

Book Review : Modern Switzerland

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Book Review.

MODERN SWITZERLAND.

To the already extensive list of books on Switzerland, written or translated for the English-speaking public, a new publication has been added. Let us hasten to say that it is no unworthy addition.

The newcomer is a symposium to which a number of Swiss writers, mostly prominent professional men, have contributed, each being an authority on his particular subject. Originally written in German, the work was planned and compiled by Werner Reist, edited by Dr. E. Schürch and published by *Verlag Mensch und Arbeit, Zurich*, price Swiss francs 9.60 paper-bound or 12.60 cloth-bound. The German title is *Die Schweiz-Arbeit und Leben*, the French translation is entitled *La Suisse, sa vie et son effort* and the English version **SWITZERLAND, LIFE AND ACTIVITY**. It is with the latter that we are here concerned.

The purpose and scope of the book is to give an overall picture of modern Switzerland, its historical background, its economy, industry, and trade, the peculiarity of its system of government and its position in the international set-up. Much ground is covered, every branch of industry is studied, education and culture, traffic communications and catering, all these find a place in the general survey. There is a short article — too short — on the Swiss army by Dr. Kurz and one by René Bovey on the International Red Cross. Even the recipes for "Berner Rösti" and "Fondue" are included.

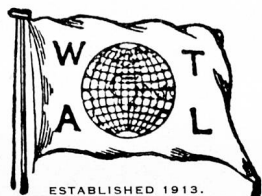
One quarter of the volume — it runs to 200 pages — is taken up by an admirable historical survey contributed by Dr. E. Schürch. It is one of the finest digests of Swiss history we have ever come across. Equally well-written and most interesting is Prof. A. Lätt's study "Swiss Pioneers Abroad".

On the dust-cover appears the caption "What can the miracle of Switzerland mean to you?" This question Mr. Reist's team of experts attempts to answer. It does so with skill and competence and with a self-assurance which, without being aggressive or boastful, springs from a sober, national assessment of

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the existing facts and a clear insight into their significance and meaning.

The book is well printed, attractively bound and profusely illustrated. Some of the coloured plates are a delight to the eye. It is a fine production, exclusively Swiss, and affording evidence of the fact that the Swiss people can be their own and their best publicity agents.

J.J.F.S.

ALBERT FERBER IN BLACKBURN.

Our compatriot, Albert Ferber, who played the Pianoforte Concerto in A minor, Op. 54, by Schumann, with the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, on Wednesday, December 3rd at Blackburn, scored a great success. Various Press notices hail him as a great artiste. Heartiest congratulations!



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LONDON SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The 97th meeting of the London Swiss Philatelic Society was held on November 29th. There was a record number of entries for the Challenge Cup competition, and in making his award Mr. Kenneth Chapman, Editor of "Stamp Collecting" commented on the excellence of the standard of collection. After careful consideration he gave the cup to Mr. C. M. D. Fredericks for his study of the re-entries of the 2d. Blue Great Britain, with lines.

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