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The Swiss Observer

FOUNDED BY MR. P. P. BOEHRINGER.

The Official Organ of the Swiss Colony in Great Britain.

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HOME NEWS

FEDERAL.

An Anglo-Swiss Commission will meet presently at Geneva to draw up an agreement to obviate double taxation in the two countries. The Federal Council has appointed the following as members: Director Blau, Federal Tax-Administration; Guggisberg, President of State Council and Financial Director of the Canton Berne; State-Councillor Morand, Chief of the Financial Department of the Canton Geneva; and Dr. Fröhlicher, Secretary of Legation, at the Political Department in Berne. The deliberations will also be attended by Sub-Director Ruoff, Federal Tax-Administration, and Dr. Rezzonico, Secretary of Legation, at the Swiss Legation in London. The Experts attached to the Commission are: Dr. Hultegeger, Swiss Association of Commerce and Industry, and Juillard, President of the Comptoir d'Escompte de Genève and Committee-Member of the Association of Bankers.

N.Z.Z.

WATCH INDUSTRY.

The imports for the first 9 months of 1929 shew an increase of Frs. 682,000 and exports of Frs. 8½ million in comparison with the corresponding period of 1928.

SYNTHETIC RUBBER.

There has been quite a stir created by a supposed sensational discovery by a Bâle chemist, Mr. E. Kleiber, who claims to have discovered a formula for the manufacture of synthetic rubber. Whereas similar claims made previously were handicapped by the fact that the synthetic process was far more expensive than the natural one, in this instance Mr. Kleiber claims that his rubber would not cost more than 0.50 cms per kilo; that it has all the properties of natural rubber and even shews more elasticity. A German syndicate is being constituted to exploit this discovery on a large scale.

SWISS CONSULATES.

The Swiss Colony in New York, since the death of their honorary General Consul, have asked energetically for the establishment in their city of a General Consul, who would devote his whole time to consular work and be a fully paid agent of our Government. They even state who, in their opinion, should be appointed to this position. The blunt manner in which this proposition has been put forward has somewhat surprised our political circles who are accustomed to silent submission to Federal public powers. It has a slightly rebellious accent which does not fit in well with a bureaucratic atmosphere. Nevertheless, this will, no doubt, bring this question up at the next session of the National Council, as it is not only in New York but in several other Swiss colonies that the need is felt for full-blown consulates. The expense incurred by the establishment of one or two such consulates, where most needed, would, one feels, be more than compensated for by the advantages which would be gained by Swiss Industry.

LOCAL.

LUCERNE.

Philomena Waller, factory hand, disappeared on October 13th, and all endeavours to solve the mystery have, so far, been in vain. The Cantonal Government now offers a reward of Frs. 500 for the recovery of her body. A young man from Ballwil, who was last seen in her company at a dance hall, has been arrested.

St. G.T.

SCHWYZ.

Teacher Albert Haasheer, from Killwangen, left Schwyz on October 18th, alone, to climb the small Mythen and did not return. A salvage column of the S.A.C. section Mythen has recovered his badly battered body among the rocks near the northern peak.

N.

ST. GALL.

The old, old story! Mrs. Inauen-Schlumpf, Kobelvies-Oberriet, used petrol to light a fire. She died in the hospital at Altstätten from the burns received.

St. G.T.

Karl Nobel, aged 23, who only recently entered the railway service as shunter, was found dead on the line at Wil. It is supposed that he was crushed between two trains.

N.

AARAU.

A traffic problem of old standing has suddenly been solved at Zurzach. The centuries old barn of the well-known market house "zur Rose" collapsed and thus established a thoroughfare from the Schwertgasse to the station. The collapse has only slightly damaged the goods stored in the building; the long-desired passage has now become reality, and at small cost. N.

BALE.

The offertories at the Antonius and the Klara churches have received the attentions of burglars. The gain was small.

* * *

A Bale angler plying his rod at the Kander has made a most curious catch. He used a grasshopper as bait and was throwing his line in the approved fashion, when from a near-by poplar something grey darted forth, caught the bait and endeavoured to get away with it. Picture the angler's astonishment, when he saw his line rising skyward. Hauling in was a matter of skill and patience beyond the ordinary, and produced a full-grown sparrow-hawk! Unused to such fishing, our angler received a good few scratches before he secured the proof of his story.

* * *

The carters and chauffeurs of the Allgemeine Konsumverein are on strike. They demand higher wages and a 48-hour week. The A.C.V. declares the acceptance of these demands an impossibility, as long as competing private undertakings are allowed to impose less favourable conditions for the same services. According to the present law, a 51-hour week may be demanded from transport workers without any payment for overtime, i.e., more than the hours now put in at the A.C.V. The wages scale for A.C.V. workers is as follows: Motor mechanics Frs. 4849-5161; chauffeurs Frs. 4615-4927; carters Frs. 4459-4771. They are also met generously with regard to holidays, sickness, and old age and invalidity insurance.—Needless to say, this strike is causing considerable inconvenience in the distribution of supplies to the various branches.

N.

VAUD.

For the last six months borings for petrol have been made in the plain on both banks of the Orbe river, as several geologists were of the opinion that oil would be found there. Although wells were sunk to a depth of 300 metres, no result was obtained, and the works have now been abandoned.

FRIBOURG.

The budget for 1930 forecasts an excess of receipts of Frs. 67,271, that is to say total receipts amounting to Frs. 13,362,062 and expenses to Frs. 13,294,970.

GIFT FROM MR. MOSCIEKI.

Mr. Moscicki, President of the Polish republic, who studied in Switzerland and was professor of chemistry in the Fribourg university, had adopted Swiss nationality. He was a bourgeois of Chandon, a borough in the Broye district. Mr. Moscicki has handed over a sum of Frs. 1,000 to the Committee for the relief of the victims of the cyclone which ravaged this part of the country in July last.

NEWS FROM THE LEGATION.

Madame PARAVICINI is due back to London this week.

* * *

M. Th. de SONNENBERG, Counsellor of the Legation, is on leave.

* * *

M. LOUIS MICHELI, first Secretary, who had been called to Berne in order to replace temporarily one of the officials of the Political Department, has taken up again his duties at the Legation some time ago.

* * *

M. CL. REZZONICO has been asked by the Volkswirtschaftsdepartement to go for a fortnight to Geneva in order to work with the Swiss and British delegates who are negotiating concerning certain technical matters.

* * *

At the Chancery, M. WALKER has left and has been replaced by M. MAGNIN.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

By KYBURG.

Fore!

I have received two post-cards from Swiss Golfers in the London District, in response to my appeal of last week. Together with two friends who, I know, will participate, we are now five, hardly a sufficient number for a competition and I would, therefore, once more ask Swiss Golfers in the London area to communicate with me, *without delay*, with a view to enabling me to fix up some mid-week jollity.

The new Zoo at Zurich.

Leicester Mail 10th Oct.

From the educational point of view it is probably better to have small collections of animals in various towns. From all other points of view it would seem to me that one really fine ZOO in Switzerland would have been enough and, although a "Zürblieter" myself, I should have thought that the very fine Basle Zoo might have been enlarged. But the Zurich children, young and old, will no doubt enjoy their new Zoo, especially as it is situated so delightfully.

After 70 years of trials and disappointments, Zurich has at last succeeded in establishing a Zoo.

Most large Swiss towns contain a small collection of animals, limited strictly to chamois, deer, bear and other native fauna. The Zurich venture, however, is the first successful attempt to establish a proper zoological garden representative of the animals of the whole world.

The lions are the main feature at Zurich, where some particularly fine specimens are now to be seen in captivity. There is also a large aquarium, open-air and indoor monkey-houses, and a bear-pit.

The lions have a particular interest for Zurich in that the lion is the municipal heraldic animal appearing in the city's arms. Many years ago King Menelik of Abyssinia, one of whose ministers was a Swiss from Zurich, wished to present the city with some lions, but the gift had to be reluctantly refused, there being no accommodation for them.

From various sources I have heard, with trembling and disgust to be sure, that ladies are going to wear a lot more cloth again, some even talk of the dust-trailing skirts coming in again. Heaven forbid! Besides, what about traffic regulations?

On the other hand, there seems a chance of ladies being able to wear real silken gowns once more and yet not so heavy as before, i.e., not so weighted with metal. Funny idea that! We often think of the times "When Knights were bold," but it never occurs to us to think of our women folk weighted down with metal in their silken garments, what? However, read on:

Less Tin in Silk

Daily Mirror 14th Oct.

Most women are probably unaware that when they buy a silk dress part of its weight may be tin; but it is a fact that some silks sold nowadays are heavily charged with salts of tin.

Up to a point, "weighting," as it is called, does not unduly impoverish silk; but if the percentage of tin content is too high silk will quickly rot in wear. In recent years the over-weighting of silks has been far too common, and at last the trade itself has had to take steps to check a growing evil.

As a result of an agreement between the chief European silk manufacturing countries (negotiated at an international congress at Zurich) there is likely to be less trouble in future.

The agreement, I hear, provides for certain definite limits on weighting for various types of silk.

It further provides for the marking of all silks conforming to the agreement to be hallmark'd, as it were, so that the public may be safeguarded against excessive adulteration.

And still . . .

Please reserve FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd,
for the BANQUET and BALL of the
CITY SWISS CLUB.

More Dress Reform.*Sunday Pictorial:*

There has been a lot of talk in this country recently about dress reform, and now I read that the Swiss are becoming interested in the same idea. The Swiss men are revolting against trousers, which, they declare, are an importation from France. They say that all the Swiss heroes wore loose knickerbockers, and therefore they want to return to knickers and bare knees again.

Perhaps we might consider the idea of planning our clothes on the styles of old heroes in this country. The armour of the times of King Arthur and his good knights might be very useful in certain circumstances, and the costumes of the cavaliers had, at least, the merit of being picturesque. Of course, I often see men who are still wearing Gladstone collars, and he was a hero to many people.

Undoubtedly men nowadays are taking much more interest in their clothes, and I am wondering how much the increased influence of women in all walks of life is responsible for this. Left to himself I do not believe man would bother much about his attire, but women are never weary of reforming something or somebody, and it is probably their doing that has brought male dress reform so much into prominence.

Dress, reformed or otherwise, probably has something to do also with the following, if it is true:

Where Dancing is Restricted.*Monmouthshire Beacon* 11th Oct.

The authorities of the Swiss Canton of Ticino have enforced a law prohibiting dancing except during the first three months of the year. Persons under sixteen are forbidden to attend, while those between sixteen and twenty must be accompanied by their parents.

What ho! And what do our brothers and sisters of the Ticino think about it?

Traffic problems in Switzerland are being discussed in the following article from *The Times* 12th, Oct. entitled

Road Versus Rail in Switzerland.

The gross earnings of the Swiss Federal Railways last year amounted to 420,100,000fr., while expenditure totalled 268,500,000fr., the surplus revenue being in excess of that for 1927 by 23,100,000fr. Both passenger and goods traffic showed a satisfactory increase, the receipts derived from these two principal sources being 151,300,000fr. and 212,600,000fr. respectively, as against 142,800,000fr. and 201,100,000fr. in 1927. The number of passengers carried increased by 5.9 per cent. and rose from 113,000,000 to 120,000,000 persons, the latter figure representing an advance of 25,000,000 (26.7 per cent.) as compared with the figures for 1913. Passenger traffic contributed 36 per cent. of the total receipts, and it is interesting to note that of this total third-class for only 1.8 per cent. The volume of cent., second-class for 6.8 per cent., and first-class for only 1.8 per cent. The volume of freight traffic increased, notwithstanding keen road competition, by 6.6 per cent.—i.e., from 17,900,000 to 19,000,000 metric tons.

Whereas in 1927 the total distance covered by steam and by electric locomotives was practically identical, with 21,443,167km. and 22,483,783km. respectively, during the year under review the balance was decidedly in favour of electric traction, which was represented by 29,290,502km., as against 17,301,419km. covered by steam locomotives.

The electrified lines now represent 56.6 per cent. of the entire Federal railway system and carry approximately 85 per cent. of their total traffic. At the end of 1928 the railways had expended 650,411,255fr. on electrification work. Twenty-two new electric express locomotives were added to the rolling stock in 1928, together with 16 electric shunting engines and 16 motor-coaches, so that on December 31, 1928, the Federal railways owned 345 electric locomotives for main line traffic, and 20 electric shunting locomotives.

During the period under review the hydro-electric works belonging to the Federal railways produced 503,643,000kwh., of which total traction absorbed 390,955,000kwh.

The railway authorities are giving their utmost attention to road competition and are studying the best means of meeting it. It has been proved that the keenest competition comes from lorries of two or more tons carrying capacity. According to official statistics, the lorries running in Switzerland at the end of 1928 comprised 5,159 1-tonners, 1,769 2-tonners, and 4,003 3 to 5 tonners, as compared with 4,796, 1,457, and 3,792 respectively in 1927. The first-mentioned type are chiefly light vehicles employed for traffic over short distances, and as such hardly come into consideration as direct competitors of the railways. The second category, although also used principally for light traffic over short distances, are more

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serious competitors. The 3 to 5 tonners form the bulk of the competition experienced by the railways, but some 900 of these may be eliminated as non-competitive, as they are utilized by the building industry, the municipal and cantonal water, gas, and electric boards, the postal administration, the telegraph, telephone, and military administrations, and the hotel industry. The remaining lorries, numbering some 3,000, which are an active menace to the welfare of the railways, are to be found principally in the agricultural and foodstuffs trades, the brewery industry, the milling industry, and in the carrying trades. The railways fix at an approximate 10,000,000fr. the loss sustained by them in 1928 as a result of road competition.

Every effort was made last year by the "Suisse-Express, S.A." (S.E.S.A.) to extend and improve its motor-lorry service and to ensure with the help of the railways a reliable door-to-door service, and by the end of 1928 no fewer than 199 centres were connected by a regular motor-service with 139 stations on the Federal railway system.

Swiss Alsatians Dogs.

A lot has been written in this Country, for and against the handsome Alsatians, the doggies I mean, and the following, from "Our Dogs" 11th, Oct. has great interest I think:

I am sure that our Alsatianists will be very pleased to hear that the Swiss Army is now using a goodly number of Alsatians as messengers, for the wounded, etc. The Swiss army authorities have come to the conclusion, after the excellent results obtained by Germany during the last war, that the "concentration" on one breed only—the Alsatians—allows of a precise application of a systematic training compatible with the special character of our breed. After all is said and done, the Alsatian also owns a very strong constitution, an excellent nose, and great endurance—properties that are especially required in messenger-dog service. It has been proved in Switzerland that the trained Alsatian requires 3-6 minutes to cover a distance of one kilometre (eight kilometres are equal to five miles); in Germany there were seen Alsatians which did that distance in only two minutes. In the matter of distance a well-trained Alsatian can cover several kilometres, so that ten or more kilometres are nothing for an Alsatian to carry messages to and fro. Two soldiers with two Alsatians establish a "connection." One of the men has only to cover the distance, from the point of departure once, and the connection is made, for the two Alsatians follow the track at great speed, with strikingly great surety.

A Weather Mission.*The Star*, 15th Oct.

Dr. Jean Lugeon, of Lausanne, has just left Switzerland to direct an important scientific mission in the desert of Sahara, under the auspices of the French Meteorological Office and the Swiss Central Meteorological Institute.

The object of the expedition, says the Geneva correspondent of the "Daily News," is to study electricity in the upper atmosphere and radio-electrical phenomena.

There will also be researches, at a distance from oases, concerning carbonic acid gas in the air, regarding which investigations were made last year on Mont Blanc.

More than six tons of apparatus have been taken, and it is hoped that the results of the expedition will help to improve weather forecasts and assist in the development of aviation.

There will soon be no spot on Earth without its Colony of Swiss, who make their force feel in the land of their adoption. Let's hope for good, always!

NOTA BENE!

On December 14th, another Special Issue of the *Swiss Observer* will be broadcast so as to reach the whole Swiss Colony in Great Britain. This will be a unique opportunity for advertisers to secure the Christmas trade. Please communicate in good time, if you wish to secure space, which can be booked at the ordinary rates for serial advertisements.

GESCHÄFTS - ANZEIGE

Anstatt durch Zirkular, gestatte ich mir auf diesem Wege meinen verehrten Landsleuten anzuseigen, dass ich das von Herrn F. W. Rüthmann anno 1887 gegründete, sich eines sehr guten Rufes erfreuende,

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bis dass mer überall seidt:
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English Cold Dishes

Yorkshire Post, 21st Oct.

It is gratifying to hear that the British cooks have won a first prize at the Frankfort Cookery Exhibition for their cold buffet. One's satisfaction may be a little damped by knowing that the cooks we sent to Frankfort were culinary masters from great London hotels and restaurants and therefore British by courtesy only. Nevertheless, this is the first time in living memory that British cookery has won a triumph on the Continent, and if the cooks were French, Italian or Swiss the cold food was British. I cannot doubt that it deserved to win.

The Germans themselves have no small skill in such matters, but their indigenous doctrine of cold food is too largely based upon the national "wurst." Sliced sausage in one form or another is the foundation of the "abendbrot," which, rather than dinner, is the national evening meal, and it cannot compare with our profusion of cold roasts, hams, tongues, game and other cold pies, galantines, creamed salmon and cold-turbo. Even so essential a guardian of the cold buffet table as cold roast beef has in Germany no native name but is still known as "rosbif." We are the only people in the world who ever, from choice, eat a cold lunch. The next International Cookery Exhibition should organise a breakfast competition in order to give us a chance to show what we really do.

And with that last sentence I agree, because, I have always been of the opinion that cold dishes, except very occasionally, are rank abomination. Probably, because I favour the teutonic fashions, have a soft spot for sausages, provided they are properly made! Now, for breakfast, cold dishes, after something hot, are another matter and the only difficulty I encounter there, is that I cannot get my wife to see eye to eye with me on the subject and that I am not such a hearty eater, as I used to be! I am told by my Chancellor of the Domestic Exchequer that to gratify my lordly taste for cold breakfast dishes, would require a lordly house-keeping allowance and, of course, nobody who writes for the *Swiss Observer* could do that. But doesn't it sound boastful when you read above "who eats a cold lunch from choice?" Horrible! Mind you, even I really do enjoy a cold lunch sometimes, but *never*, from choice! The culture of a people advances in the same proportion as its ability to disguise raw meat by cooking it and serving it *hot*! Dixi! After all, we are some way off the time when meat was prepared for human consumption by placing it under the saddle and riding on it until it was done!

Death of a former Swiss Journalist.

Bournemouth Visitors' Directory, 18th Oct.

For thirty years London correspondent of two widely read German newspapers, the "Frankfurter Zeitung" and "Vossische Zeitung," Charles Christopher Schardt, a well-known Swiss journalist, died on Monday after a short illness, at 50, Herberton Road, Southbourne.

Mr. Schardt, who was in his 81st year, came to Bournemouth with his wife in 1911, broken in health after strenuous years in Scarborough and the Metropolis. During the earlier years of his retirement articles from his virile pen frequently appeared in the columns of this journal. As his wife remarked to a "Times and Directory" representative, "once a journalist, always a journalist, and Charles would have lived miserably had he not continued to write. His was a retiring disposition. He looked at everything, including religion and politics, from the point of view of 'copy'."

Compatriots, Soldiers! Read

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Successful Emigrants.

There are many factors in success in life. Success demands a certain amount of knowledge and elasticity of mind, as well as initiative and energy. But we must recognize among the elements of success, that a change from one set of conditions to another is often an important factor. One man, who might never have risen above mediocrity in his native town, emigrates to a new country and succeeds in an extraordinary way.

The colonies have been built up by successful settlers, who emigrated from the home country in quest of bigger opportunities. What is the cause of this? Is there something in the air of a locality which electricizes men and women into action? Is transition to a new land a stimulus which awakens buried forces? Let us examine these questions.

There can be no doubt that new conditions and a change of climate produce changes which—in certain cases—make for success. Men and women leave the native village or town, and seek their fortune in London or some other big city. The result is that very often they succeed as they could never hope to succeed in their native town. Certainly opportunities are greater in the big city, but competition is also keener. The man works with one aim—to succeed; and so, the dynamics of success carries him forward.

Probably the change in climate and the new surroundings produce a change in mind and outlook. It has been pointed out that the man who in his native place lacks energy will frequently change completely upon settling down in a new locality. It may be argued, however, that the type of man who succeeds abroad would have succeeded anywhere. But that is not so, for new surroundings and opportunities often act as an incentive of a high order.

Thus new conditions, with their greater opportunities, create within people new desires and ambitions, so that emigrants become not only successful, but by force of character they help to build up the community in which they settle. Let us take some outstanding cases.

Mr. Pulitzer went to America from Hungary, practically destitute and penniless, hoping to secure a situation as a waiter in a café. He succeeded beyond all his dreams, and became, eventually, editor and proprietor of an influential New York paper, "The World." Forty years after his arrival in America he endowed a school of Journalism, in 1903, with a million dollars, in Columbia University.

One of the outstanding figures in the political and commercial life of South Africa was Mr. Beit, who amassed an immense fortune. Alfred Beit was born in Hamburg in 1853, and came of an old Jewish family. Emigrating to South Africa he became a staunch friend and supporter of Cecil Rhodes. As director of the Rand Mines and several South African railways he attained a commanding place in the life of South Africa.

America has assimilated thousands of Irish emigrants, besides Germans, Poles, and Italians. The Irish emigrants, in thousands, unable to make headway in Ireland—owing often to lack of opportunity, poverty, or political unrest—have found a new home in the far west and succeeded in an amazing way.

Irish Americans have become, in the United States, a strong and powerful element in that great country of their adoption. And America goes on absorbing thousands of Europeans who become useful citizens in the new lands of the west and adapt themselves quickly to the new conditions. So there can be no doubt that a new country with its wide spaces, its changes in climate and atmosphere, often acts on the emigrant like some electrical force.

Many Irish settlers are found in our British colonies. In Victoria, South Australia, three Irish premiers were Sir John O'Shanassy, Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, and Sir Bryan O'Loghlen. Duffy left Ireland like a "corpse on a dissecting table," says the author of "The Irish in Australia," and his story is an extraordinary one. Born in Ireland in 1816, he settled as a journalist in Dublin, and along with John R. Dillon, founded "The Nation" in 1842. He became mixed up in Irish politics and was tried for treason and felony in 1848, but was acquitted.

Seven years later, on the disruption of the Independent Irish party, he emigrated to Australia, where he became Minister of Public Works, and subsequently Premier of Victoria, and then, in 1877, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Sir John O'Shanassy, who became one of the promoters of the Colonial Bank, was Prime Minister of Victoria three times.

For centuries, Scots folk have taken the road southward—which Dr. Johnson declared was the best prospect in all Scotland. Some of the greatest lawyers and judges in England have been Scots. Lord Chief Justice Mansfield was a judge whose memory is held in respect and esteem, while Lord Erskine and Lord Brougham were both Scots.

The Bank of England was founded by a wealthy Scotsman, William Paterson, who was born in Dumfriesshire in 1658. He was consulted

by William III. on state affairs and helped to promote the union of England & Scotland. Sir John Gladstone, father of the great Liberal statesman, Wm. E. Gladstone, was a Scot who settled in Liverpool and became a successful merchant. Himself an M.P., he chose a political career for his famous son.

Recently, we found that both the Archbishops of the Church of England were Scotsmen—Dr. Randall Davidson and Dr. Cosmo Lang. Then hundreds of doctors, clergymen, teachers, statesmen, and others—such as stewards on large estates—are Scots, who migrated southward. And then the Scot has emigrated in thousands, settling in every part of the Empire.

Especially in New Zealand, Australia, and Canada, we find large communities of people who are descended from the Scottish settlers who opened up the country and so built up new towns by their industry and grit. Two of the great Empire builders in modern Canada were Lord Strathcona and Lord Mount Stephen—both Scots who settled as young men in Canada.

Cardinal Mazarin, a great statesman in France in the days of Louis XIV., was an Italian by birth and education. He settled in France, succeeded Richelieu, and became tremendously powerful till his death in 1661. Then thousands of French people during the wars of religion settled in Britain, bringing with them their trades and spirit of industry, thus enriching our land with new blood and fresh ideas.

Many are the great names of those who found fame and fortune in foreign lands since the days when William the Conqueror landed in England and unified the land. John Calvin was a Frenchman who settled in Switzerland; Bucer, a German theologian exercised a great influence in England under Archbishop Cranmer; Panizzi, an Italian, organized the British Museum; and George Müller, a German Baptist preacher, established a great orphanage outside Bristol and gained world-wide fame as a philanthropist. So the foreigner influences other lands and proves a force in the land of his adoption.

Above article is reprinted from the *Bolton Evening News*. "After reading the last sentence I thought that, may be, there is hope even yet," says our esteemed collaborator 'Kyburg.' In fact there is not only hope in this respect for the Swiss emigrants, but also a splendid record of achievements.

A BEAUTIFUL BOOK ON THE SWISS ARMY.

As mentioned in our issue of the 12th October a most beautifully illustrated book on the Swiss Army, "Its Origin and Traditions, its present Form and its Necessity" as the subtitle describes it, has been published by the S.A. d'Editions Artistiques, in Geneva, under the patronage of Federal Councillor Scherzer (head of the Military Department), the presidents of the Council of States, Wettstein, and of the National Council, Walther, number of the highest army officers and the associations of Swiss Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers.

On 250 pages the book gives a historical survey of the development of our army from Cantonal units in the earliest day of the Federation up to the present. A special and very interesting chapter is devoted to the services of Swiss soldiers and troops abroad up to the time when, in 1859, Parliament decided to forbid to all Swiss to take up military service abroad except by special permission of the Federal Council. The main part of the book is devoted to a description of our present army, its organisation, functions and general purpose. The volume is profusely illustrated with nearly 350 pictures and photographs. It concludes with a brilliant justification of the continuous existence of our Militia Army. In order to facilitate and cheapen the purchase of the book by members of our Colony, the *Swiss Observer* gladly undertakes to supply it on receipt of the remittance at the following published prices:

Paper cover	Fr. 25.	(20/-)
Bound, linen	30.	(24/-)
Bound, leather back	37.	(29/6)
Editor de luxe, numbered		
1-50 (Hollande van Gelder paper)	100.	£4.
plus postage of 1/-.		

On another page we publish an appreciation of the book by Colonel von Wille, to be followed next week by a notice by Colonel Feyler.—THE ED.

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