

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 67 (2001)
Heft: [7]

Artikel: Address by the President of the Swiss Confederation Moritz Leuenberger for the Swiss National Day 2001
Autor: Leuenberger, Moritz
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-945137>

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: 26.12.2025

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

**Address by the President of the Swiss Confederation
Moritz Leuenberger for the Swiss National Day 2001**

Dear fellow Swiss all over the world -

What you have just heard was the sound of Alphorns, of drums and of an accordion. (*The message is spoken on tape.Ed.*) This time there were no church bells, even though traditionally this speech is opened by the sound of the "bells of home". Don't worry: the churches of our homeland still have their bells. You will see that the next time you visit Switzerland. But new things have been added.

- The repertoire of the "Swiss Orchestra" has become wider and has more to offer in terms of sounds, instruments and compositions.

- **Switzerland is changing.**

- This irritates many people. They look back with rose-tinted spectacles. Their vision of their homeland is tinged with nostalgia, with memories of what is past and lost. The picture of their homeland can become an illusion in the same way that we, who live and work here in Switzerland, also have longings and fantasies about countries we would love to move to.

- **Nobody knows this better than you.**

- You or your forefathers - once packed your cases and risked something new. You set off and bravely went out to meet and shape the future. You questioned traditions and remodelled them, giving them a new content and your own imprint. In this way you created a new homeland and: you kept alive Switzerland as your homeland. - The same is true of many who move to Switzerland today and help to shape it.

Today you are celebrating the first of August keeping up the tradition of commemorating the Swiss homeland. Some of you take the liberty of not doing this on the first of August, but on some other summer (or winter) evening. In doing so you show that what matters about the first of August is not the external form, but the spirit of the Confederation, Switzerland's inner values so to speak,

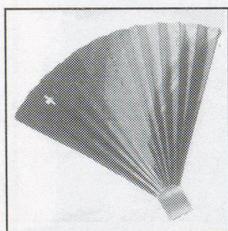
- the value of living together with different cultures and languages in peace and mutual respect;

- the value of living in social justice and solidarity with one's neighbours and also with the world;

- the value of enabling all people - including those who come after us - to live in an environment which is worth living in, and to feel safe and at home.

We want to uphold these values! And we can only do that if we develop or alter traditions. This is the only way of maintaining the substance because: only what changes, remains true to itself.

- In future Switzerland's tradition of solidarity will increasingly include openness to the world. Switzerland will take on new roles in the community of states, for example as a member of the UN; it will thus add a new instrument to the world orchestra, that of Switzerland. For this very reason it can and will remain Switzerland. - I look forward, dear fellow Swiss all over the world - wherever you are - to your contribution to shaping the new sounds of this new Switzerland.



1 August emblem
proceeds used for
youth-holiday ex-
change and for the
upkeep of various
chapels in Canton
Ticino

LINEPORT Sole Importer
NEW ZEALAND
AUSTRALIA
Limited SOUTH PACIFIC
Schäff Eberhard
Solingen-Germany

SOLINGEN KNIVES

BUY DIRECT
FROM THE IMPORTER



Albert Ruegg
LINEPORT LIMITED
P.O.Box 239
Tauranga

Phone / Fax: (07) 578-2020
Mobile: 025 90-2525
e-mail: office@lineport.com
website: www.lineport.com



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



Musicians Wanted

By the

Leys Orchestra

Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass,
(instruments provided if needed),

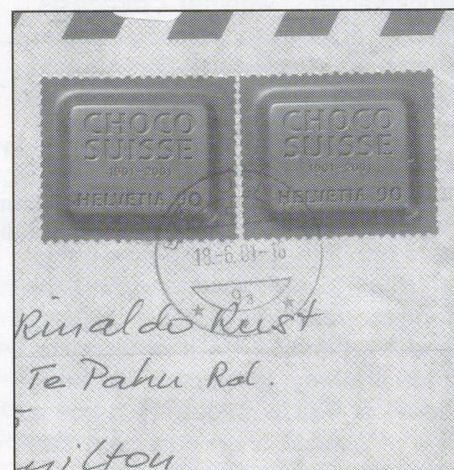
Percussion, Trombone, etc...

Great training Orchestra - all ages

We meet most Thursday Evenings in
Ponsonby, Auckland.

For further information call:

David (Conductor) 09 846 3657



"A sweet Postage Stamp"

Swiss Post has issued the 'world's first' chocolate flavoured postage stamp. By rubbing it gently it gives off the sweet flavour of chocolate. The issue is to mark the centennial of the existence of the united Swiss-chocolate manufacturers "Choco-swiss".