

# Scientific research in the chemical industry

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They did not wait for the granting of this claim before making their contribution, in the spirit of the alliance of the Confederates, to the maintenance and increase of the unity, strength and honour of the Swiss people, and some of them have done so with distinction.

If they claim the exercise of their political rights, it is in order to participate and to serve. At a time when the solving of grave problems calls for the co-operation of all citizens, their co-operation can be useful to our country.

#### SOLIDARITY AND PATRIOTISM

It is with a view to participating in the study and the solving of all these problems that certain Swiss living abroad have felt the need to create, under the auspices of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique, study groups, the first of which was instituted in Paris on the 7th December 1963. Their aim, within a political and religious neutrality, is to bring together compatriots of varying opinions, formation and professions, animated by the desire to be informed and to exchange views on all matters of interest to their country. They explore together all means capable of strengthening amongst themselves and with their fellow-citizens at home, a confederal solidarity and a civic spirit. They feel that, in an age characterised by the intensity and the rapidity of an exchange of ideas, of knowledge and of goods, their experience and their ideas can constitute a not-negligible contribution to the civic life of their country.

#### FIFTY YEARS AGO

Fifty years ago, at a time which could offer many analogies with our own time, some compatriots founded within our frontiers groups for civic studies which were instrumental in the formation of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique.

#### TOMORROW

Within relative proportions, it is in the same spirit that the Group for Swiss Studies in Paris hopes that in all Swiss communities abroad other groups will be formed and that there will thus be created a network through which will circulate a flow of ideas useful to the common good.

*Paris, April 1964. Group for Swiss Studies, Paris.  
(Kindly translated by Mrs. J. Eusebio.)*

#### TWO PRESIDENTS FLY SWISSAIR

Two African presidents used Swissair Coronado jets on 16th July, to travel to a pan-African summit conference in Cairo. Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, of Ghana, left London, where he had been attending the Commonwealth Conference, in a Coronado chartered by Ghana Airways and Mr. W. V. S. Tubman, of Liberia, flew from Monrovia for the Cairo meeting. Both presidents plan to return to their capitals later this month by Swissair Coronados.

#### ZURICH'S MOST MODERN HOTEL

Swissair is part-owner of the new Zurich Airport Hotel, which is a five-minute car ride from the airport and fifteen minutes from the city. Prices, which include Continental breakfast, range from £2 7s. 0d. for a single room with shower to £5 for a twin-bedded room with bath.

#### SWISS DELEGATION AT INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN LONDON

The Twentieth International Geographical Congress took place at the Imperial College in London from 20th to 28th July, followed by the Cartographic Congress in Edinburgh. About twenty Swiss attended the Congress in London and the Symposia preceding it, and half a dozen went on to Edinburgh.

The International Geographical Congress takes place every four years, the last one having been held in Stockholm and the next one being planned for 1968 in Delhi. About three thousand delegates from all over the world attended the London Congress. The International Geographical Union has now about twenty permanent commissions, and the Secretary-Treasurer is a Swiss, Prof. Dr. Hans Boesch of Zurich University.

The Swiss delegation included professors of the ETH (Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich), such as Prof. Dr. H. Gutersohn, representatives of well-known cartographic firms, of the *Eidgenössische Landestopographie*, and a number of Swiss resident abroad (U.S.A. and Canada).

Three Swiss from abroad gave addresses on the following subjects: Canada, the Term "Region", and Depopulation. Other subjects dealt with by members of the Swiss delegation were Cameroon, Karst Phenomena, and Seasonal Migration.

#### A NEW ROAD MAP OF SWITZERLAND

Foreign tourists driving to Lausanne this year to visit the Swiss National Exhibition will not be in any danger of losing their way: signposts marked "Exhibition" and showing the Exhibition badge have been put up all over Switzerland and will lead motorists direct to the capital of the Canton of Vaud without any trouble. However, those who do not wish to follow the main roads or who want to visit the main districts of the country would do well to get the new official road map, produced by the Swiss Touring Club in close co-operation with Kümmerly & Frey, the well-known Map Makers in Berne. This map is undoubtedly a masterpiece of modern cartography. All the information it contains — road conditions, distances, etc. — has been checked with the greatest care. Sights and places of interest are also indicated as well as camping grounds and motels. Although planned mainly for motorists, this map will also be of use to all tourists in Switzerland, whether travelling by car, train or plane.

The new map, which is technically outstanding for the harmony of the colours, the precision of the printing and the accuracy of its detail, took some 10,000 man-hours to produce.

[O.S.E.C.]

#### SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

In 1963 the CIBA group, Basle, devoted 125.4 million Swiss Francs to scientific research, i.e. 8.4% of its total turnover. The parent firm alone invested 78 million for the same purpose, i.e. 15% of the proceeds of its sales. The requirements of the market and the scientific and technical progress to which products continually have to be adapted call for increasing investments.

[O.S.E.C.]