

# Aux parents

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To the Editor of the Swiss Observer.

Dear Sir,

After reading Kyburg's last article, I am more than ever filled with admiration at his high ideals, but I am also more than ever convinced that the opinion which I expressed in the first sentence of my letter is correct, that political discussions should be avoided in the columns of the Swiss Observer.

Kyburg asks why I used the word 'cinematographic' I should have thought that the reason was obvious. It is the only word which describes graphically his little weakness. Has he never been to a Cinema and seen an announcement of a new film described as "thrilling" and the word getting bigger and bigger until it dominates and fills the entire picture?

I am glad that Kyburg has been more sparing in his use of capitals in his last article, but I noticed that he used them in speaking of the Swiss and of the Deity. No doubt the association may be gratifying to the national pride but it is hardly in keeping with the humility taught in that Sermon on the Mount to which he so eloquently refers.

I do not think that he has quite followed the trend of my remarks. I never suggested that any of the regimes which he quotes were suitable or desirable either in Switzerland or in England, but I endeavoured to indicate that, if ever a reformation is needed in either of these countries, the upheaval would take place in a form suited to the particular characteristics of the nation concerned.

The meaning of his remarks about the Cathedrals is obvious, but I am afraid that once again he has mixed up his dates, as the corruption to which he refers so delicately, did not take place for some two or three centuries after the period during which the greatest cathedrals were built.

He has also confused the fall of Rome with the fall of the Roman Empire. Rome fell many times, but the actual end of the Roman Empire had comparatively little direct effect on the conditions of life, because the disintegration of the Roman system had been going on for centuries before the event itself and continued for a long period afterwards, so that there is no comparison between it and the end of some other regimes.

I have always been under the impression that the so-called "dark ages" referred to a definite period in history, but if we are now to include the time of the Pharaohs, it is another matter.

I do not think that the question as to whether the ordinary man and woman are living under better conditions now is to be disposed of quite so easily. The difficulty is that when we try to imagine the conditions of life in, let us say, the twelfth century, we do so with our twentieth century minds and in order to obtain a real view, we should be able to judge twelfth century conditions with a twelfth century mind, and this is an impossibility.

I often wonder also if the despotism of the individual, to which Kyburg apparently attaches so much importance, has not been replaced by the despotism of machinery.

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.

Yours faithfully,

Regular Reader.

#### AUX PARENTS.

Les parents qui désirent faire réciter de petites pièces de vers à leur jeunes enfants à l'occasion des fêtes de Noël seront heureux de connaître la petite brochure intitulée: "Pour la Jeunesse, — Monologues, Dialogues et Saynètes — Pour Jours de Fêtes et Occasions." Parue cette année même et qui a été envoyée à notre Rédaction par son auteur, Alice Perrinquet de Fleurier (Neuchâtel).

En une trentaine de pages cette brochure contient 14 pièces de genre différent comme le titre l'indique, 3 sont avec musique, (une seule voix).

Ces morceaux ont une certaine fraîcheur et cette naïveté qui convient aux enfants de 6 à 12 ans et fait sourire les adultes. Certains mots pas très français mais bien de "chez nous" ajouteront peut être au charme de les entendre dire par de petits Suisses de Londres.

S'adresser pour les commandes à M. Henri Billon — 45, Kenwyn Drive, Crickelwood, N.W.2. (le prix de la brochure est de 1fr.50.)

#### PERSONAL.

The many friends of M. S. Dreyfuss, of 8, Fernecroft Avenue, Hampstead, N.W.3, will be pleased to hear of the arrival of a son and heir; and we are glad to report that both mother and child are doing well. We extend to them our heartiest congratulations.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. R. Chappuis, of 31, Crockerton Road, Upper Tooting, S.W.17, on the advent of a further pledge of their mutual affection, a son, Roland, having been born on Sunday, October 29th.

#### Admission des deux Communautés de l'Eglise Suisse de Londres dans la Fédération des Eglises Protestantes de la Suisse.

Dans le Rapport annuel du Conseil de la Fédération des Eglises Protestantes de la Suisse, qui vient de paraître, nous lisons la note suivante:

"Demande d'admission des Communautés suisses de Londres. — En l'année 1762 s'est fondée à Londres une Eglise suisse de langue française, de laquelle est issue plus tard une Eglise de langue allemande. L'une et l'autre présentent à l'Assemblée leur demande d'admission au sein de la Fédération. M. le professeur Keller, de même que les représentants de l'Eglise suisse de Londres, présents à la séance: M. le Dr. Brunner et M. Liechti, dépeignent l'activité de cette double communauté, qui est utile et bienfaisante à nombre de nos compatriotes en voyage et parfois aussi dans le besoin. Ces deux paroisses, sur la recommandation du Conseil, sont reçues par un vote unanime dans la Fédération."

Nous sommes heureux de voir nos deux communautés s'affilier à la Fédération des Eglises de la Patrie. Ce nouveau lien qui se forme est un signe de plus de l'unité d'esprit qui anime toutes les Eglises qui travaillent au bien spirituel et moral de nos compatriotes, en Suisse ou à l'étranger.

#### CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

#### L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu le 7 NOVEMBRE au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Great Portland Street, W.1. et sera précédée d'un souper à 7 heures (prix 5/-).

#### ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal. Admissions. Démissions. Divers. Banquet Annuel

Pour faciliter les arrangements, le Comité recommande aux participants de s'annoncer au plus tôt à M. P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard St. E.C.2 (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 9595).

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NOTICE OF REMOVAL. Miss E. L. Brassey, S.R.N., M.J.S.Ch., Chiropodist is now practising, at Arcade House, 27, Old Bond Street, W.1. (Tel: Regent 7597).

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, November 4th, at 2 and 4 o'clock — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Film Show — "Berninabahn" — with commentary by Director A. Zimmermann, Poschiavo, at King George's Hall, Caroline Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1.

Tuesday, November 7th at 8 o'clock — City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting, preceded by Dinner at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W. (see advert.).

Wednesday, November 8th, at 8 o'clock — Monthly Meeting — Swiss Mercantile Society, Ltd. (preceded by dinner) a lecture will be given by Alderman, A. Emil Davies, L.C.C., on "Foreign Investments, its advantages and disadvantages," at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Wednesday, November 15th, at 7.45 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting, to be followed at about 8.15 by a causerie by P. Savoie, Esq. on "How to appreciate wood carving" at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Friday, November 17th, from 8.30 p.m. to 2 a.m. — Union Helvetia — Old Friends Evening — Dinner and Dance. (Ticket 5/- incl.).

Saturday, November 18th, at 6.30 p.m. — Swiss Y.M.C.A. — Social Lantern Lecture on "Scandinavia" by an official of the Swedish Railways — at 15, Upper Bedford Place, Russell Square, W.C.1. (Everybody cordially invited).

Friday, November 24th — City Swiss Club — Annual Banquet and Ball at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W.1.

#### SCHWEIZERBUND (Swiss Club)

74, CHARLOTTE STREET, W.1.

Mr. Charles and Mrs. Alvina Rossier having been engaged as our Steward and Stewardess as from 1st inst., a cordial welcome is extended to all old and new friends and members, who may be assured of all possible courtesy and attention to their wishes.

The Secretary.

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Dimanche 5 Novembre 11h. — *Jour de la Réformation* "Redevenir comme un petit enfant" Marc X, 15 — Prédication et Service de Ste. Cène — M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6h30. — M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, Prédication et service de communion.

7h30. — Répétition du Choeur.

#### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 5. November 1933: *Reformationsfest.*

11 Uhr vorm., Gottesdienst und Feier des Heiligen Abendmahls. Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst und Feier des Heiligen Abendmahls.

Dienstag, den 7. November, nachmittags 3 Uhr, Nähverein im Foyer Suisse.

Anfragen wegen Religions- bzw. Confirmandenstunden und Amtshandlungen sind erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde: C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W.4 (Telephone: Chiswick 4156). Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-2 Uhr in der Kirche; Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."

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