

# Soirée valaisanne

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vividly the rare beauty of those parts of Switzerland which are best known to the English, the Alpine scenery.

For that reason it was, indeed, a happy choice to bring Hodel's works to London. Not representing any of the modernistic strivings in the Swiss art of our days, Hodel is certainly one of the most popular painters in our home-country. There are 43 oil pictures on view, every one depicting some Alpine view with delightfully naturalistic effect.

Dr. E.

The following extract from the Foreword in the Catalogue of the Exhibition gives some details of the artist's life and work:

About half-way between Berne and Thun, in the picturesque Aar Valley, lies the neat little village of Münsingen, the birthplace of Ernst Hodel.

Born in 1881, son of a landscape and peasant-life painter, he received the first tuition from his father, until 1903, when he went to Munich and studied at the Academy under William van Diez and Henry von Zügel. Later he visited Paris, Germany and Italy. About 1908 the artist settled down at Lucerne, and it is this beautiful centre of Switzerland that Hodel has chosen for his final abode. This, in short, is our artist's life.

Hodel's style of painting is marvellously free of any school or classification, and can best be termed as of a natural "impressionism," but having more depth and plastic qualities than are usually found in this school. The vigorous and masculine brush strokes remind one of Hodler, and the colouring and the outline sometimes suggest Burri, but in the choice and picturesque arrangement of his subjects he is absolutely original.

Hodel is first and foremost a lover of Alpine scenery, and it is in these pictures that he gives his best, his true self. The vivid white of the snow, its round and plastic formation, the astonishing clearness and transparency of the mountain atmosphere with its deep blue, all these characteristics of Swiss Mountain landscape, so well known to the tourist and traveller, are represented in the artist's work. His favourite scenery is the Bernese Oberland, the Engadine, with Graubünden, and, of course, the environs of Lucerne, but his compositions are also chosen in the Valais and the Tessin, spots which are familiar to many mountaineers and ski-enthusiasts. His feeling for the vastness and majestic beauty of these snowclad giants guides Hodel's brush, and he treats them in a broad and vigorous manner, the only possible way to give an idea of the singular beauty of the Swiss Alps.

#### SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

At the last Committee meeting of the S.R.A. it was decided to re-open the Rifle Range at Hendon for the usual practices on Sunday, April 13th next, at 11 a.m.

The Committee extends to the Members of the S.R.A. and all Compatriots a most hearty welcome and hopes that the existing facilities will be freely taken advantage of by all who are interested in our national sport.

On the opening day several Certificates and Medals will be competed for, amongst others the "Donegal Badge." The winner of the badge will be entitled at every meeting at Bisley to compete free for this great trophy to which several valuable cash prizes are attached. The winner would in addition get a replica of the trophy in solid silver. The Committee looks forward to a record attendance on this date to give the Season a rousing send off.

#### SOIREE VALAISANNE.

On March 31st last, another very successful Soirée Valaisanne was held at 1, Gerrard Place. About 130 revellers sat down to a wonderful Dinner, for which, by the way, Mr. and Mrs. Rossier of the Union Helvetia, must be warmly congratulated, both as regards the quality of the meal, and the very efficient service.

Mr. Deppen of the Craven Hotel, this year's President of the Circle Valaisan, was in the Chair, ably supported by the out-going President, Dr. de Wolf. The latter proposed the toast of "The Ladies," after Mr. Nanzer, the Vice-President, had asked for a Silent Toast, as a token of respect to those Members who had died during the past year.

The great feature of the evening was the wonderful Entente which prevailed throughout. A delightful band, including three Accordion

players, played for dancing which continued until 2 o'clock in the morning, when the merry throng reluctantly disbanded.

No small thanks are due to the newly appointed Secretary, Mr. Columbin, whose arrangements for the Circle's enjoyment left nothing to be desired.

F.D.

#### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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

Mr. G. Rumm, Basle: "Swiss and English Mentality." Mr. R. Ochsenbein, Fribourg: "From St. John to Winnipeg." Mr. A. von Gruenigen, Berne: "Farewell Speech." Mr. J. Becker, Glarus: "Popular Voting." Mr. F. Wespi, Illnau: "Why England is a Commercial Country." Miss E. Leutenberger, Belp: "English Proverbs." Miss G. Loewenstein, Baden: "Impressions of Paris." Miss M. Sulliger, Zweisimmen: "The Nutritive Value of Milk." Miss R. Burger, Menziken: "Gymnastics." Mr. J. Niggli, Samaden: "The Bernina Railway." Mr. A. Menzi, Basel: "Capital Punishment." Mr. E. Thomann, Geneva: "Roumania." Mr. H. Winkler, Winterthur: "Office Life in France." Mr. F. Beeler, Lucerne: "Bull Fights in Spain." Mr. E. Zbinden, Berthoud: "Corsica."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Which plays the more important part in life—Fate or Free Will?" Fate: Mr. E. Thomann. Free Will: Mr. F. Fischer.

"That the Black and the White Races should have equal Rights." Proposer: Miss H. Mange. Opposer: Mr. P. Renz.

On Friday April 4th an interesting lecture was delivered by Mr. E. Sharp, a Day Class Teacher. His experiences in the "Far East" enhanced the Students.

#### "SCHWEIZ. MASKENBALL IN LONDON"

The credit belongs to our contemporary the "Schweiz. Illustrierte Zeitung" for reporting that the Annual Swiss Fancy Dress Ball was recently held in London. Unfortunately no details are given as we would like to attend this unique function when it occurs again next year, but the photograph of a charming compatriote is reproduced who is stated to have obtained the first prize. We do not begrudge the young lady the publicity but we would like to remind the editor of the "Schweiz. Illustr. Zeitung" that there are other—in our humble opinion more important—happenings in the Swiss Colony in London which, however, find no echo in the columns of this excellent publication.

#### ERRATA.

In our report of the Annual Dinner of the "Schweizerbund," (see our number for March 29th), Mr. P. Silvani was mentioned as being Secretary of the Club, whereas this office is held by Mr. H. Humbel, an error for which we beg to apologise.—Ed.

#### Home News—(Continued)

A lorry with tractor was passing through Ouchy when two small boys jumped on to the connecting bars between the two vehicles. When jumping down one of the boys was caught by the tractor whose wheels passed over his body causing fatal injuries. The other boy was unhurt.

A young man who called on a farmer at Prilly and complained of feeling cold was allowed to enter the house and was shown to the servants' quarters. Later on, when left alone, he was discovered searching in the various cupboards. The farmer tried to get hold of him, but was confronted by a loaded revolver and threatened. It was however possible to telephone to the police and a constable arrived on the scene accompanied with the famous police dog Wigger. The assailant, who had in his possession 20 cartridges and a small amount of money was disarmed and taken to the police station.

## SWISS BANK CORPORATION,

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Our service of

### TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES,

which are issued in denominations of £2, £5 and £10, should prove of great convenience to all who contemplate travelling abroad. The cheques can be obtained at our

City Office, 99, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

and at our

West End Office, 11c, Regent St., S.W.1,

which is situated next door to that of the Swiss Federal Railways.

## Swiss Rifle Association

Headquarters: 1, Gerrard Place, W.1  
Shooting Range: Opposite Welsh Harp, Hendon



OFFICIAL OPENING

SUNDAY, APRIL 13th.

Luncheons and Teas provided for.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

### Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE (1762),

(Langue française.)

Temporairement: 83, Endell Street, au 2e étage du bâtiment d'école.

Dimanche des Rameaux, 13 Avril 11 h.—M. Marcel Pradervand. 7 h.—M. le pasteur Christol, de Soho (par échange).

Jeu de Saint, 8 h, au Foyer—Culte de préparation.

Vendredi Saint, 18 Avril 11 h—Service Spécial avec Ste. Cène, M. R. Hoffmann-de Vismé.

Pâques—Cultes de Cène matin et soir.

SERVICE FUNEBRE.

Mme. Laura Ida AMEZ-DROZ, née Cartier, des Brenets, décédée le 29 Mars 1930 à l'âge de 74 ans—le 3 Avril 1930.

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

### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

(near General Post Office.)

Palmsonntag, den 13. April 1930. 11 Uhr morgens: Gottesdienst mit Feier des Heilig. Abendmahls und Sonntagsschule.

7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst und Feier des Heilig. Abendmahls.

Mittwoch, den 16. April. 6.30 abends: Passionswochen-gottesdienst in der Kirche.

Karfreitag, den 18. April 1930. 11 Uhr morgens: Gottesdienst und Feier des Heilig. Abendmahls.

Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen und Religions-unterricht sind erbeten an Pfr. C. Th. Hahn, 8, Chiswick Lane, W.4. Telephon: Chiswick 4156. Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche. Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Sunday, April 13th.—SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION: Official Opening of Range (see advert).

Wednesday, April 16th, at 7.45 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE: Monthly Meeting at Swiss House, Fitzroy Square, W.1. All members very cordially invited.

Tuesday, April 29th.—UNIONE TICINESE: Festa Familiare at Pagani's, Great Portland St., W.1.

Saturday, May 3rd at 2.30 and 4.30 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE: "A Travers La Suisse," and other Swiss Films, at St. George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.1. Admission Free.

Wednesday, May 7th, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIÉTÉ DE SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Saturday, May 24th.—SWISS SPORTS at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

Thursday, June 19th, at 7 p.m.—FÊTE SUISSE at Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1.

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NOUVELLE SOCIÉTÉ HELVÉTIQUE (LONDON GROUP.)

## A Travers La Suisse

You are cordially invited to come and see a further instalment of famous Swiss Films at

### KING GEORGE'S HALL

Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road (at back of Central Y.M.C.A. Building) on

Saturday, May 3rd at 2.30 and 4.30 p.m.

Our Minister, Mr. C. R. PARAVICINI has kindly consented to open the entertainment and address the audience. Swiss music will be provided by gramophone by Mr. NEWMAN.

YOU MUST NOT MISS

"A TRAVERS LA SUISSE"

All seats being free, none can be reserved.

ADMISSION FREE. BRING YOUR CHILDREN AND FRIENDS.