

Swiss Mercantile Society

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"Hello." His voice was like an outraged bass fiddle.

"Hello," I said. "You look and sound like Thunder over Mexico."

He mopped his forehead with a handkerchief, the size of a towel, and stared at me coldly.

I refused to be squelched. "Are we going to eat?" I asked. "Or would you rather go to some quiet corner and growl to yourself?"

He did not reply, and there was a far-away look in his eyes. He shook his head back and forth, muttering to himself. Definitely Jan's mood was grey and cloudy.

"Well," I said, "I take it we eat."

He grunted and said: "I guess we might as well. The Zimmerleuten?"

I said that was all right with me, and then tried to keep from laughing as he started shaking his head again. His face was like the little boy's who has just learned he is being groomed for the Presidency instead of a G-man.

"Tell the public what's happened," I said. "Who did what to you?"

Jan took a deep breath and rumbled, "What do you think of a boss that gets you to work on a holiday?"

"So that's what it's all about."

"Enough, isn't it?" Prof. Hodges said that we'd get a lot of work done to-day because it would be quiet with everybody in town watching the procession. I thought he was joking and said that I thought it was a good idea. He sighed. "About half a second later I realized that the old codger was serious. You should have seen him smile. It was awful. Right then, if I'd asked him to give me his stamp collection he would have parted with it cheerfully. I was faithful Jonathan."

By this time we were in front of the Zimmerleuten, which is situated in the older part of the city along the Limmat River. One of Zurich's several "Zunfthäuser," or guild restaurants, the Zimmerleuten has been in existence since far back in medieval times. Now, of course, the Guilds are merely social organisations, and the "Zunfthäuser" are open to the public.

We went in the entrance of the old arcaded building, and as we went upstairs I could see that for Jan the world was again becoming a bearable place to live in. The storm clouds vanished and a new dawn glowed faintly on his ruddy features. He almost knocked over the hors d'oeuvres wagon as we went to our table, and when we sat down there was a resigned well-if-life-will-go-on expression on his face.

We had a tremendous meal: roast duck that melted in your mouth, peas in butter, flaky French-fried potatoes, and finally a peach melba drowned in whipped cream. When we drank our coffee we were both a little out of breath. Jan leaned back in his chair, lit a cigarette and looked cheerfully at Michel, proprietor and master cook of the restaurant, who had come out of the kitchen to greet his guests. Michel is the only man in Zurich who can dwarf Jan, and I have always suspected that one reason Jan likes to go there is when he looks at Michel he feels actually thin.

"By the way," I said, "just what is this 'Sechseläuten' festival they're having this afternoon? All I know about it is that it means, roughly, 'Ringing of bells at six,' and that it's a celebration welcoming spring."

(To be continued).

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

We wish to direct the attention of stamp collectors to the meeting of the Philatelic section of the above Society, which will take place on Wednesday next, April 7th, at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.

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L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE ANNUELLE
aura lieu Mardi le 6 Avril au local du Club,
Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Great Portland Street,
W.1. et sera précédée d'un dîner à 7h. 15 très
précises (prix 5/-).

ORDRE DU JOUR :

Procès-verbal.
Admissions.
Démissions.
Rapport du Comité.
Rapport du Vérificateur des comptes.
Election du Comité.

Election des Vérificateurs des comptes.
Election des Fidei-commissaires du Club.
House Fund.
Press reporter.
Réunion d'été.
Divers.

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. (Telephone: Clerkenwell 9595).

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, April 6th — (Dinner 7.15 sharp) — City Swiss Club — Annual General Meeting — at Pagani's, Great Portland Street, W.1. (See Advert.)

Wednesday, April 7th, from 7.15 p.m. to 2 a.m. — Unione Ticinese — Sixty-third Banquet and Ball — at Pagani's, 42-48, Great Portland Street, W.1.

Wednesday, April 7th — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Lecture by Dr. A. Pozzi (Pressechef des Berner Oberland) on "Swiss Folklore," illustrated by a large number of lantern slides, at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square W.1.

Wednesday, April 7th at 8 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Meeting of Philatelic Section at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.

Saturday, April 10th — Swiss Club Birmingham — Swiss Rally and Annual Dinner and Ball, at the Midland Hotel, Birmingham. (Reception 6.15 p.m., Dinner 6.45 p.m.).

Wednesday, April 14th at 8 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Monthly Meeting, followed by a lantern lecture and film on "Exploring in the unknown arctic," by Edward Shackleton, Esq., B.A., F.R.G.S., at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.

Friday, April 16th — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting, preceded by supper at 6.30. The President of the London Group will give an address on "The Swiss Abroad, particularly in England," at the Foyer Suisse, 12, Upper Bedford Place, W.C.2.

Friday, April 16th, at 8 p.m. — Schweizerbund (Swiss Club) — Annual Dinner and Ball — at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1. (Extension till 2 a.m.)

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11h. — Ecole du Dimanche.

6h.30 — Culte et Prédication.

MARIAGE.

Arthur Raetzer de Londres et Christina Daellenbach de Otterbach (Bern) et Londres — le 27 Mars 1937.

SERVICE FUNEBRE.

Ernest Louis Hoch, de Bâle-Ville et de Liestal, né le 11 Janvier 1869 — décédé le 24 Mars 1937, dans sa 69e année — le 31 Mars 1937.

M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme reçoit à l'église, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2, le mercredi de 11h. à 12h.30 et sur rendez-vous à son domicile, 102, Hornsey Lane, Highgate, N.6. S'adresser à lui (téléphone : ARChway 1798) pour tous renseignements concernant les instructions religieuses, les mariages et autres actes.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

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

Sonntag, den 4. April 1937.

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst.

8 Uhr, Chorpöbe.

Dienstag, den 6. April 1937.

Nachm. 3 Uhr, Nähverein im "Foyer Suisse."

Anfragen wegen Religions-bezw. Confirmandenstunden und Amtshandlungen sind erbeten an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde: C. Th. Hahn, 43, Priory Road, Bedford Park, W.4 (Telephon: Chiswick 4156). Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-2 Uhr in der Kirche.

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