

Impressions

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BASLE.

Dr. Bernhard Jacggi, who in 1933 retired from the management of the "Verbandes schweizerischer Konsumvereine," has celebrated his 70th birthday.

A few years after joining the administration of the "VSK" he was elected, in 1902, a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Basle, of which he was a member until 1916. From 1911-1917 he belonged to the National Council, during which time he rendered great services in various parliamentary commissions. In 1929, the University of Basle bestowed on him the degree of *doctor honoris causa* for the eminent services which he rendered to our country.

IMPRESSIONS.

I have just returned from a very happy and interesting holiday in that so lovely country—Switzerland.

It was not my first visit, therefore I was able to take my eyes off the mountains, and look at the things around me. The first was the Exhibition at Zurich. I expect many people have described this in full, with more wealth of description than I shall hope to emulate, but to me it was just grand. I made many visits, and even now have not seen it as thoroughly as I would have liked, but time was against me. Its beauty—the clever way it has been adapted to the lake, without spoiling the lakeside—and the interesting pavilions are things that need a book of their own, and this is not within my scope.

What really impressed me beyond words were the "Umzugs." The first I saw—from the top of a taxi—was the Fribourg "Umzug." To be quite honest, I had not placed very much importance on these processions, having in mind several that I had seen in London: but on returning to Bellevue from visiting a friend, I found all the roads blocked and the procession in progress. My first feeling was one of annoyance, especially as I am rather small and couldn't see a thing. Then, a taxi driver, seeing my plight, offered me a view from the top of his taxi. That man! So absolutely indicative of the whole race—kind, generous, helpful to the foreigner and sympathetic. But unfortunately I had missed most of the affair, and saw only the end. This was sufficient though to make me determined to see the next one properly. Therefore, the next Saturday morning saw me fighting my way through the crowds to get a really good view of the Schaffhausen Umzug. Of the individual efforts I have no words. There were the girls in their lovely cantonal "Tracht," with happy smiling faces radiating good health and contented living. There were carts containing the wheat and field produce of this productive canton—the exhibits from the great watch-making industry—the amazing uses of aluminium, and hosts of others, not excluding the wine! Then came the soldiers, wearing costumes dating from the long years ago, to the light, hygienic uniform of the present day, and as they marched I thought how glad I was that I belonged to a friendly country. Pity those who fight against such men. As one they marched shoulder to shoulder, and I could imagine them dying for their homes and country in the same way. And mostly they were simple country folk, who plough their fields, and gather their harvests; who live from day to day simply and quietly, with yet time to spare to look at their beautiful country. How nobly they uphold the dignity of labour! And I, a townswoman born and bred, felt how much I had missed in the hurry and scurry of town life. These busy people, making haste slowly, how much more from Life do they get! And while thus dreaming, the procession wound slowly out of sight, leaving one, at least, thinking how fine a model to the whole world is Switzerland!

Eve Asch.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

The winter session opens on 5th September when we understand the committee expect most of the members to turn up for the first monthly meeting of the season. We were told by the Secretary in June that the committee were very gratified that their ambition of passing the 100 mark for a monthly meeting had been reached, and this was the sort of encouragement they needed to devote the summer months in preparing a most attractive winter season.

We were wondering whether the committee had found time during this long "holiday" to devise something new which would beat their previous record. We have endeavoured to find out by phoning the Secretary, and he tells us that he has a REAL surprise once more. He has just come back from Switzerland where he has managed to arrange with the authorities to lend the Club the famous film which helped the Zurich Exhibition to reach the unexpected success it has attained. He has also been promised, we hear, the loan of a film entitled "Our Switzerland," depicting some of the beauties of our Motherland. He cannot give us detailed information yet, as he has just arrived in London and has certain negotiations to complete to be sure to be ready by 5th September, but by the information we have received we know the matter

is in very good hands, and we feel sure that every member and friend of the City Swiss Club will make a point of reserving the evening of Tuesday, 5th September, to go to Paganì's.

The President has now recovered from his serious illness, and is feeling like a 25 year old, we are told by the Secretary.

No doubt all members will wish to meet each other and foregather, particularly in these days when all Swiss will want to be together, and they will bring all their good English friends to enjoy the treat in store.

May we point out that the attendance is sure to be very great, so book early—just phone Mr. Boehringer (Clerkenwell 2321/2).

Reserve your seats now for yourself and friends.

PERSONAL.

The many friends of Mr. & Mrs. A. Stauffer, of 11, Carlton Road, Putney, S.W.15, will sympathise with them in their bereavement, Mrs. Stauffer's father having died in London, at the age of 67.

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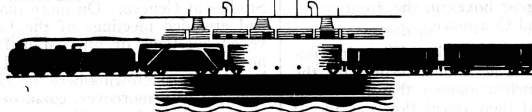
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