

Les vieux guides

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LES VIEUX GUIDES.

Quarante ou cinquante ans de leur rude carrière et ces hommes, qui jadis, luttèrent en souriant et mâtaient les sommets les plus farouches, ces hommes connaissent maintenant la vie tranquille et silencieuse des êtres passifs. Ces hommes-là se laissent vivre après avoir vécu la plus ardente, la plus impressionnante des existences. Ils ont droit à cette quiétude à l'heure grise du déclin, à l'heure où l'on attend, comme au long des jours, lorsque le crépuscule s'incline vers le soir . . .

On peut les voir devant leur chalet, assis au bon soleil, fumant des pipes pour passer le temps et parlant avec mansuétude du lointain antan. Ils aiment la vie, ils aiment le mouvement et la jeunesse et la vaillance de ceux qui partent quotidiennement pour les cimes, les émeuvent doucement. Ils aiment à se mêler aux guides et discuter avec eux des escalades. Ils participent ainsi de la vie des montagnes et ce sentiment-là leur est aussi nécessaire pour vivre que la lumière et le soleil.

Chas. Gos.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor "The Swiss Observer."

Sir,—I notice in the last issue of the "S.O." that the Governments of the Cantons of Vaud and Uri have put a ban upon Sunday motor traffic between the hours of 1.30 and 6.30 p.m. It is obvious that the "Machthaber" of the two cantons in question are opposed to making concessions to the "Zeitgeist," but it would be interesting to know on what grounds these astounding edicts were issued. Was it from feelings of practical consideration for the preservation of the cantonal roads or due to commiseration with the hapless pedestrian, who, as often as not, is compelled—with many curses under bated breath!—to swallow the prodigious dust which usually rises in the wake of a passing motor-car on macadamized roads, or perhaps the "löbl. Regierungen" concerned imagine that they can most effectively ban this noxious traffic by forbidding it on Sunday afternoons, when, in the very nature of things, it is most pronounced?

Whatever the reason, it is difficult to understand the mentality of those who are responsible for this interdict, which is as futile a measure as it was ill-conceived. It will certainly neither hinder nor retard motor traffic, which will ever become more intense until replaced by some still more advanced form of locomotion, and can only result in doing our country, the tourist's land par excellence, whose very beauty attracts and invites motor tours, a great deal of harm, whilst incidentally rendering us the laughing stock of Europe. It is high time that the whole question affecting motor traffic in Switzerland came within the prerogative of the Federal Government at Berne, so as to enable the latter to deal with it in the spirit of the times we live in.

Thanking you for allowing me space for the foregoing,

I am yours faithfully,

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CITY SWISS CLUB.

Le City Swiss Club a eu sa première assemblée mensuelle de l'année à Kingston le Mardi 9 courant. Plus de cinquante participants contribuèrent au succès de cette réunion.

On passa rapidement après le dîner à la partie officielle, afin de permettre aux nombreuses dames présentes et à leurs cavaliers de danser aux sons de l'orchestre du restaurant Nuthall. Trois nouveaux candidats furent admis sans avoir à enregistrer aucune démission.

Il est à souhaiter que le succès évident de cette soirée contribue à amener une participation toujours plus nombreuse à ces dîners pour réaliser l'adage anglais bien connu 'The more the merrier.'

Les membres feront donc bien de réserver dès maintenant la date du 13 Juin.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

We learn that Mr. Emile Frey, the well-known pianist from Zurich, is again present in London and will give two evening concerts at the Steinway Hall, the first on Tuesday, May 16th, and the second on Tuesday, May 23rd.

We regret to record the death of Mr. A. Leemann, who succumbed to double pneumonia on Friday, the 6th instant, aged 39. His remains have been conveyed to Zurich, where they will be interred to-day (Saturday)

Mr. Leemann was born at Vevey and came to London over 20 years ago to join the staff of the Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., where he rose to the position of export manager. His demise is felt as a great loss to the Company, by whom he was highly esteemed for his faithful and capable services.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES.

BONDS.		May 1st	May 9th
Swiss Confederation 3% 1903	...	76.25%	77.95%
Swiss Confederation 9th Mob. Loan 5%	...	101.95%	102.12%
Federal Railways A—K 3½%	...	77.67%	80.23%
Canton Basle-Stadt 5½% 1921	...	102.87%	104.12%
Canton Fribourg 3% 1892...	...	70.20%	73.00%
Zurich (Stadt) 4% 1909	...	100.50%	100.60%
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Crédit Suisse...	...	572 frs.	598 frs.
Union de Banques Suisses...	...	496 frs.	516 frs.
Swiss Bank Corporation	...	548 frs.	567 frs.
Fabrique Chimique ci-dev. Sandoz	...	1350 frs.	1365 frs.
C. F. Bally S.A.	...	624 frs.	661 frs.
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