

# Swiss watchmaking industry

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### SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY LTD.

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

Mr. A. Forter, Bale: "An Election Meeting."  
Mr. J. Fluehmann, Berne: "My first few days in England."

Mr. W. Decosterd, "Interesting things about London."

Mr. P. Nutt, Grisons: "Impressions of the people in Milan, Paris and London."

Mr. C. Bonvin, Sion: "The Trip from Montreux to Interlaken."

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"That too much thought and energy is given to Sport."

Proposer: Mr. J. Duvoisin.

Opposer: Mr. W. Haenni.

"That the English are the most reserved people in Europe."

Proposer: Mr. W. Huerzeler.

Opposer: Mr. J. Duvoisin.

### A PROPOS D'UN BAZAR.

Voilà plus de trois ans qu'un groupe d'enfants de notre Colonie a travaillé à la préparation d'un nouveau bazar semblable à celui de 1927. Une fois par mois ils se sont réunis, à 40 ou 50, et ont confectionné de leurs doigts toutes sortes d'objets utiles.

Avec ceux que bon nombre d'amis plus âgés ont préparés de leur côté, le succès de l'entreprise est assuré, si de nombreux amateurs parmi nos compatriotes viennent Samedi 5 Décembre au Foyer, 15, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1, faire leurs emplettes. Ils y trouveront des comptoirs d'objets en cuir, de lainages, de pipes, de fleurs, de calendriers, etc., etc., le thé avec bricoles et spécialités suisses. Ils pourront s'y fournir à des prix des plus raisonnables de quantités de cadeaux de Noël et auront la satisfaction de penser qu'ils font une bonne oeuvre en même temps que que de bonnes affaires; le bénéfice sera en effet consacré aux finances de l'Eglise et des Missions, toutes gravement obérées.

### A DOLMETSCH RECITAL IN LONDON.

We wish to draw the attention of our readers to two *Viola da Gamba* and *Harpichord Recitals* by *Millicent and Rudolph Dolmetsch*, which will take place on Saturday, November 21st and 28th, at 3 p.m. at the Rudolf Steiner Hall, 33, Park Road (near Baker Street Station). Tickets obtainable from Mrs. R. Dolmetsch, Brookfield Cottage, Haslemere, Surrey, and from the Hall on afternoons of Recitals. Reserved 10/6 and 6/-. Unreserved 3/6 including Tax.

### SWISS WATCHMAKING INDUSTRY.

Owing to the fact that sales direct to wholesalers in Great Britain are generally confirmed in Swiss francs, and that, although a number of English agents of Swiss manufacturers have been in the habit of quoting in sterling, other agents in London appear to have made a practice of insisting upon an agreed fixed rate of exchange of 25f. Swiss to the pound sterling for several years past, the situation in the Swiss watchmaking industry does not appear to be giving rise to the same anxiety as in the textile trades. On the other hand, it is estimated that the net loss on the outstanding credits in England brought about by the decline in the pound amounts to approximately 8,000,000f.

Arrangements between Swiss manufacturers and their British customers have, however, already taken place, whereby the latter have consented to share the loss by converting the invoiced amounts at a higher rate than the market rate, or else by buying Swiss currency to meet their obligations. Further negotiations are proceeding in an amicable manner, and future prospects are viewed without undue pessimism, although a decline in the sale of Swiss watches on the English market may result from the higher retail prices which will have to be charged under the agreements between manufacturers and distributors. At the same time, as the stocks of the cheaper kinds of watches, which form the major portion of Swiss exports to Great Britain, are not very large, it is anticipated that demand will revive in a few months' time.

Great Britain is Switzerland's chief customer for watches, and while exports to other countries have diminished during the past few years, those to England have increased steadily during the last five years, rising from 20,300,000f. in 1926 to 34,600,000f. in 1930. These consist mainly of complete watches, while exports to the United States, Germany, and Japan are composed principally of finished and unfinished movements.

Swiss makers of gold cases are more liable to suffer from the depreciation in sterling, as they will have to face the danger of increased competition on the part of local manufacturers in Great Britain, who with the help of a favourable rate of exchange may be able to increase their output and capture the home market. Should this prove to be the case, one consequence would be an increase in Swiss exports of unfinished movements to Great Britain.

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### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, November 18th, at 7.45 a.m.—Nouvelle Société Helvétique—Monthly Meeting, followed by a causerie by Monsieur Louis H. Micheli, First Secretary of Swiss Legation, on "Switzerland and the World's Crisis." Members and friends very cordially invited.

Friday, November 20th—City Swiss Club—Annual Banquet and Ball, at May Fair Hotel, Berkely Square, W.1.

Saturday, November 21st, at 3 p.m.—Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord Recital by Millicent and Rudolph Dolmetsch, at Rudolf Steiner Hall, 33, Park Road (near Baker Street Station).

Saturday, November 28th, at 3 p.m.—Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord Recital by Millicent and Rudolph Dolmetsch, at Rudolf Steiner Hall, 33, Park Road (near Baker Street Station).

Saturday, December 5th—3rd Grand Swiss Bazaar at 15, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.1.—Wide range of suitable Xmas presents.

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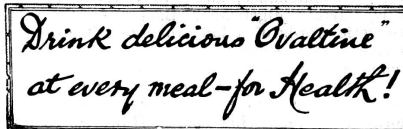
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Dimanche 15 Nov. 11h.—M. M. Pradervand.  
6.30h.—M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

### BAPTEME.

Marguerite Hélène Gladys Jaquenod, née le 14 Nov. 1928 et Georgette Jeanne Rose Jaquenod, née le 20 Avril 1931, filles de Robert et de Nellie Rose née Solomon, d'Ecublens (Vaud) le 8 Nov. 1931.

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 15. Nov. 1931

11h Uhr vorm Gottesdienst, The Right. Rev. Herbert Bury D.D., Assistant Bishop of London.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst.  
8 Uhr, Chorprobe.

Anfragen wegen Religions-bezw. Confirmanden-unterricht und Amtshandlungen sind erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde. C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W.4 (Tel: Chiswick 4156).