

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 62 (1996)  
**Heft:** [2]  
  
**Artikel:** Poor education  
**Autor:** [s.n.]  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-944829>

### **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**

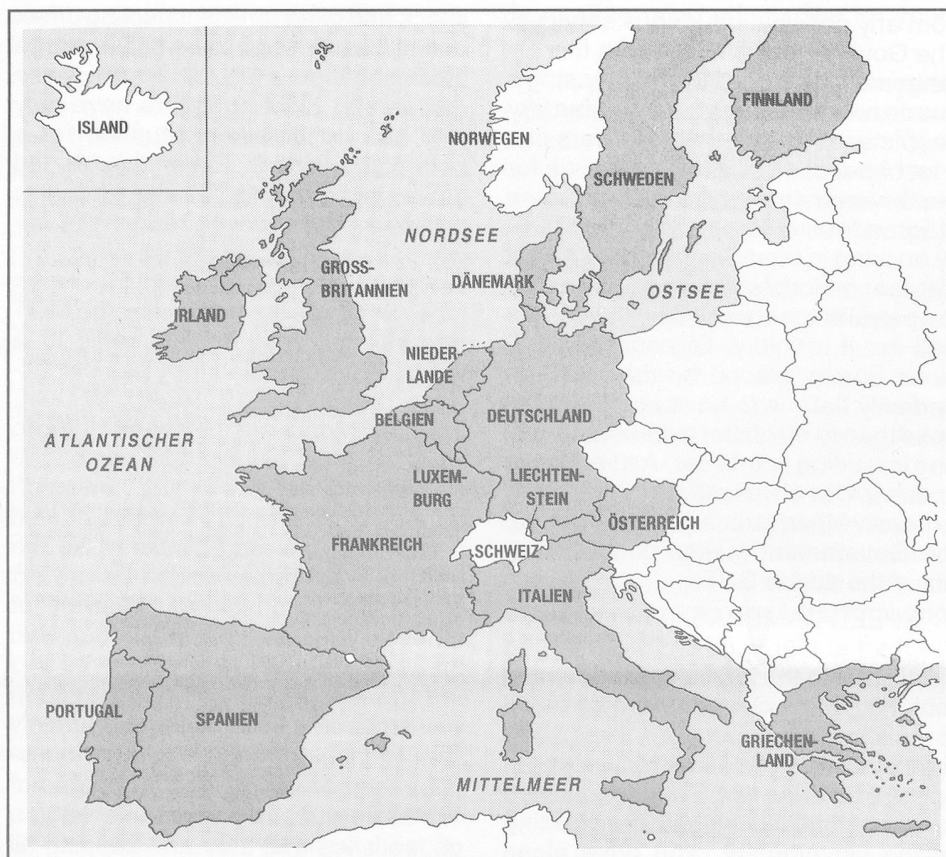
L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées 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:** 23.01.2026

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



### SWITZERLAND STANDS ALONE

The map shows clearly Switzerland's rather unique position as it is totally surrounded by countries belonging to the European Union. Even tiny Liechtenstein has abandoned Switzerland as it is joining in. So Switzerland, together with Andorra (the little white dot between France and Spain) stands alone, very much as it stood alone and surrounded amidst all the killing and destruction during world war two. But this time, the situation is quite different. This time Switzerland faces economical warfare. Can it survive this type of war all on its own? Only the future can tell.

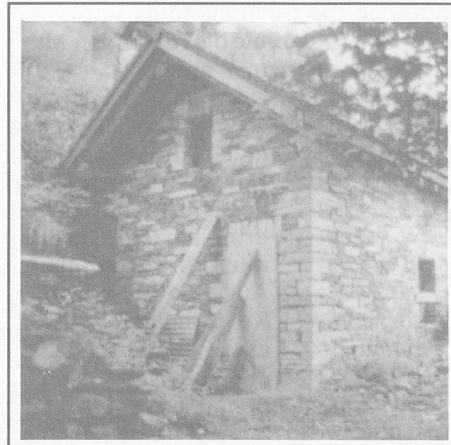
### POOR EDUCATION

Here is a solid blow to all you Swiss who still think that we Swiss are tops in education and general knowledge. Sadly to say, but a recent international

survey conducted in Switzerland, Canada, The Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Germany and the USA has shown that we Swiss are lagging behind all those countries with the exception of Poland. The objective of the survey was to test people on various skills and subjects: general reading, arithmetic, interpretation of diagrams, reading of timetables and geographical maps and, filling in of order and payment forms. Each person was graded from 1 (poor) to 5 (tops). In general the results were rather disappointing for the Swiss. Up to 19% of the Swiss participants did not get beyond the grade 1 and, compared to the other countries, the number of Swiss who reached grade 5 was well below the overall average. In the reading test, only 10% of the Swiss managed level 5. 70% of the Swiss who only had the compulsory schooling did not get beyond level 2 whilst in Sweden 70% of the people with the same schooling reached levels 3-5. What has gone wrong in Switzerland with our top class schooling system? Can the richest country in the world no longer afford to educate its citizens correctly or have the Swiss become so lazy and complacent that they no longer feel it necessary to be properly educated? A puzzling question.

### NO MORE CHEAP HOLIDAYS IN TESSIN

To take advantage of the ever increasing demand for cheaper accommodation in the Tessin, many people who owned old stables and sheds on their properties started to convert them, mostly illegally, into some sort of temporary dwellings for tourists. These dwellings were quickly given the name of "Rustico". Rustico's soon sprung up everywhere in Tessin, most of them extremely primitive with regards to comfort. Most of them had no inside toilets or running water. Many were no more than just a shelter, a roof over your head, but their main attraction was that their rental was cheap. But now, the local authorities have stepped in and ordered many of these Rustico's to be pulled down. Grounds for these orders were that most of the Rustico's were built without any building permits and without regards to sanitary requirements. So your chances for a cheap holiday in Tessin look very compromised.



A typical Rustico, one of many that have been ordered to be pulled down.

**AVAILABLE NOW!**

**New Zealand's finest Delicatessen Meats**

Continental Frying/Boiling  
Sausages · Specialty Meats  
Meat Loaves · Smoked Meats  
Cold Cuts · Salsamis

**274 4455**

FAX: 274 1203

Incorporating Domestic & Commercial Work

Specialists in Fabric & Leather Upholstery

Also Deep Diamond Buttoning

All Furniture Re-Upholstery

**SWISSCRAFT LTD**

Manager: **Herbert Stäheli**

Showroom: 33-39 Colombo St.  
Frankton-Hamilton

Call us  
**Phone 078 477-220**  
**Fax 078 473-039**