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Doings in Our Colony.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

Owing to pressure on our space last week, the following report was held over.

Friday, December 6th.

An exceedingly interesting Lantern Lecture was delivered by Mrs. W. J. Pinard, B.A., entitled "South Africa." The second half of the evening was devoted to musical items contributed by the students.

Saturday, December 7th.—Visit to Cambridge.

Despite the gloomy weather forecast and the pessimist who dreamt of drowning in rivers, a hundred stalwart souls braved the elements and travelled by coach to Cambridge on Saturday, December 7th.

The main purpose of the visit was to attend a performance of Sheridan's "The Rivals" at the Festival Theatre, but prior to this a tour of Girton College was made at the invitation of the Mistress. King's College Chapel and the Cloister Court of Queen's College was also visited.

Lunch having been taken en route at Newport (where incidentally, the boys of a well-known Public School thought a foreign invasion was imminent), the afternoon was devoted to the play mentioned above. At the conclusion of the matinée the Producer, Mr. Evan John, kindly conducted the party over the stage and explained the mysteries of the Cyclorama and the working of the Schwabe lights. Tea at Matthew's was very welcome and everyone returned with reluctance to the waiting coaches.

The journey home was enlivened by Swiss songs, Scotch jokes and accounts of the daring deeds of Robin Hood.

The arrangements and conduct of the excursion were in the hands of Mr. B. Davis, B.A.

CITY SWISS CLUB.

A short time ago, I was looking through our library, that library of which we hear so much and see so little, under the guidance of our distinguished bibliothécaire, when I discovered an old and tattered manuscript which appeared to be an account of some meeting of a Society or Club which might have met in the dim and distant past. On deciphering its contents, it seemed to me to correspond very much to an account of one of our monthly meetings and therefore I give it to you in place of the usual report. ck.

CONS: HELV: CIV:

On the third day of the twelfth month at the seventh hour past high noon, the fates being auspicious, some twice ten good men and true sat down before the creaking board on which were spread divers viands; sturgeons and lampreys, salmon that had been smoked, ham idem, halibuts and oysters, venison, divers pasties, turkeys, the quarter of an ox and other dainties too numerous to mention. And some drank Rhenish ale* and some wine from the plains of Lombardy*, but all were right merry and did honour to the feast.

And the Chief, who wielded the hammer of Thor which some say is the double-headed axe of Sandan, did keep the peace and if one dared to raise his voice unbidden, did smite him lustily and thus did reduce him to silence unless his skull be too thick.

And when they had eaten, first did they rise and drink to him who ruleth over the realm and then, being in an alien† country, they did drink right heartily in honour of that ancient land whence they came, whose stalwart sons in olden days did win their liberty from the alemannic tyrant.

Then the greater scribe, who sat at the high table amongst the over lords, did render an account of all that had been done and everything that had been said when last they had met, but are not these things written on the scroll, and the lesser scribe who sat among the liege men did give ear and inscribe on his tablets that which was done, so that all men might know.

Next did they argue mightily about their festival which had taken place but recently, and some did say this thing and some said that thing, but in truth they all did seem vastly pleased with what they had eaten, to wit sturgeons and lampreys, salmon (No, not again, please. Ed.) and what they had drunk and with those diversions which had been provided after the feast. And one would have protested about the rendering of the viols, harpsichords and other instruments and would have persisted, but the Chief did wave his axe and he did subside. And there being no further matters to discuss, after drinking to the health of their Chief, they all did depart in peace and harmony.

*Probably corresponds to Lager and Chianti, though I was always under the impression that the latter came from the Florentine.

†Obviously the document is a fake, for this term only came into common use since the passing of the Immigration Acts in recent years.



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THE SEASON'S GREETINGS.

In order to save our readers the trouble of sending out personal cards with seasonable Greetings to their friends in our Colony, the *Swiss Observer* is this year reserving space—as above—for the insertion of names and addresses of readers who wish to convey their greetings in this simpler way. The charge per insertion is 2/6. Prepaid orders must reach our offices on Thursday morning at the latest.

COLONIE GENEVOISE DE LONDRES.

Nos amis Genevois ont fêté l'Escalade le jeudi 12 décembre, au Restaurant Pagani.

Monsieur R. de Cintra fonctionnait comme président pour la partie officielle, et M. M. Golay comme major de table pour la partie récréative, et les organisateurs de cette réunion, dont nous citerons entre autres Messieurs Savoie, Campart et Charnaux ont à leur actif un succès de plus. Nous ne voulons pas oublier non plus de relever la présence de M. le Pasteur Hoffmann-de Visme et de M. Ferrière, ainsi que de rendre hommage à M. Pagani pour son service parfait.

Ce fut dans une atmosphère des plus patriotiques que la marmite fut brisée et que les récits et chansons d'Escalade furent entendus. Puis chacun y alla de sa petite production pour donner à cette fête cet esprit si cher de chez nous.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE.

WEIHNACHTSBESCHERUNG DER SONNTAGSCHULE und KINDER der D.S. GEMEINDE im FOYER SUISSE.

Am letzten Samstag war wieder Einkehr des lieben Samichlaus mit seinem grossen Sack voll Ueberraschungen für unsere Kinder. Die leuchtenden Augen, die frohen Gesichter dieser Kinderschar (114 Teilnehmer) war ein rechter Genuss und eine wahre Vorbereitung für das herrliche Weihnachtsfest, das immer "Das Grosse Fest" der Jugend bleiben wird.

Vor der Ankunft des Chlaus wurden die Kinder mit einem liberalen "tea" gestärkt, und mit Musik unterhalten, während den Eltern im drawing-room des Foyer Suisse separate Erfrischungen und Kino-Aufführungen die Zeit des Wartens verkürzten.

Im Namen der Kinder sei hier allen Gubern und Arbeitern herzlicher Dank ausgesprochen.

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and at our

West End Office, 11c, Regent St., S.W.1,

which is situated next door to that of the Swiss Federal Railways.

FOYER SUISSE, 15, Upper Bedford Pl., W.C.1

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English Talks, Debates, Singing.

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Cushions, Table Runners, Dinner Sets, Handkerchiefs, etc.
LARGE SAMPLE COLLECTION ON HAND.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY

The members and friends of the Society are reminded that our

Fancy Dress Dance

will take place on

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1930,

at the

Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Stn., N.W

from 6.45 for 7.0 to 2.0 a.m.

TICKETS at 8s. 6d. (incl. Supper during the interval) may be obtained from Mr. J. C. Nussle, 8, Cross Lane, E.C.3 (Tel. Royal 8034), Mr. R. Chappuis, 31, Crockerton Rd., Upper Tooting, S.W.17, or Swiss House, 34-36, Fitzroy Square, W.1 (Tel. Museum 6093) and from Employment Department, 21, Queen Victoria St., E.C.4 (Tel. City 7719). THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE.

Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE (1762),

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79, Endell Street, near New Oxford St., W.C.2.

Dimanche 22 Décembre 11h—IVE AVENT.

Es. 25/9: "Attendre!"—et Ste. Cène—

Mr. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6h 30—Service de Communion.

Mercredi 25 Décembre 11h. NOEL. Jean 3/6: "Le don de Dieu."—Mr. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

Service de Ste. Cène. Solo de Mlle. S. Wyss.

Jeudi 26 Décembre 5h—Fête de l'ARBE de NOËL.

MARIAGE.

Paul STOCKLIN, de Neuhausen (Schaffhouse) and Elise Gertrude PARRY, de Manchester—le 14/12/1929.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6 (Téléphone: Archway 1798). Heure de réception à l'Eglise: Mercredi 10.30 à 12h.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

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

(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 22. Dezember. IV. ADVENT.

4 Uhr nachm. WEIHNACHTSBAUM.

Der Morgengottesdienst fällt aus.

Mittwoch, den 25. Dezember. WEIHNACHTEN.

11 Uhr morgens Gottesdienst und Feier des Heilig-Abendmahls. Kein Abendgottesdienst.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12-1 Uhr in der Kirche.

Mittwoch 5-6 Uhr im "Foyer Suisse."

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, January 1st, at 7.30 p.m.—SOCIETE DES SECOURS MUTUELS: Monthly Meeting at 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

Saturday, January 4th at 7 p.m.—SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY: Fancy Dress Dance at the Midland Grand Hotel.

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