

Swiss concerts and ourselves

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SWISS CONCERTS AND OURSELVES.

On October 30th a concert devoted entirely to the compositions of a well-known Swiss composer, Paul Mathey, will be given at the Wigmore Hall by the Swiss pianist, Harry Datyner and two French musicians, Charles Cyrulnik, violin, and Lucien Lavaillotte, flute, details of which concert are advertised in this issue.

Other Swiss artists of a high standing, such as the violinist, André de Ribaupierre, have written to enquire what chances for a well supported concert there might be in London.

The experiences made by other Swiss artists and composers in London has mostly been deplorable. Only in a few instances, where very special efforts were made in the Colony, was there a more or less satisfactory attendance of members of the Colony.

The problem was raised at a recent Presidents' Meeting. It was generally agreed that the Colony should not fail to support such concerts as much as possible as a matter of Swiss cultural propaganda in this country. A loose understanding was arrived at that the attention of members of the various societies should be drawn to impending concerts advertised in the Swiss Observer.

The Swiss Observer has kindly offered advertising space or circulation of leaflets of such concerts with the paper when sent out, at a privileged fee, for which the N.S.H. is making itself responsible in the first place.

But only individual members of the Colony with a cultural interest can ensure the desired support for such concerts by attending them personally whenever they can and inducing Swiss or English friends to do likewise. This is the main appeal this notice is meant to make.

It is thought possible, however, that the support from our Colony could be organised a little more positively.

1. It might be useful to compile a list of those interested to receive individual notice of concerts, stating what number of tickets they would care to distribute.

2. Some of us might care to offer visiting Swiss artists the hospitality of their homes so that they might be spared the heavy hotel expenses during their stay in London. The privilege of such hospitality would surely

be mutual. Thus offers are invited to accommodate Mr. Mathey, the composer, Mr. Datyner, pianist, on October 28th-31st, and Mr. de Ribaupierre and Mme Blaucart on November 9th-12th.

The Hon Secretary of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, 18, Montagu Place, W.1, would be delighted to hear from those interested in one or the other or both these suggestions. With quite modest efforts along these lines much could be achieved for Swiss culture.

Helveticus.

Paul Mathey—Concert.

We draw the attention of our readers to the forthcoming concert of works by Paul Mathey, advertised in this issue. There will be played several piano solos, a sonata for violin and piano, a sonata for flute and piano and a trio. Out of many very appreciative criticisms in the French and Swiss press, we quote the *Spectateur*, Paris (1948): "Sans utiliser des moyens d'expression grandiloquents le compositeur et organiste suisse P. Mathey possède des dons réels et . . . divers qui sont attachants et ses œuvres n'engendrent jamais la monotonie."

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Our next issue will be published on Friday, October 29th, 1948.

We take the opportunity of thanking the following subscribers for their kind and helpful donations over and above their subscriptions: E. Forster, W. Flory, E. A. Huni, John Frei, J. Graf, A. Spagnapani, A. J. Wymann, E. Hofstetter, L. Chapuis, W. Allenspach.

CORRECTION.

In the report about the "Second Presidents Meeting" which appeared in our last issue, it should be noted, that Mr. F. G. Sommer, President of the Swiss Male Choir, has been elected Vice-President and Treasurer and not Mr. A. L. Gandon, as stated.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

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(To be continued.)

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