Vacancies in Switzerland

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SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week:—

Miss Sylvia Renggli, Lucerne: "Benjamin Franklin." Miss Claire Drollinger, Frutigen: "Madame de Pompadour" (continuation). Miss Erika Stettler, Lucerne: "Fashion and Changes in General." Mr. John Staheli, St. Gall: "Music and Jazz." Mr. Erwin Kolly: "School Teaching." Miss Marguerite Fischer, Menziken: "Our Newspapers." Miss Elly Reber: "Should Women Drive Cars?" Miss K. Z'Graggen, Lucerne: "Life in a Convent for Young Children." Mr. Max Jungi: "British Constitution." Mr. H. Moser: "A Free Alsace." Miss Gertrud Gaugler, Olten: "Heinrich Pestalozzi." Mr. Emil Garoni, Bern: "My First Speech." Mr. Arnold Strasser, Zurich: "Henry Ford." Mr. Emil Kellenberger, Zurich: "Why Britain is a Commercial Country." Mr. Hans Büchli, Basle: "Napoleon's Defeat at Waterloo in 1815."

The debating classes dealt with the following subject:—

"Are you in favour of Fascism in Italy or not?" Proposer Mr. Emil Lutz, Rheineck; Opposer, Mr. Jean Jordi, Brugg.

A very interesting Lecture was given at the School on Friday evening, under the auspices of the Swiss Institute. President: Mr. H. Joss. Subject: "The World of H. G. Wells." The audience packed the big Lecture Room, and after the lecture light refreshments were served, questions were replied to, and the evening was concluded with songs, music and card parties.

FROM THE COURTS.

After four days' trial before Mr. Justice Acton and a Common Jury, the latter returned a verdict in favour of Mr. Carl Henry Willi, a Swiss, described as being engaged in the business of "plastic surgery for the removal of facial defects," of Baker Street, W.

He was summoned by a former lady assistant for alleged breach of contract to employ her and for injury alleged to have been caused to her by his negligence. Mr. Willi denied the alleged breach, or that there was any negligence in an operation which had been performed on plaintiff with her consent.

FROM KINSHASA TO BANGUI.*

By A. J. LUNGHI.

On January 5th of this year I set out from Kinshasa, the future capital of the Belgian Congo, on a trip to Bangui, the principal town in the Ubangi-Shari Province of French Equatorial Africa.

In order to catch the steamer which was to convey us to Bangui we had to cross over the river Congo to Brazzaville on the French side. All the time our 'boys' were loading our baggage on to the small ferry-boat it was pouring with rain, but when we were leaving the Belgian shore the weather had cleared up. It took us about a quarter of an hour to cross the river, and then we came up alongside the sternwheel steamer which was to take us to Bangui, the S.W. *Dolisie*. We had arrived a litttle late, and the other passengers were already having lunch on deck.

I left my personal 'boy' in charge of my baggage, telling him to keep a careful eye on the rascally-looking "capita" to whose tender mercies it had to be entrusted, and went on board.

If I had thought the journey was going to be a pleasure trip I was soon disillusioned. The boat has two decks, an upper one reserved for the European passengers, and the lower one reserved for negro passengers and the crew. There is accommodation for about twenty European passengers. My cabin, in common with the others, contained two extremely narrow and uncomfortable bunks, one over the other, and no other furniture whatsoever—not even a wash-stand. Fortunately there was no other passenger with me, and so I had room to make a rough-and-ready wash-stand out of one of my steel trunks and a medicine chest, on which I placed my enamel wash-basin. Under the lower bunk I had just room to stow my tin bath, which is an essential part of one's travelling equipment in this part of Africa.

Just as I was completing these arrangements my 'boy' Pierre came up and told me that everything was on board, so I left him to tidy up my cabin and went out to join the other passengers at lunch. The "dining-room" consisted of a clear space of deck at the stern end of the vessel, on which two long tables had been placed. I sat down on one of the rough wooden benches and called for "chop." At the table at which I had sat down I found five other diners. Opposite me sat Mr. L——, the gentleman whom I was accompanying on the trip to Bangui. On my right sat a young French planter and his wife, whilst on Mr. L——'s left hand was a typical old French Colonial in the employ of the Government as a telegraphist, and his wife who was coming out to Africa for the first time. Most of the other passengers consisted of French civil servants, there being only one other trader besides Mr. L—— and myself.

True to French tradition, it was not long before we passengers were deeply engaged in conversation. The young Planter had not long left a French Agricultural College, and had entered the Colonial Service because of the greater scope it afforded him than the Home Service, and he and his wife were very eager to glean all the information possible regarding the new type of life they had embarked upon. This young couple's somewhat naïve enquiries caused no little amusement to the old colonial opposite us, as did the suspicion with which they treated all the food served to them by the 'boys.' To me there seemed something just a little pathetic about this young inexperienced couple, suddenly transplanted from a small French town and sent up into the Interior before they had had time to acclimatise themselves. On arrival at Bangui they were proceeding to B——, about three weeks' journey by baleiniere (a small open boat constructed of metal sheets rivetted together). Still more pathetic was it to appear to me later, when at Bangui one evening I saw them leave in the twilight with about a dozen paddlers, embarking on the three weeks' journey, during which they would be out of touch with civilisation, with no protection from the blazing sun by day or the cold at night. There was something incongruous about the girl—straight from France—in a fresh white frock sitting there with her husband in the uncomfortable baleiniere with the dusky paddlers on either side. The last I saw of them was when they were shooting the rapids just above Bangui, though I could hear the song of the paddlers for some little time afterwards.

The telegraphist had many interesting experiences to recount—probably spiced with a little imagination—as he had done the journey from Brazzaville to Bangui by pirogue (a native dug-out canoe) many years previously, when he helped to lay the telegraph wires connecting these two towns. The journey by pirogue had taken him several months to accomplish, whereas a steamer does it in about twelve days.

Another interesting passenger was a lieutenant, atttached to a native infantry regiment in the Lake Chad district. In order to regain his regiment he was to proceed from Bangui by lorry, pirogue, camel and horse, according to the nature of the land through which he passed.

We left Brazzaville at two o'clock in the afternoon with two large barges towed alongside, and I must confess to a little misgiving when I saw the shower of sparks from the funnel of the steamer falling on to a barge carrying hundreds of cases of petrol. Like practically all other vessels in the Congo the *Dolisie* is a wood-burning boat, and at dusk the cascade of sparks from the funnel resembles a miniature firework display. On this barge was also the Ford car which we were taking with us, and a couple of negroes were not long in discovering what a comfortable shelter it made. They spread out their mats under the tarpaulin which covered the car, crept underneath, and made themselves at home.

The lower-deck accommodation for the negroes being insufficient they swarmed over the two barges, on one of which they made a fire on which to cook their food. At night those who were not fortunate enough to have found a place to spread their mats on the lower-deck made themselves as comfortable as possible on the barges—generally two or three negroes huddling close together for warmth on one mat. The more lucky ones had a tattered blanket to wrap round themselves, but all seemed equally happy—especially the youngsters, who chased one another round the edge of the barges all day long, or else spread a mat and played a gambling game with a couple of dice. The native seems to be a born gambler; whilst the youngsters gambled with dice on the deck of the barge, the elder men, presided over by the "capita," who is in charge of the native crew and the lower deck, clustered round a mat amidships and played cards.

As we had started late we were not able to reach the wood-post for which we were aiming, and had to tie up for the night in the bush. The boat steamed in as close as possible to the shore, and then two boys dived in, holding on to a couple of wire ropes, with which the boat is secured to the shore. Travelling is only possible by daylight, as at night there is nothing whatsoever to guide the boats on the river, and there is the ever-present danger of getting stuck on a sandbank.

(To be continued.)

*The above article has been sent by a young member of the Colony who recently took up a position in the Belgian Congo.

VACANCIES IN SWITZERLAND.

At the request of the Federal Labour Office (Eidgen. Arbeitsamt, 8, Bundesgasse, Bern) we are publishing, at regular intervals, lists of special vacancies in Switzerland for which suitable candidates are not available at home. Whilst it is intended to fill these vacancies, whenever possible, with Swiss from abroad, applications are considered from foreigners possessing the necessary qualifications. Offers, stating date of publication and reference number, should be addressed to the Swiss Consulate in whose district the applicant resides, and will then be forwarded to the proper quarter in Switzerland. We publish the list in the original text as received from the Labour Office.

L 272 **Kartonage - Zuschneider**; für Kartonagefabrik im Kanton Freiburg.

L 374 **Press - Vergolder,** fachtüchtiger, womöglich lediger Buchbinder und Schachtelmacher, spezialisiert in der Wiener- und der italienischen Presse- und Vergoldemethode; für Atelier von kunstgewerblichen Lederwaren im Süd-Tessin.

N 316 **Contremaître - outilleur/estampeur** ayant de la pratique et connaissant la fabrication de l'outillage moderne pr. la fabrication automobile, ainsi que l'estampage; pour fabrique d'autos dans la Suisse romande.

N 317 **Werkmeister für Glühlampendraht,** zur Herstellung von Wolfram- und Molybändraht für elektrische Glühlampen; für neu zu gründenden Betrieb im Kanton Aargau.

S 302 **Kinderpflegerin - Erzieherin** in Kinderkrankheiten bewanderte, womöglich im Kochen geübte, zur selbständigen Besorgung und zielbewussten Erziehung von 6-10 kleinen Kindern; Methodistenschwester mit Praxis in Kinderkrippen wird bevorzugt; für christliches Kinderheim im Kanton Appenzell.

S 367 **Kunstgewerbe - Zeichner,** beruflich schon längere Zeit in Beleuchtungskörperfabrik tätig und befähigt, selbständig Entwürfe von Beleuchtungskörpen und andern kunstgewerblichen Gegenständen der Metallbranch herzustellen; nach dem Kanton Aargau.

U 407 **Gesellschaftsdame,** mit Kenntnis der deutschen, französischen, italienischen, englischen und spanischen Sprache, musikalisch und tüchtig im Maschinenschreiben; für Herrschaft in Zürich.

E 491 **Schneiderei - Aufseher,** mindestens 25 jähriger, auf Zivil- und Uniform-Gross und Kleinstück, selbständig im Zuschneiden; für kantonale Anstalt in St. Gallen.

K 445 **Dessinateur artistique,** avec pratique, pour croquis, prospectus, affiches, etc.; pour imprimerie-lithographie à Genève.

H 468 **Betriebsleiter in Möbelfabrik,** befähigt, einem Betriebe von ca. 20 Arbeitern für die Fabrikation harthölzerner Qualitätsmöbel vorzustehen und den Holz- und Materialeinkauf, sowie das Kalkulationswesen selbständig zu besorgen; für Möbelfabrik im Kanton Aargau.

H 622 **Menuisier - chef d'atelier,** expérimenté dans tous travaux de menuiserie, sachant tracer et débiter et pouvant diriger un atelier de 20-25 ouvriers; pour entreprise à Genève.

H 646 **Möbel - Beizmeister,** im modernen Beiz-Verfahren selbständig und befähigt, einer Beiz- und Polierwerkstätte vorzustehen; für erstklassige Möbelfabrik und Bauschreinerei in der Nähe von Zürich.

J 624 **Vorarbeiter für Spinnereiabteilung,** selbständiger, charaktervoller Mann, befähigt, die Funktionen eines Schichtenführers zu übernehmen und dem Personal mit Takt und Geschick vorzustehen, sowie den Betrieb der Abteilung zu leiten; nach den Kanton Thurgau.

K 471 **Graveur - similiste,** qualifié pour moir et couleur; pour atelier à La Chaux-de-Fonds.

L 539 **Kartonnage - Zuschneider,** Spezialist auf Feinschachteln (Fantasie- und Bijouterieschachteln); für Kartonnage-Fabrik im Kanton Freiburg.

N 578 **Schreibmaschinenmechaniker,** Spezialist auf Underwood-Maschinen, mit mindestens 4 jähriger Praxis bei Unterwood-Vertretung; für Schreibmaschinen-Grosshandlung in Zürich.

N 599 **Sanitäts - Instrumentenmacher Geschäftsführer,** gelernter, junger in der Branche vollkommen bewanderter Instrumentenmacher, mit Praxis in Bureau und Verkauf und in der Lage, den Chef zu unterstützen; für Sanitätsgeschäft in St. Gallen.

P 651 **Geschäfts - Führer,** kaufmännisch gebildeter mit unbedingter Kenntnis der Nährmittel- und Karamellenfabrikation; für die Filiale einer Nährmittelfabrik im Kanton Basel-Land.

S 480 **Professeur d'anglais**; pour pensionnat près de Lausanne.

S 582 **Zahnarzt - Assistent,** diplomierter mit längerer Praxis; zu Zahnarzt in Zürich.

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