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unadventurous and added stingingly that the British public had missed nothing having to wait for so long for a performance of Swiss contemporary music.

The *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* correspondent, a German musicologist and ex-conductor, promised to write a scathing article and complain in no uncertain terms over the fact that the concert (the first of two at the Cockpit Theatre) should have been staged with Swiss taxpayer's money. It was in fact organised in collaboration with Pro-Helvetia and the cultural section of the Swiss Embassy.

Altogether 48 people attended the first performance, and a good two-thirds of them seemed to have been invited. There would therefore be grounds to question the expenses incurred by Pro-Helvetia.

Most of the audience left the experimental hall with glazed eyes and air of incredulity on their faces. One should be fair, however, and accept that all the players, in particular Miss Jeanneret, played with utter dedication. What indeed matters is that the promoters of such music are sincere and not "con-artists".

At a reception given later by Mr. René Serex, Counsellor for Political Affairs at the Embassy and acting Cultural Attaché, following the departure of Mr. Franz Birrer, it was possible to gather from Mr. Gaudibert that he really was sincere. There was no reason not to believe him. After all, there is no money to be made in that type of music and one is more likely to be exposed to the jeers of a bewildered public. Mr. Gaudibert, who is in charge of musical activities at the Cultural Centre at Orleans, is genuinely looking for something but he admits smilingly that he doesn't quite know where his search is leading him. Still, the sincerity of its protagonists is the main criteria by which to gauge music of this kind.

This music is called "musique concrète" by the French and I understand that what was heard on 19th and 20th March at the Cockpit Theatre was in line with the works of Xenakis. Gaudibert was not the only modern Swiss composer represented at this two-day festival. Others included Klaus Huber, Ulrich Gasser, Heinz Marti, Roland Moser and two "classics", Arthur Honegger and Frank Martin.

P. M. B.

#### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

The following readers will be celebrating birthdays soon:

Mr. Gottfried Keller, of Alte Landstrasse 43, 8700 Kuesnacht, will be 70 on 23rd April. He spent many years in Great Britain as a distinguished journalist, and he and Mrs. Keller retired to Switzerland a few years ago. We wish them many more years of happy retirement.

Mrs. W. Schedler will have her

birthday on 20th April, and Mr. E. Zwicky will be 78 on 22nd of the month. Mr. J. B. Brutsch will have his 86th birthday on 23rd April. Mr. F. Deleloye will be 88 on 26th and Mr. W. Zuber (Ventonor) 76 on 29th April. Mr. A. C. Boller (Saint-Prex) will have his 76th birthday on 8th May.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Bouverat will celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary on 23rd April, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Burri will have been married for 29 years on 2nd May.

Congratulations and best wishes all round!

#### OBITUARY

We have the sad duty of reporting the death of *Mrs. Emily Delaloye* at the age of 87. Mrs. Delaloye passed away on 11th February, at the home of her son, Marcel, where she and her husband, Mr. Fernand Delaloye, had been living for some months, eight days after returning from a stay in hospital. A memorial mass was celebrated at Our Lady Queen of the Apostles, at Heston, Isleworth, on Wednesday, 19th February. This was followed by a cremation service at Hanworth Cemetery. Mrs. Delaloye was born in England of Swiss parents. She will be greatly missed by her many friends in the colony and at the Schweizerbund. We should like to express our deepest sympathy to Mr. Fernand Delaloye, who only three years ago celebrated his diamond wedding. Mr. Delaloye now lives at 74 Cawdor Crescent, Hanwell, London W72DD. We should also like to extend our condolences to his children and grandchildren.

#### OTHER RECENT DEATHS

Mrs. Lucienne Raccoursier in Yverdon (Switzerland); Mr. & Mrs. Emile Geneux-Raccoursier in Chamblon (Switzerland); Mr. and Mrs. Michel Roch-Raccoursier in Geneva (Switzerland); Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Pfister-Raccoursier in Battersdorf (Switzerland) and their sons, Kurt and Eric; Mrs. Norma Pocock in Hooley, Coulsdon, Surrey, are announcing, with love and deepest regret, the death of Mr. Walter H. Ziereisen on February 1st, 1975, at his home, 2 St. Margaret's Road, Hooley, Coulsdon, Surrey, at the age of 72. The cremation took place on Monday, February 10th, at the Croydon Crematorium. No flowers please, but donations to the R.S.P.C.A., c/o 7 Churchlane Ave., Hooley, Coulsdon, Surrey.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ANGLO-SWISS SOCIETY: Thursday, 24th April, Orchid Suite of the Dorchester Hotel: Annual General Meeting at 6.55 p.m. followed by a dinner at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. The Duke of Grafton will speak on the

European Architectural Heritage Year and his talk will be illustrated by slides.

SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY: Wednesday, 30th April, monthly meeting followed by an Auction. Wednesday, 28th May: A.G.M.

SWISS CLUB LIVERPOOL: Card Evening on first Thursday of the month, at Hotel Dresden, 866 Chester Road, Bromborough. 8.00 p.m.

CITY SWISS CLUB: Tuesday, 20th May, Card Evening. Friday, 20th June, Summer Dinner Dance.

FEDERATION OF SWISS SOCIETIES IN THE U.K.: Friday, 2nd May, at the Swiss Embassy.

ASSEMBLY OF THE SWISS ABROAD: 29th-31st August, in Basle, on the Swiss abroad as Ambassadors of Swiss Culture. For enquiries please apply to Secretariat of Swiss Abroad, 26 Alpenstrasse 3000 Berne.

#### ENGLISH AT THE SWISS CHURCH

The German-speaking Swiss Parish in London has introduced services in English once a month for the benefit of those who would like to join their Swiss friends or relatives in a service at the Swiss Church but do not understand our national languages. The purpose of introducing English is also to strengthen the links between the Swiss congregation and the parishes of London.

## Swiss Churches

SERVICES EN FRANCAIS: à l'Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, tous les dimanches à 11h15 et 19h00.

PASTEUR: Michel Languillat, 8 Park View Road, London, N.3. Tele: 01-346 5281.

SWISS CATHOLIC MISSION: John Southworth Centre, 48 Great Peter Street, London, SW1P 2HA.

Sundays: Holy Mass at 6.30 p.m. with sermon in German, in the Club hall, ground floor.

(2nd floor at the same time, Protestant service in German).

RESIDENCE OF CHAPLAIN: Bossard, Swiss Catholic Mission, 48 Great Peter Street, (2nd floor), London SW1P 2HA. Telephone: 01-222 2895.

SERVICES IN GERMAN: at Eglise Suisse, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2, every Sunday at 9.45 a.m. Sunday school takes place on the first and the third Sunday in the month for children of all age groups. Children assemble in the church with their parents who attend the normal Service. Liturgical Service takes place every second Sunday in the month. Services also at John Southworth Centre, 48 Gt. Peter Street, S.W.1 every Sunday at 6.30 p.m.

MINISTERS: Pfr. U. Stefan, 1, Womersley Road, N.8. Tel: 01-340 9740.