

# The "Stadtmusik Solothurn's" London visit

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highly interesting and one or two amusing ones. About them, too, a book could be written, but, again, that will have to wait. There is just one amusing fellow who comes to my mind. I had him in my car the other day, when he suddenly said: "Would you mind stopping and waiting at the Chemists for a moment, I must get my pills." "Pills", I said, in order to say something, though I was not particularly interested in the working of his inside, "what pills do you take?" "Oh!", said he, "you see I am a proper terror when I wake up in the morning. I am most terribly rude. So at the instigation of my wife I went to the Chemist and asked him whether he could not give me something against rudeness in the morning. And, believe it or not, he has given me some pills, which make me perfectly sweet. As my first supply has now run out, my wife has insisted that I should get a new lot. So if you will kindly stop at Bakers, I shall get a new 3/6 worth of morning sweetness". What nationality do you think he is?

Another fellow succeeded during the war, after his country had been overrun, to persuade the British Ministry of Information to provide him, free of charge, with an office, stacks of beautiful paper, three girl typists, a roneo-multiplication machine, a good short-wave receiver, to all of which he contributed the wits.

With all this outfit he produced, on the strength of radio reports, a "Free Ruritanian Bulletin", which he succeeded in selling to another Department of the

same Ministry of Information for 80 pounds a month. That I call tüchtig.

He was, I might add, a Rumanian, and as you know, to be Rumanian, is not a nationality, it is an occupation.

There is, however, one remark, with which I would like to close this unambitious little causerie: if there is one person in particular, to whom the F.P.A. in London, and its President, owe a debt of gratitude for the most loyal services possible, it is our permanent secretary — the very soul of the whole machine — Miss T. von Holzer., who, I am glad to say, is here with us all to-night.

I am fully aware of the fact that this talk has been merely a stop-gap, as we on the Council have not been able to produce a better and more worthy speaker for this meeting. If I have succeeded, however, in convincing you that often there is an enormous amount of work behind the newspaper edition which you may use to wrap some old rubbish up in, then it has been worth my while rummaging through my scrap books — as I hope it has been worth your while coming here to-night.

Thank you for listening to me.

## THE "STADTMUSIK SOLOTHURN'S" LONDON VISIT.

Swiss Music at a London Concert Hall.

London will have the opportunity to hear a concert in real traditional Swiss style when the "Stadtmusik Solothurn" play at the Central Hall, Westminster on Tuesday, June 12th. The concert, which includes among its patrons Lord Ismay and the Swiss Minister in London, is in aid of the National Institute for the Blind, the Musicians Social and Benevolent Council and the London Swiss Benevolent Society, and the programme includes yodellers, solos on the Swiss Alpine horn and the traditional airs of the Swiss mountains. Swiss residents in England may well imagine themselves home again when they hear the familiar songs and music of their native country.

Eighty-three musicians, accompanied by the Mayor of Solothurn and other local dignitaries, arrive on Sunday, June 10th, for a week's visit. As well as their concert, their plans include a party given by the Anglo-Swiss Society, a visit to Windsor, a theatre party, and a visit to the Festival of Britain. Plans to give them a special welcome both at the South Bank Exhibition and the Battersea Festival Gardens are being made by the Festival of Britain authorities.

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