they'll make you brave;  
The Swiss who never knew defeat  
Bred many a hero, ne'er a slave, } *Repeat.*  
Ye war-drums, beat!

(2) *In Camp:*

Ye trumpets, sound!  
When camp-fires, dimly burning  
Reflect in yonder stream their fitful light,  
To heav'n above, our solemn thoughts are turning  
And many pray'rs soar aloft through the night.  
Homeland, we shield thee, come who dares,  
A living wall, we thee surround.  
God sees us watching, hears our pray'rs, } *Repeat.*  
Ye trumpets, sound!

(3) *The Colours:*

Ye banners float!  
Our valiant standards flutter  
Inscribed with many a glorious name,  
Like brilliant stars, names we are proud to utter,  
Of battles fought that gave us lasting fame.  
Under your flag, each one aspires  
His country's welfare to promote.  
Be worthy sons of our sires, } *Repeat.*  
Ye banners float!

(4) *Return:*

Songs of our land!  
Our hearts with pride are glowing  
Whene'er we hear the echo of your strains.  
O cherished land, to you our lives w're owing,  
A precious gift, yours alone it remains.  
Mountains and streams, in charms competing  
O may your beauty e'er expand.  
We hail your welcome and your greeting, } *Repeat.*  
Songs of our land!

(Transl. by J. J. F. S.)

**SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.**

Following the successful discussion at the June meeting, when the subject "A Target for Trade in Peace-Time" aroused keen interest among the members, the Committee has decided to arrange for another discussion at the next Monthly Meeting, which will be held at Swiss House on Wednesday, September 8th, at 6 p.m.

The subject this time will be "The Beveridge Plan," and members will no doubt readily agree that the Committee could hardly have chosen a more suitable and topical theme.

Our President, Mr. J. J. Boos, who has made a thorough study of the Plan, will explain its working, after which there will be a general discussion. If the Beveridge Plan is put into force, and there is no reason to expect the contrary, it will affect everyone in the Colony, not only employees and employers, but also their families. Members and friends are therefore cordially invited to what promises to be a most interesting and instructive meeting and a particular welcome is extended to the ladies, who, it is hoped, will also take part in the discussion.

The 55th anniversary of the foundation of the S.M.S. will be celebrated on Saturday, October 9th, with an austerity luncheon, to be followed by a lecture by our well-known friend, Dr. G. P. Gooch, the eminent historian. Fuller details will be announced by circular and in the next issue of the Swiss Observer.

Please, therefore, reserve September 8th and October 9th for the S.M.S.

WB.

