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"FROHLICHER SCHWEIZER ABEND"



Before the quarter-finals of the Alp horn blowing competition.

The Red Lion Hotel in Radlett, Herts.—or rather its owner, Trust House Forte—organised a "Fröhlicher Schweizer Abend" on Friday, 26th January. This function was one of many "Continental Nights" held in the Hotel, presumably for publicity. Guests were offered generous portions of punch and dips of an exceptionally creamy fondue as an appetiser.

Dinner was served in the restaurant and dance-hall of the hotel. A selection of very good Swiss wines helped to finish the enormous roast meat course on the menu.

The after-dinner part of the evening was devoted to dancing to the Bierkeller music of the Willie Gatte Band. There was little dancing, however, until late in the day because of an Alp-horn blowing competition.

Expertly organised by Miss Geraldine Bucklin, Secretary at the Swiss Cheese Union, Swiss Centre, this competition gave everyone a chance to prove they had reserves in their lungs. Although two ladies reached the semi-finals of the contest, the men proved generally superior and won the first four prizes. It should

be stressed that good performance on the Alp-horn is not only a question of wind but also of keeping the lips closed. Many competitors grasped the interminable instrument as though they were about to fill an air mattress in one big blow—only to produce a hollow and agonising rattle.

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BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

On 24th February, the former Ambassador in London, *Monsieur Armin Daeniker*, 2, Jolimontstrasse, 3000 Berne, will celebrate his 75th birthday.

Mr. Emil Hardmeier, of 36 Sidegate Avenue, Ipswich, Suffolk, will be 85 on 3rd March.

On 9th March, *Mrs. Lina Gradmann*, of 51 Wessex Gardens, N.W.11, will have her 75th birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Boog will celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary on 1st March.

The following readers will have their birthdays presently: *Mrs. E. Jamieson* will be 73 on 20th February and *Mr. O. Grob, KSG*, will reach the same age on 26th February. *Mr. F. G. Sommer* will be 81 on 1st March, and *Mr. R. Marchand, Bienne*, will have his 81st birthday on 9th March. *Mr. F. Conrad, St. Gall*, will be 77 on 15th March. *Dr. H. W. Egli* will have his 74th birthday on 17th March, and *Mr. R. Chappuis* will be 77 on the same day.

Mr. F. Gerber has no birthday this year, as he was born on 29th February, 1892!

Congratulations to all these and any other readers who will be celebrating birthdays and anniversaries within the next few weeks.

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