

Swiss Mercantile Society

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BRENNO BERTONI.

Brenno Bertoni, State Councillor, has entered into his 8th decade, and we are glad to give a few data of the life of this popular and esteemed statesman.

He was born on the 7th of August, 1860, in a little mountain village in the valley of Blenio. At Geneva, where he studied law, he founded the liberal paper *Riforma*, he also took an active part in the 1890 political movements of the canton Ticino, which government appointed him as a judge. During three periods he sat in the Grand Council, and from 1914-1920 he was a member of the National Council; since 1920 he has represented the canton of Ticino in the State Council.

Being the author of many books on Swiss law which are quoted as authority throughout Switzerland, he was for several years Professor at the Faculty of Law at the University in Berne. The University of Zurich bestowed on him the degree of "doctor honoris causa."

Our compatriots beyond the Gotthard might be indeed proud of having still in their midst a man who has through his intellectual achievements, straightforwardness and unflinching love of his native canton and his country, commanded the highest esteem in Swiss political and intellectual circles.

We gladly join in the great tribute which has been paid to our compatriot in the Press of our country and we are sending him our best wishes on his 70th birthday for "many happy returns of the day."

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Mrs. A. Graf, Davos: "Parting is such Sweet Sorrow." Miss M. Ruegger, Zurich: "The Development of Music." Mr. H. Paravicini, Wädenswil: "Partoficio." Mr. W. Steiner, Luino: "The Cotton Industry in Italy." Mr. W. Stoll, Zurich: "Fascism in Italy."

There was a large attendance at the lecture hall of the S.M.S. on Friday August 15. The Gold Coast, Mr. Kessie said, was not a country of barbarians nor cannibals, but a rising nation. Many of the sons of that country, which forms only a small part of the vast Continent of Africa, come to Europe and attend the Universities with a view to studying the advantages and disadvantages of Western Civilisation. Mr. Kessie spoke in highly favourable terms of the Swiss part played in furthering civilisation in those regions. There were great possibilities for the merchant and for the man with a will to work. The prosperity of the country can be gauged by the fact that the European traders who have settled there, are very jealous of their positions, and in order to so discourage other Whites from having a share in their business, they tell stories of the terrible hard life they have to lead and of the unhealthy climate, etc. Mr. Kessie denied this and stated that the climatic conditions were as healthy as in England or Northern Europe; furthermore there were good railways supplying the modern built towns with European and native goods. Those, however, who intend emigrating to Africa, should first make exact enquiries in the proper quarters and not go on the off-chance of finding a remunerative position.

On August 16, the most gloriously sunny day for many a long week, the students visited Box Hill and lunched in the beautiful Happy Valley, one of the loveliest spots in Surrey. Afterwards we ascended the steep White Hill—quite a stiff little climb even for our mountaineers!—and crossed Mickleham Downs to Box Hill Station. It was a long and delightful walk through some of the most romantic scenery of Surrey. There was only one drawback—the lack of a proper restaurant which was bitterly resented by some of our students.

Lecture by Prof. C. Schröter of Zurich.

We wish to direct the attention of our readers to the invitation of the Swiss Mercantile Society and Nouvelle Société Helvétique to a lecture to be given on Thursday, August 28, at 8 p.m., at the King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, on *Naturschutz in der Schweiz und der Schweiz. Nationalpark*.

M. M. Paschoud, President of the Swiss Mercantile Society will be in the Chair, and the Legation will be represented. The Choir of the Swiss Choral Society has agreed to assist with a cycle of Swiss songs. The evening promises to be an interesting and enjoyable one and we hope that many of our readers will be present with their friends. Admission will be free.

PERSONAL.

The numerous friends of Mr. and Mrs. Rosselet-Droux will sympathise with them in their bereavement, Mr. Rosselet's mother having died in Paris at the age of 73 after a long and patiently borne illness.

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ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.

Admissions.

Démotions.

Divers.

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard St. E.C. 2 (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 9595).

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Les cultes du soir reprendront le 7 septembre.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N. 6. (Téléphone: Archway 1798).—Heure de réception à l'église: Mercredi de 10.30—12 h.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C. 2
(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 24. August 1930.

11 Uhr vormittags: Gottesdienst.

TAUFEN.

Am 17. August 1930, der am 10. Juni geborene Camille Roger NICOLI Sohn des Willy, von Heriswil (Solothurn) und der Bertha geb. Klay von Bärswil (Bern); u. Betty Antonia INEICHEN, geb. am 4 Mai 1930, Tochter des Franz, von Reiden (Luzern) und der Dorothy Annie geb. Lewis von London.

Adresse d. Pfarrers, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W. 4.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Thursday, August 28th, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE and SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Lecture by Professor Dr. C. Schröter of Zurich with over 100 coloured lantern slides on "Naturschutz in der Schweiz und der Schweizerische National Park." at King George's Hall. Admission free.

Wednesday, September 3rd, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIÉTÉ DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W. 1.

Wednesday, September 10th, at 7 p.m.—SOCIÉTÉ DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Committee Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W. 1.

Wednesday, September 10th, at 7.30 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Monthly Meeting, followed by an Extraordinary General Meeting, at Swiss House.

SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION: Shooting Practice every Saturday and Sunday at the Range (see advert).

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