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Roche appeal

It has been decided by the British Government not to appeal against a High Court decision which effectively gave Hoffman-La Roche, the Swiss international drugs group, the right to sue the Secretary of State for Industry and the Chairman of the Monopolies Commission. The period in which the Crown and the Monopolies Commission chairman could have lodged an appeal has now elapsed.

In the High Court at the end of last year, Mr. Justice Whitford dismissed applications by the Department of Industry and the Chairman of the Monopolies Commission to have Roche's writ and statement of claim struck out. The group is seeking in its main case to have the commission's report on the controversial tranquillizers, Librium and Valium, overturned.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE:

Thursday, 20th March, Annual General Meeting and Dinner. Prince of Wales Hotel, de Vere Gardens, Kensington, W.8. The AGM begins at 6.30 p.m. and the Dinner at 7.45 p.m.

Thursday, 17th April, 7 p.m. Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9 Belsize Grove, N.W.3. Talk (possibly illustrated by film) by Mr. R. A. Ramseier, First Secretary, Swiss Embassy, on the

"Experiences of a Swiss in India". All Swiss and their friends welcome.

SWISS CLUB LIVERPOOL: Swiss Carnival on 8th March. Annual General Meeting. Buffet at 7.00 p.m. at the Dresden Hotel, Bromborough.

CITY SWISS CLUB, Tuesday 18th March, Family Evening. Tuesday, 15th April, Annual General Meeting.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 12th March at 7.15 p.m. at 34-35 Fitzroy Square.

SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY: Wednesday, 26th March, Film Show at Swiss House.

ANGLO-SWISS SOCIETY: Architectural visit to Switzerland from 21st to 28th September.

SWITZERLAND IN BRITAIN'S CULTURAL LIFE

Wednesday, 19th March — Queen Elizabeth Hall, SE1, 7.45 p.m. — *Heinz Holliger* (oboe) plays the Oboe Concerto by Strauss with the Bournemouth Sinfonietta under Kenneth Montgomery.

Wednesday, 19th March — Cockpit Theatre, Gateforth Street, London NW8, (box office: Tel: 402-5081), 7.30 p.m. — The Dreamtigger ensemble, conducted by Douglas Young, plays contemporary Swiss music by *Klaus Huber*, *Eric Gaudibert*, *Martin Derungs*, *Ulrich Gasser*,

Heinz Marti, *Jean Derbès*.

Thursday, 20th March — Cockpit Theatre, London NW8, 7.30 p.m. — The Dreamtigger ensemble plays contemporary Swiss music by *Frank Martin*, *Arthur Honegger*, *Jacques Guyonnet*, *Eric Gaudibert*, *Roland Moser*, *Klaus Huber*.

Wednesday, 26th March — Wigmore Hall W1, 7.30 p.m. — Piano Recital by *Kristina Steinegger* (Bach, Busoni, Mozart, Beethoven, Bartok, Chopin).

Friday, 4th April — Sheffield City Hall, 7.30 p.m. — Saturday, 5th April — Town Hall, Leeds, 7.30 p.m. — Sunday, 6th April — Town Hall, Huddersfield, 3 p.m. — Tuesday, 8th April — Lavenham, 7.30 p.m. — Wednesday, 9th April — Royal Festival Hall, SE1, 8 p.m. — *Geza Anda* conducts the English Chamber Orchestra and plays the piano part in concertos by Mozart (K.453) and Beethoven (No. 3).

Thursday, 10th April — Purcell Room SE1, 7.30 p.m. — *Peter Hummel* (flute) and *Harold Lester* (harpischord and piano) play works by J. S. Bach, C. P. E. Bach, Devienne, Silcher and Beethoven.

Britain reacts fast to talk of Swiss take-over

Mrs. Shirley Williams, Minister for Prices and Consumer Protection, made an unusual move to prevent four Swiss companies from pooling their shareholdings in B.S. & W. Whiteley, a Yorkshire paper and board company.

Mrs. Williams has referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for investigation into an alleged attempt by

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