Conférence Robert de Traz

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an effective public opinion, which almost invariably overrides interested groups. In the English city no such effective general opinion can be relied on.

The Swiss have two great democratizing forces in the schools and the military service system. With insignificant exceptions, all go to the same schools on terms of absolute social equality, and military service is universally compulsory on rich and poor, who are treated exactly alike. One striking proof of the responsibility of the whole of the citizens of Switzerland is that every man at the age of twenty is given a rifle, which he keeps for the rest of his life in his own house. Never has possession of a military rifle been abused in Swiss history. What would any dictator think of a suggestion that all his citizens without exception should have their own rifles?

To quote Salvador de Madariaga: "In the midst of a Europe in which the conflicting characters and ambitions of Germans, French and Italians are a constant source of irritation and war-mongery, Switzerland has become a haven of peace composed precisely of Germans, Frenchmen and Italians who have decided to build up a commonwealth across their differences, as if to show the world that it can be done and how. Switzerland is the prototype of our Western civilization and the masterpiece thereof."

The fact that the striking success of Swiss democracy depends so much on local self-government cannot fail to make one anxious about the state of affairs in England. Our village democracies may have been wonderful for a thousand years; to-day they are unsatisfactory, and the cities are worse; nor is it easy to find a remedy. The scale, pace and complexity of affairs in an English city are as different as anything that can be imagined from the quiet stability of Blatten. The weakening of responsible local government in England may be one of the greatest dangers to our democracy. Can we revive it? Even though we can hardly expect to make any close copy of Swiss methods, surely their outstanding success makes it worth while to study what they are doing far more closely than we have done hitherto.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Members were so delighted with the last monthly meeting that they are already enquiring what the attraction is going to be at the next meeting of the City Swiss Club.

We gather from our Secretary that he has arranged a musical entertainment which he hopes to turn into a typical Swiss evening.

In view of the rush there was for seats at the last meeting, the Committee would be grateful if members would kindly signify in good time their intention to attend, stating the number of guests they are bringing, so that they may sit down in comfort on arriving.

There is a possibility also that a very important guest of honour may attend the meeting who, Mr. Bingguely has no doubt, will delight all the members. But this is a little premature ... we have been told to keep the secret! So that is enough for to-day! Just all reserve Tuesday, 7th February for a real bumper evening, and let us know in good time that you are coming.

Nothing will give more pleasure to the Committee and, we are sure, to all good members, than to see the numbers at the meetings increasing every time, and we gather from the Secretary that he won't be satisfied until such time as he gets an average attendance of a hundred members. Now is the time for all good members to come forward and support the Club!

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CONFERENCE ROBERT DE TRAZ

sous les auspices de

L'Institut Français du Royaume-Uni
Hyde Park Hotel, mardi 31 courant.

La conférence annoncée dans nos colonnes de la semaine dernière aura donc lieu mardi prochain à 9h. précises et aura pour titre "Les Ecrivains Etrangers de Langue Française."

Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, Ministre de Suisse, sera Président honoraire de cette soirée à laquelle les membres de notre colonie sont cordialement invités par l'Institut Français.

Monsieur Bingguely nous informe qu'il a recu un nombre imposant de demandes de billets.

Grace à l'amabilité de l'Institut Français nous sommes heureux d'apprendre à nos lecteurs que quelques places pourraient encore être offertes gracieusement si les intéressés veulent bien s'adresser à Mr. Bingguely (Museum 6336) Secrétaire du City Swiss Club, avant Lundi à midi.

Voici une occasion unique de passer une charmante soirée intéressante et instructive.

Avis aux amateurs.

SWISS ARTISTES "ON THE AIR."

On January 29th, at 6.35 p.m. (London Regional), and January 31st at 9.45 p.m. (National) our compatriote, Mme. Sophie Wyss, will be heard on the B.B.C. programme, together with her sister Mme. Emilie Perret-Wyss.

They are singing all the Brahms Duets. The selection of our two Swiss artistes for this important recital is, of course, a very flattering honour and mark of recognition.

* * *

The Adolph Hallis Chamber Concerts mentioned in a recent issue of the Swiss Observer, in which Mme. Sophie Wyss will take a prominent part, is taking place on February 14th (not the 10th as stated) at 8.30 p.m. at the Aeolian Hall.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Mardi 7 Février au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Great Portland Street, W.1. et sera précédée d'un souper à 7h. 15 précises (prix 5/-).

ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.	Démissions.
Admissions.	Divers.

Pour faciliter les arrangements, les participants sont priés de bien vouloir s'inscrire au plus tôt auprès de Monsieur P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 2321/2).

Le Comité.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, January 31st, at 9 p.m. sharp. Conférence Robert de Traz, sous les auspices de l'Institut Français, Hyde Park Hotel, W.

Wednesday, February 1st, at 7.30 p.m. — Société de Secours Mutuels — Monthly Meeting — at 74, Charlotte Street, W.

Tuesday, February 7th — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting (preceded by Dinner at 7 p.m. sharp) followed by a Swiss musical evening, at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.

Wednesday, February 15th, at 8 o'clock — Swiss Mercantile Society — Annual General Meeting — at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.

Wednesday, February 22nd — Unione Ticinese — Annual Banquet and Ball, at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.

Saturday, February 25th — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Film Show — at Kingsway Hall.

Saturday, March 11th, at 7 o'clock — City Swiss Club — Cinderella Dance — at the Mayfair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W.1.

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Dimanche 29 janvier 1939:

11h. Culte M. M. Pradervand.

11h. Ecole du dimanche.

6h.30. Culte M. M. Pradervand.

7h.30. Répétition du Choeur.

Vendredi 3 février, dès 7h.30 p.m., au *Foyer Suisse*, 15, Bedford Way, W.C.1, réunion mensuelle de la "*Jeunesse de l'Eglise Suisse.*"

Dimanche 5 février, à 11h. Culte Missionnaire, par M. le missionnaire Burger, du Zambèze (Mission de Paris).

Pour l'instruction religieuse et les actes pastoraux, prière de s'adresser au pasteur, M. M. Pradervand, 65, Mount View Road, N.4. (Téléphone Mountview 5003) Heure de réception à l'église le mercredi de 11-12h.30.

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

Sonntag, den 29. Januar:

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst, Pfr. E. Bommeli

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst, Pfr. E. Bommeli.

TRAUUNG.

Am. 14. Januar wurden in der Kirche die folgenden Glieder unserer Gemeinde getraut: Gustave Jenne von Basel und Helene Simmen von St. Moritz.

Mittwoch Nachmittag: Schwyzerchränzli von 2.30 an, 15, Bedford Way (Zwanglose Zusammenkunft der jungen Schweizerinnen im Foyer Suisse, wozu alle Schweizerinnen freundlich eingeladen sind).

Jeden Donnerstag abend 7 Uhr Versammlung Christlicher Verein junger Männer, 28-29, Bedford Place. W. Jedermann ist freundlich eingeladen.

Sprechstunden des Gemeindepfarrer's: Jeden Dienstag von 12-2 Uhr in der Kirche. Jeden Mittwoch von 5-6 Uhr im Foyer Suisse, 15, Bedford Way, W.C.1.

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