Personal

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" The chief piece was Elizabeth Maconchy's " How Samson Bore the Gates of Gaza ", a poem by the coloured American poet Vachell Lindsay, telling the age-old story of Samson and Delilah, just as a simple Negro preacher would have told it to his flock. Alan Rawsthorne's " Three French Nursery Songs " were a decided success, and Decca made a record of them. Probably this was the first gramophone record to be made of this new generation of composers.

" This concert gave me a certain status in English song, but the international side of my singing went on side by side with it. In 1933 the BBC asked me to take on a work by a Catalan composer, Roberto Gerhard. His " Six Catalan Songs " for voice and orchestra had been a great success at the previous year's International Festival at Vienna. It was given at a " Prom " and Sir Henry was grumbling a little at having to do it. He asked me why I sang all this difficult modern music, but he added: 'I do admire you for doing it'. We had a good Press.

" Soon after, I introduced Willy Burkhard to English audiences — a Swiss Composer who was fighting an up-hill battle against lung trouble in Davos. I gave his cantata, " Herbst " for voice and piano trio, in 1934 at a chamber concert by the Swiss Minister, Monsieur Paravicini, at the Swiss Legation. " The Times " gave me a wonderful notice which touched me deeply. As far as I know I have never met any of "The Times " music critics but from that day onward " The Times " has always lent an indulgent and kindly ear to the new songs I have presented.

" I now came to an incredibly difficult work, Darius Milhaud's cantata " Pan et Syrinx ". It was very high-pitched and difficult to get into the voice but after several weeks of work, it fell into place like the pieces of a puzzle. We had an exhausting rehearsal with choir and orchestra under Milhaud in the morning. Never in my life was I so frightened of a breakdown but in the evening all went well and Milhaud was delighted.

(To be continued.)

MRS. E. P. DICK †

We announce with deep regret the death of Mrs. Kate Dick, *née* Coleman. She died after a long illness on 21st March. Her death took place a little over two years after that of her husband Paul so well remembered by the Swiss community in this country for his muscial activities. He died in his 74th year on 4th February 1963 after fifty-three years in England. He was on the staff of the Swiss Bank Corporation and, for many years, conductor of the Swiss Orchestral Society and the Swiss Male Choir.

There was a Requiem Mass for Mrs. Dick at St. Mary's, Holly Place, N.W.3, on 26th March, followed by interment at Hampstead Borough Cemetery.

Kate and Paul Dick will be remembered by their many friends, and we extend our sincere sympathy to their daughter Kay in her sad bereavement.

PERSONAL

The marriage took place of Miss Silvia Oertli, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Oertli of 13, Osidge Lane, N.14, to Mr. Michael Lovett at Christ Church, Cockfosters, on Saturday, 20th March. We wish the young couple much happiness for the future.

SWISS EMBASSY IN GREAT BRITAIN

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Offices of the Swiss Embassy in London, hitherto situated at 18 Montagu Place, W.1, have been transferred to

77-81 GLOUCESTER PLACE, LONDON W.1

on the 20th March 1965

These temporary new premises are adjacent to the present Consular and Visa Section of the Embassy at 1 Montagu Place, W.1.

The Embassy's telephone numbers remain the same

PADdington 0701-0706

The Swiss Ambassador will retain his present residence at 21 Bryanston Square, London W.1, until further notice.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We wish to thank the following subscribers for sending donations above their subscriptions and for taking out or renewing gift subscriptions: Miss G. Barnes, Miss J. Berlinger (Wil SG), Miss I. Buff (Herisau), Mrs. D. C. Delaney, Mrs. F. Horsfall, Miss J. Steiger, Mrs. T. Tanner, Mrs. E. West, Miss I. White and Messrs. P. Bessire, F. Blaser, O. J. Brunner, E. Bryner, R. Kaiser, A. Kunzler, A. G. T. Luminati, H. E. Messmer, A. F. Rigiani, J. Schmid, M. Schneider (Basle), W. Wagner, P. Wiesendanger, J. Zimmermann. We are most grateful for their kind and welcome support.

KLAVIERABEND HELEN WOHLGEMUTH

Am Samstag, den 27. März, gab Helen Wohlgemuth, die sich als Pianistin in der Schweiz, und besonders in Basel, ihrer Heimatstadt, bereits einen Namen gemacht hat, einen Klavierabend in der Wigmore Hall.

Das Programm war sehr geschickt zusammengestellt, indem moderne Komponisten wie Georges Enesco, Hans Huber, Albert Moeschinger und Raffaele d'Alessandro an den Anfang gestellt waren. So konnte der Zuhörer sich eingangs mit ihm noch unbekannterer Musik auseinandersetzen, um sich nachher dem Genusse von sehr schönen klassischen Kompositionen: — Impromptu von Schubert und je einer Sonate von Mozart und Beethoven — hingeben.

Das Programm stellte hohe Anforderungen an die Pianistin. Ihr Können kam besonders darin zum Ausdruck, dass die langsamen Momente beschaulich-besinnlich und die schnellen Sätze nicht hastig vorgetragen wurden. Auch die Vielfalt der Gestaltungskraft, die sich im Wechsel zwischen Weichheit und Kraft des Anschlags widerspiegelte, erstaunte und beglückte diejenigen, die Helen Wohlgemuth noch nicht kannten. Den schönen Abend beschloss die Künstlerin mit einer Dreingabe.

E. R. Schulthess.