

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1924)

Heft: 143

Rubrik: Literary Page

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: 13.08.2025

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

LITERARY PAGE

Edited by Dr. PAUL LANG.

All letters containing criticisms, suggestions, instructions, &c., with regard to this page should be addressed to the "Literary Editor."

ABIG.

Es dunklet, es nachtet
Und d'Sonne gah hei,
Si schlüft under Decki
Am Berg überrei.

De Himmel und d'Erde
Si werded eis
Und d'Sterne zündet
De Wulche zur Reis.
Es wäbt jetz ein fistere
Schleier d'Luft,
De Tag wird zudeckelt
Und sinkt in e Gruft.

Mir sueched eus Nastli
Wie d'Vögeli uf,
Und bald ghört mer nu, na
Ein tüfe Schnuf.

Es falled von Sterne
Z'tusigis Träum:
Träne und Träne
Und Rosebäum.

's wird stille, es dunkled
Und alles schlafit i,
Nu d'Liebi wird öppre
Na wachber si.

Martha Pfeiffer-Surber.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The artistic institute Orell Füssli, of Zurich, always an enterprising concern, continue to bring out books instructive as well as entertaining. They have recently started a series called the "Stille Stunde," under which heading they publish a number of very daintily made-up booklets by contemporary Swiss writers, each of which helps you to pass an idle hour, but in such a way as to make that hour decidedly beneficial. The booklets comprised in this set aim at entertaining you in a fine and ideal way. We have had an opportunity to review two of these tales, of which many are written by women writers. To-day we can mention as No. 13 "Die Nächte der Königin," which comprises three little tales by Isabelle Kaiser. This woman writer, who, one knows, possesses the unique gift of being capable of writing in French as well as in German, can be described as a disciple of C. F. Meyer. Her subjects are similar to his. Much as the setting of her tales may bring them near the Zurich master, her manner of writing is, however, different. Whilst Meyer remains always aloof from the sufferings of his characters, hardly ever allowing his feeling to pierce through a work, Miss Kaiser very frequently falls into highly emotional comments on the ill-luck which besets or the dangers which threaten her heroes. You can put the difference like this: C. F. Meyer carefully draws and then illustrates a scene and leaves it to you to be impressed by the facts. Isabelle Kaiser merely outlines the scene and then takes you into her confidence as to what it all means.

A book of very different character is the biography of Dr. Barnado, about whose homes we have all heard, of which Orell Füssli now publish the 5th edition. It is written by Immanuel Fritz and costs 7 frs. The book cannot fail to interest those who look for the inspiring example of personalities who leave a mark behind them. The Barnado works have now saved nearly 100,000 slum children. The book, which is written very vividly, has been brought up to date by an appendix which gives full information on the development of the Barnado homes up till this year.

Again of a very different kind is the third publication we have to speak about. We all know that throughout Switzerland there are hundreds of amateur theatrical societies, which very often do quite interesting work. For those in authority in these societies one of the chief handicaps is usually to find suitable plays. To choose a good play and one which meets in every respect the particular requirements of a given society wants indeed quite extensive and discriminative reading. About thirty years ago Mr. Stocker induced the "Gemeinnützige Gesellschaft" to publish a collection of works commendable for such performances. This was afterwards done, but this booklet has long been felt to be out of date. This same Society, therefore, asked some time ago a special literary committee to prepare a similar publication. The result is a new "Dramatischer Wegweiser für die Dilettantenbühnen der Deutschen Schweiz," which has just appeared (2 frs.). The older publication was not in every respect a success, but even the most critical reader can hardly find any fault with this new book. The first part consists of extremely practical hints for those contemplating producing amateur plays. Then follows a list of about 250 modern plays exclusively by Swiss writers in dialect and High German, and which are sub-divided into categories according to technical difficulties and requirements. An alphabetical register of the authors and one of the titles enhances the value of this extremely recommendable work, which should go a long way

towards improving the conditions of the amateur performances in Switzerland.

I must finally mention that the laudable *Schweizerische Elternzeitschrift*, published by Orell Füssli, has now entered upon its second year. Young mothers will find in this review an invaluable treasure of information to help them in the care and the upbringing of small children. These pages are, moreover, illustrated by pictures of such beautiful children that we only regret the *Daily Mirror* did not arrange a Baby Beauty Competition in our country. The rate of subscription is 7 frs. for one year without insurance, and 8.50 with insurance (Postcheckkonto Zurich VIII 640). There are, of course, not only causeries about hygiene in them, but also very entertaining little stories. And all the readers enjoy the privilege of being allowed to ask the editor any query they like concerning the upbringing of babies and education generally.

* * *

UHIMELIGS.

Die beiden nachstehenden unheimlichen Geschichtlein sind dem hier ausführlich gewürdigten (*Swiss Observer* No. 136) schönen Berndeutsch Buche "D'Glogge vo Wallere" von Emil Balmer entnommen, das bei A. Francke, Bern, erschienen ist.

Em Tüpfel verschrive.

Es het früer hie im Lendl um d'Wienachtszyt ume vil eso alti koriosi Brüüch gäh. Jine ischt ömel o gsi, dass die junge Miitschen am Wienachtsmorge bim Zäsmelüte näcketblutt hii müess der Stubebode wüsche mit ihm Hemmi. Uf em Stubetisch hii sie müess Spys u Wy ufstellte u Glas u Mässer derzae. Uf em Schloslade va'r Stube hii sie müess ds Ghüder ufmachte, die dry höchsch. Nämme säge, über die linggi Achslen y lugge — u de hii sie ihre Zukünftige am Tisch gsch sitze u ässe. Es het mengere dutteret, wie sie das gemacht het. — Am Schwennelbärg obet he's esmal o ne Jumperfe gemacht; d'Miischterfrau het se sogar ghisse fur z'mache. — Wär gesht du die Jumperfe am Tisch sitze? Ihre Miischter! — Uf de ganz düftig het sie ne gsch daszite Brod u bim Wy. Jitz ischt sie i nere schützlige Tüübi zur Frau gange u het sen agschnuzt: "Dir hii mir de gsiit, der Miischter syg 'zPredig — u jitz ischt di ja bim Tisch gässse u het mi gsch, nätzkeblutt d'Stub'e wüsche — das ischt doch o ne minneri Sach, so z'lüge!" — Du ischt d'Miischterfrau chrydewyssi worde het afa pläaire: "Ja, är ischt z'Predig, daichs wahr," sitt sie — "aber jitz wiess i, was das z'bedüte het: I stirbe bal u du hüratich ne de!" — U so ischt es cho. Na dry Wüche ischt die Frau gstorbe u na dryviertel Jahr het den Puur d'Jumpferfe ghüaret. — Uf Brünne ischt e Püüri gsi u die het die Gschicht o gwüss. Sie ischt o zimli yfersüchtig gsi u het o geng gmünti, sie müess jung stärbe. Elise het ihi Jumperfe ghisse, un es ischt es tolls, natts Wyverböch gsi. Die Püüri het geng albenimisch därs Gschicht nehegestürt u het Ansicht ghäbe, als chöntt iho o so gah, wie däre am Schwennelbärg. Du ischt sie hinner d'Jumpferfe här, sie söllt das o mache. D'Jumpferfe het si gewhert, aber d'Fratu het geng umhi gştüpft u wa d'Wienachte ogh ischt, het si's gemacht. Sie het si i d'Stuben ybschlosse u d'Umhangen vürgacht. D'Püüri het i der Chuchi uss passet u zabet vor Wunnerigi. — Unneriinisch git's i der Stuben inne es grüsligs Gschrei, dass sie's im änere Huus ghört hii "si sy cho z'luffe, fur z'luege, was es gäh hüig. Wie no Blitz ischt dä Schrei der Miischterfrau dür, d'Frau het ihm no müess dryhäfe. "Um der Tusiggottsville, was ischt de gsi?" het d'Fratu gfragt. Aber Elise het kis Wort gsiit, ischt i d'Chamerem uhi u het briegget, der ganz Tag. Kis Wort het man uss ihm usebracht. Es ischt gsi wie vernaglet. Aber äs het ned meh möge ässe, het gnageret u blifheit u ned mi möge wärhe. Lang, lang, het niemoren gsiit, was es fu ne Chlupf hüig ghäbe. Jinisch a mene Sunntignamittag ischt es mit Roseli, syr Gspili, ga luufe u du het es ihun's du avertrüng. "Lue" het es ihm prichtet, "mir hii albe früer dehime es grosses Bild gha z'hange i der Stube. Der druf sy dry Läbeswäge dargestellt gsi. Jine, e grosse, briute, ischt grad dürhi i d'Höll, inne ischt e Blätz uhi, uf es Häbeli u derna umhi ahe un o i d'Höll u der dritt, der schmal u wa mit Dorne ischt belitt gsi, dä ischt geng uhi u uhi u zlöschter her er i ds nüü Jerusaläm gfüchert. Die annere zwe hingäe i d'Höll. U det ischt der Tüpfel gstanne, mit Horne, zmitte im Füür inne u het grüselig wütes dryglugt. Das Bild ischt mer geng vorcho, scho als chlys Chinn o wa nüs-i i d'Frönni bi cho, het mi das verfolgt. — U deich, Roseli, grad eso ischt mer der Tüpfel erschime a Roseli, grad eso ischt mer der Tüpfel erschime a der Wienacht am Morge, wa-n-i über die linggi Achslen y gluegt ha. Grad eso ha' ne gsch sitze an Tisch." — Frisch umd het Elise gschlotteret, wa's das verzelt het, — Glyanni ischt es furt va hie un ischt i ds Unnerland ahi ga Jumperfe sy. Numen esmal no ischt es i die hiesigi Gäget cho. Un em Roseli het d'u widerume prichtet, het ihm ghelacht, wie-näs i mene Chummer inne sygi. Es syg iene hinner ihm u wöll's hürate. Es syg e Schmid, är chönni cheibeguet schmide, aber es syg

e schwarze Bränti u grüsrig gejzornig. Aer syg eng urichtig im Wirtshaus u tüei eso böis triihe. Ma säg ihm der Tüpfel! — — Roseli het's afa tschudere, wa-n-ihm Elise das prichtet het. "Sag mer doch, Roseli, was soll i mache? Soll i ne näh oder nid? Wen i nüt van ihm will, so ischt er im Stann u mordet mi — nim'en i ne, so grusset's mer ab ihm, säg mer doch, was soll i mache?" — So het das arme Elise gammeret. U Roseli het nid gwiss, was sage u rate. Zlöscht het Elise gsiit, wen es gluubi, äs müesti siisch syr Läbtig nume unner frönne Lüte umetrole u hätti nieme kis Hii, se nehmi es ne doch. — Derna ischt es gange u lang, lang het niemer meh oppis van ihm vernoh. Jinisch het du Roseli der Bricht bracht ba Bärn ueh, ds Elise syg de gstorbe. Aer hiig du dä Schmid ghäret, aber es syg en unglücklige Tropf gsi. Aer hiig's behandlet wie-n-es Tier u hiig's gschlage. Aber kim Möntsch hiig's es Wörli ghelacht, ma hiig nume ggeh, dass es grusam, grusam miess lyde. Es paarmal hiig es unztygi Chinn ghäbe u bim loschta Mal syg es du dranne gstorbe. — Es ischt em Tüpfel nid meh los cho — äs ischt em verschrive gsi!

Es Gsicht.

Wyde siit ma paarne Hüser, wa änet em Wydegrabe gäge Rüscheegg umhi stah. Det het vor öppé ungfahrt hunnert Jahr e Puur gläbt, ma het ihm nome der Wyde-Hans gsiit. Aer ischt tüüf religiös gsi u het da Sunntige i de Hüsero ume bättet u prediget. Aer het vil Ahänger ghäbe. Aer het die gstorbe Lüt i Himel bättet, ähnlig wie's d'Katalike no jütz mache, we sie Mässer läse. — Jine va synne yfrigscste Ahänger oder Jünger, das we'der Wiibel ga va Henzischwann. Dä ischt e guete, guete u währige Man gsi u wie ma so sitt: rächt fromm. Nid e Hüüchler un Ugediener. — A mene Sunntignamittag im Winter het dä säß Wiibel i der Stuben inne i der Bibel gläse, u zwar öppé gwüss dry Stunn nachenannere. Wa's Zyt ischt gsi zum Fuetere u Mälhe, stift er uf u wott ge Heu ibigäh. Aer giit i ds Tenn, het h'Gable i der Hann u laht ds Tennstöri offe. — Wa-n'er so ungfahrt umeluegt, gescht er der lyhaftig Tüüfi unner em Tööri stah. Schwarz ischt er gsi, mit Hörner u Giisfüss u guet so gross, wie der Wiibel sälber. Aer hiig grüsrig gstämpelat unner em Tenn u die füürigen Utige gmachz'rolle. Da syg der Wiibel ganz gästabete worde u hiig si nit mech chönne verrüchre, grad wie säß Chänci va Hinner-Mutte. — Aer hiig wölle hätte, aber e kis Wort hiig er zum Muul us bracht. Geng wider hiig er en Aluuf gnoh fur ds "Unser-Vatter" z'batte ... entlig, entlig hiig er, du ase chönne vührertrüke: "Un...", u mit däm syn alles ewägg gsi u är hiig si wider chönne rüehre. — Es git no jitz vil Lüt — ja u di nid opps Luglüüt — wa sage, es gäbi e Tüüfi, der Wiibel va Henzischwann hiig ne o gsch u däm müess ma doch glaube. . . . !

NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE.

Meeting of the Council on Wednesday, Feb. 20th, at 28, Red Lion Square, Holborn, W.C.1.

1. The Treasurer reported one re-admission and nine resignations. The latter are due to one death, several returns to Switzerland and other reasons. Total membership, 346. Outstanding 1923 subscriptions, 39. Balance at bank and in hands of Secretariat, £241 17s. 1d.

2. Instead of Mr. J. Baer, who was unfortunately prevented from attending the meeting owing to illness, Mr. A. F. Suter presided and reported on the following:—(a) He summarised Circular No. 45 of the S.S.E., dealing with the recent visit of Federal Councillor Motta to the Auslandschweizer Secretariat. (b) The kind offer of Mr. F. F. Roget, private docent at Geneva University, to give us a causerie on "Swiss Advertising Propaganda in England—Its Objects and its Mistakes" at our forthcoming dinner of April 10th was accepted. (c) It was decided to hand over a request from the Gabenkomitee of the forthcoming Eidgenössischen Schützenfest to the Swiss Rifle Association, which seems better fitted for the kind of work expected from Switzerland. (d) The last report of the late Art Committee was read. Individual efforts to arrange a Hodler Exhibition in London are being continued. (e) Owing to tremendous decrease in membership the Group at Bradford was dissolved.

3. The Secretary made a few communications bearing on his work:—(a) A rectification was sent to the *Evening Standard* concerning a note on the refusal of Switzerland in 1921 to allow League of Nations' troops to pass to Vilna. (b) Two articles by Dr. Krafti for the *Spectator* and *The Times* were translated at the Secretariat. (c) The Secretary has written several articles on the late Mr. Dimier and has induced other Swiss journalists to do the same. Both in French and in German speaking Switzerland a number of obituary articles have appeared. (d) By the courtesy of *The Swiss Observer* a number of separate prints of the Secretary's lecture on French-Swiss Literature could be distributed by the Secretariat, and likewise separate copies of the "Tellenspiel" lecture will be made. (e) The propaganda for Hodler and Ramuz continues. There is now a fair chance that an important publishing firm will bring out shortly a monograph on Hodler. A translation of a book by Ramuz is also within immediate reach.