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After meandering over a distance of about 15 km. from Büren through a peaceful countryside our boats arrived at Soleure, the end of our remarkable journey by water from the "Suisse Romande".

Soleure lies gracefully across the Aar which flows there indolently and looks like a very big river. Walking through the streets of the town for the first time I was impressed by its air of old dignity which is, after all, very becoming to our first federal capital, within whose walls ambassadors resided.

I was wondering why Soleure does not appear much on the tourist maps; but perhaps this is just as well for the sake of lovers of nature and ancient beauty.

Unfortunately our dinner lasted too long and we had to rush to our train without exploring this — so well preserved — medieval city, with its fortifications, tower and "zeughaus".

But I shall return, taking a little more time to stop "en route", especially at St. Peter island. If some readers would be guided by my experience for a future visit to Switzerland, I would recommend them starting from Morât (Murten) and going by boat to Neuchâtel by the Broye canal alongside the made-fertile big estate of Witzwil. I understand that in the vicinity there is a bird sanctuary belonging to the Ornithological Society of Berne, which is probably open to the public.

E.A.G.

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## NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE.

(London Group.)

### An Interesting Meeting.

Attainments and progress in the field of Atomic Science are subjects which occupy at present scientists and laymen alike.

The Nouvelle Société Helvétique, therefore, very appropriately and much to their credit, arranged a lecture which was given by Dr. A. D. Merriman, G.C., O.B.E., M.A. D.Sc., F.R.S.E., an authority in this sphere, at the Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9, Belsize Grove, N.W.3, on Tuesday, October 22nd 1957.

In introducing the lecturer Mr. W. Renz, President of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, very briefly outlined some of the progress made in Switzerland in this field (for peaceful purposes only).

A numerous audience listened with great interest to Dr. Merriman, who spoke on the subject "Atomic Science and Technique".

Although the subject is a complex one, and somewhat outside the comprehension of non-technicians, the distinguished lecturer succeeded in explaining a number of highly technical processes used in industry based on atomic science. His most interesting *résumé* — intermingled with dry humour — kept the audience spellbound, and gave them a glimpse of what is done in the sphere of Atomic Science.

ST.



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