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LETTER FROM GENEVA

How short is this month of February has come home to those responsible for packing into twenty-eight days everything in the shape of entertainment normally crowding a month of thirty-one days, especially as account must be taken that as a matter of course the week-ends are devoted to skiing and winter sports.

But a large place has been given to the fine arts this month. The Musée d'Art is housing a comprehensive collection of Hungarian paintings and sculpture throughout the whole of February; and in the Salle des Casemates (Musée d'Art) Tchong Ta-Ts'ien's paintings are on show at the same time. At the Salle de l'Athénée the exhibition of paintings by Benjamin Vautier, the third of this great family of artists held in high esteem by Switzerland, opened on 8th February. 27th February is the date set for varnishing day of the exhibition of esthetics in industry about which more later. From 28th January to 16th February the Athénée has been showing Bosco's paintings.

Touching entertainment, the Theatre de Poche has staged André Russin's "La Petite Hutte", and the Theatre de Carouge is due to stage its first performance of Shakespeare's "Richard III". At the Casino Theatre in the rue de Carouge, Marcel Frank's "Amour à Crédit" has drawn big audiences; it was followed on the 10th by "Sans Cérémonie" by Vilfried and Girault. O'Neil's "Long Journey into Night" was played by the Theatre de Poche on 9th February.

The Comédie Theatre opened the season with the Gala Karsenty in "A Nightingale Sang" by Robert Lamoureux, and one of the classic matinées, "Les Séquestrés d'Altona" by Jean-Paul Sartre, was a great success, followed by A. Watkyn's "Good Weekend Mr. Bennet". Towards the end of the month Ionesco's "Rhinoceros" holds the stage.

Of particular interest has been the address by Professor Chs. Barbezat on "Camus et la tragédie de l'Homme moderne", followed by Verdi's "Bal Masqué" at the Grand Casino.

There is hardly an evening during the month without a concert, so that no useful purpose would be served in attempting to list them all. Of particular interest, however, has been the concert given by the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande under the direction of Wolfgang Sawallisch on the 8th, with Nikita Magaloff, soloist, and that on the 22nd conducted by Ernest Ansermet with Jehudi Menuhin.

On 13th February the Orchestre de Chambre de Genève directed by Pierre Colombo presented Christian Ferras, violin solo. Other outstanding events to be noted were the Orchestre de la Sarre on the 18th at Victoria Hall, conducted by Carl Ristenpart, and the Orchestre national de Pologne, conducted by W. Rowicki, with R. S. Smen, also at the Victoria Hall, on the 20th. S. Baud-Bovy will include in his programme "Hippolyte et Aricide" by J.Ph. Rameau.

Four recitals took place this month: Charles Trenet at Victoria Hall and Olshansky, pianist, and Ney Salgado, pianist, at the Maison de la Jeunesse. On 14th February Alexandre Brailowsky was at the Victoria Hall.

For so short a month as February, when nothing counts but SPORT — how the Baron de Coubertin would rejoice at having brought the Olympics back into fashion! — the device might be Multum in Parvo.

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Nouvelle Société Helvétique

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

and

ANNUAL DINNER

on Tuesday, 21st March, 1961,
at the "Schweizerbund" (Swiss Club)
74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

6.15 p.m. Annual General Meeting

8 p.m. Dinner (dress informal)

Members wishing to take part at the dinner are requested to notify the Management, "Schweizerbund" (M. & Mme. Vuistiner), by letter reaching the Club not later than Saturday, 18th March.