

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 12 (1947)
Heft: 5

Artikel: U.S. of Europe seen a reality within two years
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942979>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 17.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

U.S. OF EUROPE SEEN A REALITY

WITHIN TWO YEARS.

Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi, visiting professor of public affairs and regional studies at New York University, who has been working for a federation of European states for more than twenty years, said April 22nd he believed that project would be a reality within two years. It has "ceased to be utopian," he said, "and has become a question of practical policy."

Mr. Coudenhove-Kalergi, who left the U.S.A. on the "Queen Elizabeth" to assist in organizing a congress of representatives from European parliaments to meet in September or October in Montreux, Switzerland, to organize such a federation, discussed its possibilities in a press conference at the New York University Faculty Club, 22 Washington Square North.

Although he made it clear he would have no voice in that meeting, Mr. Coudenhove-Kalergi envisioned its result as a "loose federation something like that of the United States before its Constitution," with eventual incorporation of "some kind of bill of rights," a common European currency, a federal court, and police force - the latter three elements might not, he confided, be immediate, "The first practical step," he said, "will be the economic field. I think that will start probably in next year."

He polled 3,913 members of Parliaments of Belgium, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland last year. Of 660 who replied, only fourteen opposed federation. On the basis of those who favored the plan, Mr. Coudenhove-Kalergi said it was apparently a revolution of the younger group against the older.

"Those who may have fought in the foxholes of this war," he said, "apparently think more of being spared another world war than of national sovereignty."

The delegates to the Montreux congress, one for each million people in the nation they represent, would determine what other European parliaments would be invited to join, draft a charter, recommend to the European governments practical steps to bring about political and economic union, and elect a council of Europe to serve as a permanent advisory body to the governments and the United Nations.

While in Europe, Mr. Coudenhove-Kalergi will also attend the five hundredth anniversary ceremonies of the University of Bordeaux, France, as a representative of New York University.

• • • • •

LAKE LEMAN AND THE RHONE.

It is a source of surprise for many travellers that - Leman - is the historic and original name of the Lake known as 'of Geneva' a title doubtless conferred upon it by those first English visitors of the XVIIIth century, whom shades of Rousseau and La Nouvelle Heloise attracted to these shores.

Lake Leman is the Rhone's gift to Switzerland, and its springtime a fulfilment of the promise Valais - the Canton which cradles the upper reaches of the Rhone - renews each year. Before mingling its waters with the blue expanse of the Lake, the Rhone has come tumbling down from Sierre where the sun - so say the inhabitants - never sets and the vineyards thunder with the drums calling honest citizens to work; from orchards at