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SWISS SKI TEACHERS AND MOUNTAIN GUIDES AS AGRICULTURAL VOLUNTEERS.

As in 1946, so also this year, again a number of Swiss Ski Teachers and Mountain guides have arrived in this country to assist in the "Battle for Bread."

The first batch had already arrived at the Surrey V.A. Camps on the 10th of May whilst the second batch, lead by M. J. Stalder, arrived at Victoria Station on August 1st, where they were greeted by Monsieur J. P. Weber, Secretary to the Swiss Legation in London, and some of their colleagues already in England headed by MM. Walter Haensli and Alfred Decurtins who were responsible for our compatriots in their respective Volunteer Agricultural Camps.

They hail from the following parts of our country : Arosa, Gstaad, Klosters, Les Diablerets, Pontresina, Ste. Croix, St. Moritz, Wengen, Zermatt, etc. Many of them are well-known as ski-racers, and among others we would mention the names of Hans Zogg, Walter Haensli, Rudolf Graf, Tell Gassner, J. Vetter, G. Perren, J. Fux, A. Aufdenblatten, J. Lauber, etc., etc.

For a considerable time a number of Ski Teachers as well as Mountain Guides were anxious to come to England in order to learn or perfect their English. The increasing flow of Tourist Traffic to Switzerland makes it imperative that those who come in touch with our British and American visitors should know at least the rudiments of that language.

This scheme has been organised by the "Association des écoles suisses de ski" and the Swiss Legation, with the benevolent assistance of the various British authorities concerned, especially the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

We are glad to hear from Monsieur J. P. Weber, who together with Mr. Christian Rubi, Technical Manager of the Swiss Ski School Association, has made the necessary arrangements for their stay, that they are extremely happy and interested in their work and in splendid health.

ACADEMY CINEMA Presents RAMUNTCHO (U)

"Ramuntcho" is based on Pierre Loti's novel of the same name, which is generally recognised, in France and abroad, as one of the masterpieces of French romantic literature. It is a simple film, dealing with the life of a small village, and the adventures of two young lovers, but the director and actors have lovingly and realistically brought to life the Basque village where smuggling is the main local industry and excise-men have, for generations, been fighting a losing battle. The love story of Ramuntcho and Gracieuse, the main theme of the film, is treated with a tenderness which contrasts with the temperamental and sometimes violent southern character.

Faithful to its subject-matter, all individual parts have been subordinated to the collective life of the village. It is an excellent proof of their acting ability to find some of the greatest actors in the French cinema giving flawless performances in what are for them comparatively small character parts, without any of the "star" treatment usually accorded to actors of such calibre.

From among a large cast may be singled out Louis Jouvet, who makes a welcome reappearance on the British screen in the role of Itchoua, the resourceful and enigmatic leader of the smugglers. Francoise Rosay as the hard mother of Gracieuse, implacably opposed to her daughter's marriage to young Ramuntcho ; and Madelaine Ozeray and Paul Cambo, who give a sympathetic portrayal of youthful love which grows only stronger with the passage of time.

In the same programme will be "THEY WERE SISTERS" with James Mason and Phyllis Calvert from the novel by Dorothy Whipple.

RAMUNTCHO and THEY WERE SISTERS will commence at the Academy Cinema on Saturday, August 9th.

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