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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Every Sunday 8 to 11 p.m. — The Swiss Catholic Youth Club — Social at Westminster Ball Room, 30 Strutton Ground, S.W.1.

Every Thursday, from 6 to 7.30 p.m. — Discussion Circle in English — Young men specially invited. Tea from 6 to 6.15 p.m. Swiss Y.M.C.A., London Central Y.M.C.A. Building, Great Russell Street, W.C.1.

Every Thursday from 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. — Unione Ticinese — meets at the Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9 Belsize Grove, N.W.3. All Ticinesi welcome. The "Corale" rehearses from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Secours Mutuels — no meeting until first Wednesday in October.

Every last Thursday of the Month — Swiss Club Manchester — Ordinary Monthly Meeting from 6 p.m. at the Midland Hotel, Manchester.

28th to 30th August — ASSEMBLY OF THE SWISS ABROAD — Lausanne.

Tuesday, 8th September — City Swiss Club — MONTHLY MEETING.

Wednesday, 9th September, 7 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — MONTHLY MEETING (Holiday Reminiscences) — Swiss House, 35 Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Thursday, 10th September — Swiss Club Manchester — SLIDE SHOW — Rotary Club, Accrington.

Sunday, 20th September — SWISS FEDERAL DAY OF THANKSGIVING, ATONEMENT AND PRAYER.

Swiss Church

Special Service in German followed by Holy Communion at St. Mary Woolnoth. Lombard Street, E.C.3 — at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Special Service in French followed by Holy Communion at Eglise Suisse, Endell Street, W.C.2 — at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

(The collection at these Services will be in aid of the Swiss Benevolent Society.)

Swiss Catholic Church Sung Mass and Sermon in German, French and Italian — at St. Ann's, Abbey Orchard Street, S.W.1 — at 7 p.m. After Holy Mass Meeting at Swiss Catholic Youth Club, Westminster Ball Room, 30 Strutton Ground, S.W.1.

Sunday, 20th September — Swiss Rifle Association — SHOOTING — Bisley (Siberia Range).

Tuesday, 22nd September, 7.45 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — OPEN MEETING — Monsieur W. Roch, First Secretary, Swiss Embassy, Talk on "Picturesque Egypt" (with slides).

Thursday, 24th September — Swiss Club Manchester — MONTHLY MEETING.

Sunday, 4th October — Swiss Rifle Association — SHOOTING (Handicap Competition and "Grümpelschiessen") — Bisley (Siberia Range).

Thursday, 8th October — Swiss Club Manchester — LECTURE — Mr. Müller.

Thursday, 29th October — Swiss Club Manchester — MONTHLY MEETING.

Saturday, 31st October — Swiss Church — BAZAAR — Central Hall, Westminster.

Saturday, 14th November — Swiss Club Manchester — ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL.

Sunday, 22nd November, 11 a.m. — Swiss Church — COMMUNAL SERVICE WITH THE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY — St. Mary Woolnoth Church, Bank, E.C.3.

Thursday, 26th November — Swiss Club Manchester — MONTHLY MEETING.

Friday, 27th November — City Swiss Club — 99th ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL — Dorchester Hotel, W.1.

Wednesday, 16th December — City Swiss Club — CHRISTMAS DINNER — Dorchester Hotel, W.1.

Saturday, 19th December — Swiss Club Manchester — CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY.

"SWITZERLAND — A COUNTRY OF WELCOMES"

When a French magazine asked André Gide what he thought of Switzerland, the author of "La Symphonie pastorale" promptly replied: "They say it is a country of hotels. Why not put it more nicely and say it is a country of welcomes?"

This is a charming definition! Better still, André Gide said that the Swiss hotel industry, so highly esteemed by every traveller, "is only turning an honest penny out of the genius for hospitality and the spirit of service that animate it."

Switzerland — a peace-loving country open to the world! In this connection the author of "Les Faux-Monnayeurs" recalls the countless visitors and the many different musicians and men of letters who have found sustenance there for their peculiar genius: Sainte-Beuve, Romain Rolland, Nietzsche, Wagner, Rilke, Thomas Mann, and so many others.

But, apart from its "genius for welcome", Switzerland, Gide claims, is a school of the will, endurance and solidarity in adversity. There is no country where man is induced to make more of circumstances and of himself. Which makes the famous writer say: "And so it is not merely better physical health I have found whenever I have come to Switzerland in search of it; every time I have also found myself in better moral trim as well."

And he finishes his praise of Switzerland with these moving words: "If man's spirit ever returns later to haunt the places it has loved, I can imagine mine, released from worry and care, seeking round about Zurich and Lausanne, in the high valleys of the Engadine, in the Swiss Jura or on the quiet shores of Neuchâtel, to revive memories which are delightful beyond all others and to live again some of the dearest moments of my life."

Surely these lines deserve to grace any anthology on "Travel in Switzerland".

[S.N.T.O.]

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