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overcome. Of these he mentioned:— The European residents in these countries who cling rigidly to their vested interests and will not adjust their outlook; the rigidity of mind of African political leaders who press for immediate and full independence without regard to the economic consequences; the interference from outside, mainly through Communist infiltration.

Colonialism did not pay any more. He could only hope that the systematic efforts of the British Government, to cope with the pressure of our time and so ensure a new order for those populations, would succeed and that it could be done in peace for their lasting benefit.

Long applause told the lecturer of the appreciation of the audience. But after the main dish there was a sweet to follow. With the assistance of Consul and Mrs. Ribi as 'opérateurs' Dr. Daeniker showed us a series of coloured photographic slides. With few exceptions they were all very good and some of them exquisite, both from the point of the photograph and that of the angles at which the pictures were taken. People, antelopes, in fact most of the fauna of central Africa, and some of the most beautiful views of the land were thrown on the screen. One picture has haunted me ever since: a pride of lions at rest, with father lion seemingly saying "how d'you do?".

JHB.

## SWISS CULTURAL LIFE IN FEBRUARY 1961

### Shrovetide Carnival

A list of all the Swiss towns and villages where carnival is celebrated would be impossibly long. All the same, special mention must be made of carnival at Lucerne on 9th February, and also on 13th and 14th February, when a monster concert will fill the Mühlenplatz with the tortured strains of local carnival music. Carnival frolics can also be enjoyed at Bienne from 18th to 20th February, at Herisau with a children's procession on 15th February, at Kreuzlingen on 12th February, with a grand carnival pageant, and at Fribourg from 12th to 14th February. At Murten a grand procession is planned for 19th February.

"Fasnacht", as carnival is called in Basle, is a great attraction, and on 20th and 22nd February crowds will be pouring into the town to join in the fun. On the intervening day the great lanterns, cover with satirical cartoons, will be displayed in the Congress Hall of the Swiss Industries Fair Building, where their wit can be enjoyed at leisure. From 6th to 12th February grand drumming concerts at the Kuchlin Theatre are ringing up the curtain on the carnival jinks that follow a week later. In Zurich the two arts balls on 18th and 20th February again form the highlights of a colourful carnival programme with their grotesque costumes and decorations.

### Egyptian Art in Zurich

After notable exhibitions of Etruscan and Mexican art in its spacious new building, the Zurich Museum of Fine Arts is to open a new show, entitled "5,000 Years of Egyptian Art", in February. Continuing until April, this exhibition was assembled in Egypt, and will include not only the splendid art of Ancient Egypt but also more recent work from the Country of the Nile.

**Finland at home in Zurich**

Finland is at home in Zurich during the three weeks from 4th to 25th February, for which a programme has been arranged to show the friendship existing between the two countries. The exhibition "Finlandia" at the Helmhaus on the bank of the Limmat is familiarising visitors with the arts and crafts of this northern country. There is likewise an exhibition at a big department store and musical performances are also being given. The programme also includes gastronomic items as well as a number of window displays.

**A Polish Orchestra Tours Switzerland**

The National Orchestra of Poland is to visit five cities during its tour of Switzerland. There will be concerts in Berne on 16th February, in Zurich on 17th and in Basle on 18th, followed by further concerts in Geneva on 20th and Lausanne on 21st.

Stanislaw Wislocki, Witold Rowicki and Bohdan Wodiczka will take turns in conducting the orchestra; Wanda Wilkomirska (violin) and R. S. Smedzianka (piano) will be the soloists. In Basle the Museum of Ethnology is to hold an exhibition "The National Culture of Poland".

**Guest Performances brighten Winter Evenings**

Even those towns with no regular theatrical programme in winter will have the pleasure of seeing guest performances by visiting companies during February. The Town Theatre of Coire is to play at Glarus on 27th February, and Frauenfeld will likewise be enjoying Italian opera at the new Casino on 26th and 27th February. Many other towns in Switzerland will also be having visits from travelling companies to help speed the long winter evenings.

**Highlights of the Concert Season**

On its tour of Switzerland the Saar Chamber Orchestra is to give concerts in Geneva (18th February) and in Fribourg (21st February) with Karl Ristenpart as conductor.

At Fribourg there is to be a performance, on 18th and 19th February, of the festival play "Mon Pays", by the late Joseph Boyet. The Quartetto Carmirelli is on the programme for Zurich on 24th February and Geneva on 28th, and the Hungarian String Quartet will be playing in Coire on 28th February. The Golden Age Singers from London are giving a recital in Zurich on 10th February and in Winterthur on the day after. Among the performances of oratorio, special mention may be made of Handel's "Messiah" (11th and 12th February in Thun) and Haydn's "Seasons" (26th February in St. Gall).

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