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excite, uplift the spirit," he says, and I am sure he is doing Swiss architects an injustice with that. Besides, I wonder what he would do if he had the Jungfrau chain as a background to his building. Try to rival with it?

With that I can leave you safely to your list of buildings and to the contacts which you will make in the anticipation that both will keep you happily busy for several days. There is, on the whole, more to see in Zurich and Basle than elsewhere, that is, architecturally, of course, but you might find interesting buildings in the smaller towns and for that purpose I suggest you make good provision in your list. I doubt whether your allowance will carry you both to Geneva, where you might pay homage to the flats which the man from La Chaux-de-Fonds, alias Corbusier, built some time before the last war — or to the Italian south, the Ticino, where in the midst of other enjoyments, you may qualify your architectural conscience with a visit to the Libreria Cantonale at Lugano, I hope it is on your list, and in my opinion it is alone worth the journey from Zurich through the St. Gotthard Tunnel.

I think it takes you about 17 minutes to get through this tunnel, a stifling experience, but normally you find the sun shining when you emerge from it, even if you had rain until you came to the St. Gotthard. In the Ticino northern and southern cooking meet and mingle, and you will have even less reason for complaint than before. As for wine, you may agree with me that the "Nostrano" compares well with the "vin ordinaire" of France. Many of the hotels and pensions are in German-Swiss hands, while the Ticinese still retain control of the "osterias" where you may take your wine and play "boccia." Do try this game; it is similar to bowling but far more virile, and a considerable outlet for passion. It is, however, not the game which you can only play with an unsheathed knife handy, and which, for that reason is forbidden.

In the villages of the Ticino you will get your fill of stone masonry, and rubble is handled just as well as in Wales. Many of the roofs are still stone slated, which you cannot fail liking. In Locarno, Lugano and Ascona you will find besides a considerable number of modern houses, but I have not yet made up my mind whether I like them. If you are out to see typical Ticino villages, go from Locarno to the Valle Maggia and you will find a string of them, notably Intragna, where they will give you excellent trout in local osterias. I have never seen a place where the church was better placed, nor do I know one with loftier verandas. Strange how they manage in the south to create atmosphere, and with so few means, too. Often I have been tempted to put it down to the sense for ancillaries, from the casual porch, the little balcony, the veranda, down to the creeper near the entrance door and the skilfully suspended bunches of cob and onions in the loggias under the slated roof.

Yes, I think it is there that you may end your journey. By the time you arrive you should have done enough for architecture and yourself in that respect. Not that I wish to say that there is no architecture in the south, far from it. But it is perhaps even more part of life down there than in the north, and you will take it in a less critical and more easy-going way. The south will serve you the dessert of your architectural menu, and if you are wise you will linger over it.

WALTER SEGAL.

## BRITISH BALLET IN SWITZERLAND.

The Metropolitan Ballet, sponsored by the British Council, left London on Tuesday, August 30th, for Switzerland where the company will give 10 performances in seven cities and towns between September 1st and 11th.

Eight ballets will be performed; four classics, "Swan Lake" Act II, "Giselle" Act II, "Coppelia" Act II and "Prince Igor"; and four modern ballets, "Le Beau Danube" (choreography, Leonide Massine), "Ballamento" (André Howard), "Fanciulla delle Rose" (Frank Staff), and "Designs with Strings" (John Taras).

The 39 members of the company will include: 16 year-old Svetlana Beriosova, Celia Franca, Domini Callaghan, Henry Danton, Eric Hyrst, *Michel de Lutry* and Nicholas Beriosoff.

The first performance was given in Biel on September 1st followed by a tour of Berne (September 2nd), Lausanne (September 3rd and 4th), Geneva (September 5th and 6th), Interlaken (September 7th), Zurich (September 8th and 9th), and Basle (September 10th and 11th).

*British Council.*

(*Michel de Lutry* is the stage name of Michel Paschoud, son of M. Marcus Paschoud, who was well known in the Swiss Colony in London and now resident in Lausanne. Ed.)



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