

Editor's postbag

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CONCERT NEWS.

We direct the attention of our readers to a 'cello recital by Henri Honegger, a compatriot of ours to be given on Friday, April 2nd, 195, at Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W.1.

Henri Honegger was born in Geneva where he began his studies at the Conservatory. He then went to Leipzig to study with Julius Klengel, after which he studied with Diran Alexaman at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris, and later with Emanuel Feuermann.

At the Edinburgh Festival in 1949 he played his first performance in Great Britain of the "Sonata da Camera" for cello and orchestra by Bohuslav Martinu, under the direction of E. Ansermet. He has appeared as soloist with orchestra in the principal cities of Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, France and Germany. He has also played the six unaccompanied Bach suites in Paris, London, Berlin, Milan, The Hague, Amsterdam, Geneva, Zurich and New York.

Ernest Ansermet, the eminent Swiss conductor wrote: "Henri Honegger is a musician whose playing of the 'cello is so natural that he seems to ignore all difficult technicalities. But beyond this there is the finest and most penetrating musical feeling which gives to the interpretation of this artist a musical quality of a rare purity".

We hope that many of our readers will attend this recital of a very talented musician and a serious artist.

EDITOR'S POSTBAG.

London, 27th February, 1954.

The Editor,
Swiss Observer,
23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

Dear Sir,

One of your regular contributors recently voiced an opinion, quite rightly I think, that readers of the "Swiss Observer" do not take enough interest in your Paper.

I notice that in recent numbers quite a good deal of space has been devoted to the problem of granting the vote to Swiss women, and a lady of British origin (but not of ancestry) also thinks it necessary to voice her feeling in this matter.

A less interesting subject I could hardly imagine, nor can I understand why anybody in this country should worry about the vote for Swiss women, for, according to my own personal observation, the average and normal Swiss woman does not care whether she has the vote or not. Why should any sensible woman, assuming that she is either happily married, or happy in her work, with plenty of other interests in life, even give a thought to it? Having lived in this country since I was 19 years of age, I have been disfranchised all my life, but am I any the worse for it, either physically, spiritually or financially? I think not.

I understand that thousands of young men in this country can neither read nor write, and yet they have the vote. Is this not already bad enough, without that others, who are neither fit to vote nor interested in it, are added to the electorate? Is Britain any better governed because British women have the vote?

I notice that the lady seems to be worried because men in Switzerland are alleged to hold complete control over women?

To me, it seems, that this agitation for votes for women is typical of our troubled times, just as modern music, art etc.

Yours faithfully,
W. Stettbacher,

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