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CITY SWISS CLUB.

Albert Ferber at the Soirée Familiale, Dorchester Hotel.

Three conditions helped to make the *Soirée Familiale* of the City Swiss Club, which took place on Tuesday, February 13th, at the Dorchester Hotel, a memorable evening.

Firstly there was an excellent dinner, secondly congenial company, and thirdly most inspiring music.

Nearly a hundred members, including ladies, sat down to dinner in the lovely Orchid Room, which, as usual, was decorated with beautiful spring flowers, thus making one forget, that we are still very much in mid-winter.

The President of the City Swiss Club, Mr. Charles Gysin extended a hearty welcome to the company, which included the following members of the Swiss Legation: Dr. E. Bernath, 1st Counsellor of Legation and Madame Bernath, Dr. E. M. Bircher, Counsellor of Legation, Lieut-Colonel W. Koch, Military and Air Attaché, and Mme. Koch, Major A. Weber, Assistant Military and Air Attaché, and Mme. Weber, Monsieur F. Ansermot, 1st Secretary of Legation, and Mr. J. Huber, Consul, and Mrs. Huber. He also introduced Albert Ferber our eminent compatriot, saying: "He is an artist we greatly look forward to welcoming again at the City Swiss Club for not only is he a master of his instrument, but also a distinguished musician whose interpretative views always command respect".

Albert Ferber had chosen for his recital — fitting the occasion — a conventional programme, with preference items for grace, poetry and emotions, by the following composers: Bach, Mozart, Schumann, Debussy, Ravel and Chopin.

The playing of Bach's Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue gave him the richest opportunity to display those subtleties of phrasing that have always made his musicianship so memorable.

Quite outstanding was his rendering of Ondine by Ravel, and Schumann's Symphonic Variations, in which he displayed qualities of musical imagination, fullness and warmth of tone.

Mozart's splendid Sonata in C. major (K.V.330) in three movements, found him neat and nimble of finger. He produced a pleasing tone at all degrees, and the timing and shaping of his phrases revealed a highly musical personality.

It was bliss to listen to Debussy's Children's

Corner Suite, especially the items Dr. Gradus ad Parnassum, The Little Shepherd and Golliwog's Cake-walk, it was the flexibility of his reading that most commanded respect.

The recital terminated with three Chopin numbers, the lovely Nocturne, Mazurka, and Etude, all played with technical ease in a warm and serene tone.

Each item was loudly and deservedly applauded, and at the close of his recital he received a spontaneous ovation, which he gracefully acknowledged by an *encore*.

The committee of the Club is to be warmly congratulated for having given us again an opportunity to hear this fine artist, who is not only a reliable and sensitive musician but also the possessor of a distinguished individuality.

It was indeed a memorable evening; by our compatriot's brilliant performance he has enabled us to dwell for a few fleeting moments in the noble realm of divine music.

Before breaking up the President thanked Albert Ferber for the immense pleasure he had given us.

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MADAME DAENIKER'S FILM SHOW.

We have much pleasure in drawing our readers attention to the forthcoming Causerie and Film Show on India, Siam and Nepal (N.S.H. Meeting, Tuesday, February 28th, see advertisement) given by Madame Armin Daeniker, wife of our Minister, who spent some years in India as Swiss Minister.



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