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unadventurous and added stingingly that the British public had missed nothing having to wait for so long for a performance of Swiss contemporary music.

The *Neue Zurcher Zeitung* correspondent, a German musicologist and ex-conductor, promised to write a scathing article and complain in no uncertain terms over the fact that the concert (the first of two at the Cockpit Theatre) should have been staged with Swiss taxpayer's money. It was in fact organised in collaboration with Pro-Helvetia and the cultural section of the Swiss Embassy.

Altogether 48 people attended the first performance, and a good two-thirds of them seemed to have been invited. There would therefore be grounds to question the expenses incurred by Pro-Helvetia.

Most of the audience left the experimental hall with glazed eyes and air of incredulity on their faces. One should be fair, however, and accept that all the players, in particular Miss Jeanneret, played with utter dedication. What indeed matters is that the promoters of such music are sincere and not "con-artists".

At a reception given later by Mr. René Serex, Counsellor for Political Affairs at the Embassy and acting Cultural Attaché, following the departure of Mr. Franz Birrer, it was possible to gather from Mr. Gaudibert that he really *was* sincere. There was no reason not to believe him. After all, there is no money to be made in that type of music and one is more likely to be exposed to the jeers of a bewildered public. Mr. Gaudibert, who is in charge of musical activities at the Cultural Centre at Orleans, is *genuinely* looking for something but he admits smilingly that he doesn't quite know *where* his search is leading him. Still, the sincerity of its protagonists is the main criteria by which to gauge music of this kind.

This music is called "musique concrète" by the French and I understand that what was heard on 19th and 20th March at the Cockpit Theatre was in line with the works of Xenakis. Gaudibert was not the only modern Swiss composer represented at this two-day festival. Others included Klaus Huber, Ulrich Gasser, Heinz Marti, Roland Moser and two "classics", Arthur Honegger and Frank Martin.

P. M. B.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

The following readers will be celebrating birthdays soon:

Mr. Gottfried Keller, of Alte Landstrasse 43, 8700 Kuesnacht, will be 70 on 23rd April. He spent many years in Great Britain as a distinguished journalist, and he and Mrs. Keller retired to Switzerland a few years ago. We wish them many more years of happy retirement.

Mrs. W. Schedler will have her

birthday on 20th April, and Mr. E. Zwicky will be 78 on 22nd of the month. Mr. J. B. Brutsch will have his 86th birthday on 23rd April. Mr. F. Deleloye will be 88 on 26th and Mr. W. Zuber (Ventonor) 76 on 29th April. Mr. A. C. Boller (Saint-Prix) will have his 76th birthday on 8th May.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Bouverat will celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary on 23rd April, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Burri will have been married for 29 years on 2nd May.

Congratulations and best wishes all round!

OBITUARY

We have the sad duty of reporting the death of *Mrs. Emily Delaloye* at the age of 87. Mrs. Delaloye passed away on 11th February, at the home of her son, Marcel, where she and her husband, Mr. Fernand Delaloye, had been living for some months, eight days after returning from a stay in hospital. A memorial mass was celebrated at Our Lady Queen of the Apostles, at Heston, Isleworth, on Wednesday, 19th February. This was followed by a cremation service at Hanworth Cemetery. Mrs. Delaloye was born in England of Swiss parents. She will be greatly missed by her many friends in the colony and at the Schweizerbund. We should like to express our deepest sympathy to Mr. Fernand Delaloye, who only three years ago celebrated his diamond wedding. Mr. Delaloye now lives at 74 Cawdor Crescent, Hanwell, London W72DD. We should also like to extend our condolences to his children and grandchildren.

OTHER RECENT DEATHS

Mrs. Lucienne Raccourcier in Yverdon (Switzerland); Mr. & Mrs. Emile Geneux-Raccourcier in Chamblon (Switzerland); Mr. and Mrs. Michel Roch-Raccourcier in Geneva (Switzerland); Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Pfister-Raccourcier in Bassersdorf (Switzerland) and their sons, Kurt and Eric; Mrs. Norma Pocock in Hooley, Coulsdon, Surrey, are announcing, with love and deepest regret, the death of Mr. Walter H. Ziereisen on February 1st, 1975, at his home, 2 St. Margaret's Road, Hooley, Coulsdon, Surrey, at the age of 72. The cremation took place on Monday, February 10th, at the Croydon Crematorium. No flowers please, but donations to the R.S.P.C.A., c/o 7 Churchlane Ave., Hooley, Coulsdon, Surrey.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ANGLO-SWISS SOCIETY: Thursday, 24th April, Orchid Suite of the Dorchester Hotel: Annual General Meeting at 6.55 p.m. followed by a dinner at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. The Duke of Grafton will speak on the

European Architectural Heritage Year and his talk will be illustrated by slides.

SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY: Wednesday, 30th April, monthly meeting followed by an Auction. Wednesday, 28th May: A.G.M.

SWISS CLUB LIVERPOOL: Card Evening on first Thursday of the month, at Hotel Dresden, 866 Chester Road, Bromborough. 8.00 p.m.

CITY SWISS CLUB: Tuesday, 20th May, Card Evening. Friday, 20th June, Summer Dinner Dance.

FEDERATION OF SWISS SOCIETIES IN THE U.K.: Friday, 2nd May, at the Swiss Embassy.

ASSEMBLY OF THE SWISS ABROAD: 29th-31st August, in Basle, on the Swiss abroad as Ambassadors of Swiss Culture. For enquiries please apply to Secretariat of Swiss Abroad, 26 Alpenstrasse 3000 Berne.

ENGLISH AT THE SWISS CHURCH

The German-speaking Swiss Parish in London has introduced services in English once a month for the benefit of those who would like to join their Swiss friends or relatives in a service at the Swiss Church but do not understand our national languages. The purpose of introducing English is also to strengthen the links between the Swiss congregation and the parishes of London.

Swiss Churches

SERVICES EN FRANCAIS: à l'Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, tous les dimanches à 11h15 et 19h00.

PASTEUR: Michel Languillat, 8 Park View Road, London, N.3. Tele: 01-346 5281.

SWISS CATHOLIC MISSION: John Southworth Centre, 48 Great Peter Street, London, SW1P 2HA.

Sundays: Holy Mass at 6.30 p.m. with sermon in German, in the Club hall, ground floor.

(2nd floor at the same time, Protestant service in German).

RESIDENCE OF CHAPLAIN: Bossard, Swiss Catholic Mission, 48 Great Peter Street, (2nd floor), London SW1P 2HA. Telephone: 01-222 2895.

SERVICES IN GERMAN: at Eglise Suisse, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2, every Sunday at 9.45 a.m. Sunday school takes place on the first and the third Sunday in the month for children of all age groups. Children assemble in the church with their parents who attend the normal Service. Liturgical Service takes place every second Sunday in the month. Services also at John Southworth Centre, 48 Gt. Peter Street, S.W.1 every Sunday at 6.30 p.m.

MINISTERS: Pfr. U. Stefan, 1, Womersley Road, N.8. Tel: 01-340 9740.

The first English minister to speak at these monthly services was the Rev. David E. Lewis, Minister at Claremont Mission, Islington, who was to preach on 20th April. There being no visiting Minister available on Sunday 18th May, Past. Uli Stefan, Minister at the Swiss Church, will be taking over the Service in English. On Sunday 8th June, the Rev. John Bickersteth, in charge of the Ashburnham Fellowship Centre will preside over Services at the annual outing of the Swiss-German Parish to Ashburnham Place. The Rev. Donald Black, Minister at the American Church in London, is to preach on Sunday 6th July.

At their last meeting in March, the Parish Council of the French-speaking

Swiss Church felt it inadvisable to join this scheme. The main reason put forward was that it would yet further deplete the ranks of those who turn up on Sundays.

P.M.B.

DEPARTURE OF MR. FRITZ ADAMS

An exceptionally well attended reception at the Ambassador's Residence on 26th March was given by departing Consul-General, Fritz Adams, to say farewell to the Colony. This function followed closely on those already given in honour of Ambassador Juerg Iselin, ex-First Counsellor at the Embassy and Mr. Franz Birrer, former Cultural

Attaché. They have respectively left London for new assignments in Berne and Cologne. Mr. Adams has left for New Zealand, where he is now head of the Swiss Diplomatic Mission. The enormous attendance at his reception witnessed to the importance of his work and to his popularity in the Colony.

EMBASSY: CORRECT NAMES

Two names were mis-spelt in the list of Swiss Consular officials published in our last Special Issue. To put the record straight, Mr. Horace Jaques is Consul-General in Manchester and Mr. Max Wegmüller, Vice-Consul.

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GRAND PRIX DE BERNE FOR CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

More than 100 of the world's top clay pigeon marksmen will be competing in Berne from 2nd to 4th May for the 14th annual Grand Prix de Berne. The event is being organised by the Berne Shooting Club at its Bergfeld grounds at Berne-Hinterkappelen — reputed to be among the most beautiful in the world. Incidentally, non-members can also upon request use the club's grounds and facilities; the address is obtainable from the Berne City Tourist Office.

CITY TOURS — ON LAND AND WATER

The popular daily tours of Berne are again being held from 1st April to 31st October. The one-and-a-half-hour tour by comfortable coach takes the visitor from one attraction to another with a running commentary by one of the City's many multi-lingual guides. Tour commentaries are given in German, French, English, Italian and also — upon request — in Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, Swedish and Japanese.

Visitors can also make a round city trip with a difference — by boat. From 1st May to 15th September a modern, comfortable (and unsinkable!) boat makes the trip along the river Aar. It leaves Schwellenmätteli at 18.45, finishes up at the Kappelenbrücke and along the way passes under no less than 12 of Berne's bridges.

BERNE — THE IDEAL CENTRE FOR EXCURSIONS

In preparation for the forthcoming summer season, the Berne City Tourist Office has just published its new Excursion Programme. The attractive and richly-illustrated brochure lists a variety of very worthwhile excursions and day trips in all directions — the Bernese Oberland with its awe-inspiring snow-capped peaks and glaciers, the sunny Valais in the heart of the Alps, the

Lake Geneva region with its vineyards and villages, and the peaceful Emmental with its secluded footpaths.

BERNE GETS READY FOR GOLF

Preparations for the coming season are under way at Berne's golf course — the beautiful grounds of the Blumisberg Golf and Country Club. The course is situated amid wonderful woodland and offers a magnificent view of the

impressive alpine chain. The course is barely 11 miles from the city, lying to the west along the road to Fribourg. And it meets the highest technical requirements. It is an 18-hole course over 6,636 yards, with a restaurant, bar, showers, swimming pool and all the other facilities that go to make the glorious game of golf the relaxing pursuit it is. The Club and its many facilities are open to tourists and other non-members, but it is advisable to make prior reservation through the Berne City Tourist Office.

SPORTS NEWS

SWITZERLAND END A GOOD SKI SEASON

Switzerland can view the 1974-75 World Ski Cup with satisfaction. The ladies' team performed particularly well and placed three girls among the first ten. They are Marie-Therese Nadig (fourth), Bernadette Zurbriggen (sixth) and Lise-Marie Morerod (seventh). The Cup was won as expected by the Austrian Annemarie Moser-Proell. Hanni Wenzel (Liechtenstein) and Hanni Wenzel (West Germany) were second and third.

The best Swiss man was Bernard Russi (11th) followed by René Bethod (12th), Philippe Roux (14th) and Walter Tresch (15th). The Cup was won by the Italian Gustavo Theoni after a tight match with Swede Ingemar Stenmark and the Austrian Franz Klammer.

In a far less physical type of winter sport, Switzerland has caused a complete surprise by winning the World Curling Championships at Perth (Scotland). The team led by Otto Danieli beat the U.S., Canada, Sweden and Scotland in that order.

SWISS ECONOMY 1974 — IN RETROSPECT AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

Last year, Switzerland's economic activity tended to slow down. However, as can be read in the December report put out by the Swiss Credit Bank, the weakness of the home market, which was more marked than the previous year, was offset until the summer by the heavy demand from abroad. Thus, during the first half of 1974, industrial production again exceeded that of the corresponding period for the previous year by 4.5%. As the number of people employed in industry continued to drop slightly, it would seem that considerable progress has once again been made from the point of view of productivity. After the middle of the year, orders from abroad fell considerably however as a result of the general slowing up of economic activity in the world and a new de facto revaluation of the Swiss franc. In spite of the slackening of the situation, the rise in prices did not mark time. Overall, the real gross national product should have advanced about 1% to reach some 145 billion francs. The general change in the situation was particularly noticeable in several sectors of the textile industry, in particular cotton, as well as in other export-oriented branches of the consumer goods industry. But the equipment goods industry also suffered the repercussions; orders on the books of machinery and

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