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twenty-three competitions held since 1934 well over 4,600 young artists from more than sixty countries have taken part. This year 315 applications were received. One of the pieces set was a wind quintet by Robert Suter (Basle); eighteen ensembles applied with a total of five women and eighty-five men. The Orchestre de la Suisse Romande supported the successful candidates in the final concert. It is interesting to note that among the prize-winners figured young people from Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Japan.

"Les Jeunesses Musicales", which aim at fostering musical life especially in the country, arranged a tour of fourteen concerts for one of the winners. "Les Jeunesses Musicales", under their Central President, Mrs. Marguerite de Reding, Berne, are a very active cultural group, nationally and internationally.

Another group of music lovers was founded in August, "Camerata Zurich", whose object is the support of the Zurich Chamber Orchestra. The Cantonal Church of Zurich has created a new Institute for Church Music. It has two departments, one for church community singing and the other for choir and solo singing (Kantorenschule).

Early in the summer, Basle celebrated the Honegger Festival in Honour of Arthur Honegger, the famous Swiss composer who died in Paris in 1955. Nine concert and theatre performances took place. The symphonic psalm "King David" was performed in the Cathedral, under Dr. Hans Muench. His operette, "The Adventures of King Pausole", was also presented.

"Ten Centuries of Church Music in Switzerland" was the title of an exhibition arranged at the Berne Art and Craft Museum on the occasion of the Second International Congress for Church Music. The first congress had taken place in Berne ten years ago, and the Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches co-operated in this venture, supported by the Federal Government, Canton and Town of Berne. Many artists of church music as well as sacred music historians of many countries and denominations assembled. From London six members of the Ambrosian Singers took part under British Council auspices. Many fields were covered, widely differing as organ building, hymnology, new forms of worship, etc. Concerts were given, one of them from the tower of the Cathedral. Church services of all denominations included special *musica sacra*. Lectures and symposiums were organised. The Swiss composer Frank Martin's oratorium, "Le Mystère de la Nativité", was one of the highlights of the Congress. Modern church music was allotted a special place. Hans Huber's oratorium, "Soliloquia", was given a first performance. A magnificent concert conducted by Luc Balmer at the Cathedral brought a noteworthy congress to a close.

Mariann.

(Some of the news items by A.T.S.)

### Nouvelle Société Helvétique

Tuesday, 13th November 1962, at 7.45 p.m.

#### OPEN MEETING

DR. E. FROELICH

will speak on

#### "Progress of the Solidarity Fund of the Swiss Abroad"

Refreshments are available as usual before the meeting from 6.45 p.m. onwards

### RECENT DEATHS IN SWITZERLAND

Amongst the deaths recently reported from Switzerland were the following:

Ernst Morgenthaler (Zurich) at the age of 75, a well-known painter;

Louis Moillet (Vevey) at the age of 82, another painter and well known for his church window panes;

Adolf Schaer-Ris (73) at Langnau (BE), a writer and historian;

Robert Boetschi, Swiss Consul-General in Leopoldville and Brazzaville (53);

Emil Zweidler, Central President of the Schweizerischer Samariterbund;

Kaspar Roth-Keller (80), famous mountain guide veteran from Meiringen;

Jakob Hegner (81), publisher, who lived in London during the war;

National Councillor Paul Frainier from Lausanne (52).

The following university professors died recently:

Edmond Privat (73), Geneva, member of the Swiss delegation to the League of Nations Assembly 1923-1927, co-founder of Radio Geneva, historian and writer, expert on Esperanto;

Henri Spinner (87), Neuchâtel, botanist and politician;

Charles Burky (75), Geneva, economist and expert on anthropo-geography;

Eugène Urech (66), La Sarraz (Vaud), surgeon and professor at Lausanne University;

Raymond Saenger (67), Zurich, physicist at ETH (Federal University of Technology), expert on ballistics, editor of the magazine for applied mathematics and physics;

Louis Locher-Ernst (56), mathematician, Director of the Technikum Winterthur, who lost his life in a mountaineering accident.

The death of three centenarians is announced:

Albin Frey (100), the oldest inhabitant of Winterthur;

Susanna Haegni-Pletscher (102), oldest inhabitant of Staefa;

Lina Beck-Pflugshaupt (104), from Burgdorf.

### A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT GIVING

Give and be thankful that you may give.

He who knows how heavy a refused gift weighs can also accept.

To live means exchange: the more a man gives and takes, the more intensively he lives.

He who can give of himself cannot be humiliated by any present.

Thank God if you can give and beg of Him people to whom you may give.

Never consider yourself too rich to take and never too poor to give.

Anna Luise Ulrich.

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