

**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:** - (1934)  
**Heft:** 681

**Artikel:** A Briton looks at the Swiss  
**Autor:** J.T.M.  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-694240>

### **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:** 23.02.2026

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

à ma place. Pourrais-je faire mieux que de continuer dans la ligne que mon propre père m'a tracée, lui qui accomplit à Genève un ministère de plus de trois décades, ministère que symbolisent les pièces d'argenterie qui sont là devant moi et que vous venez de compléter si généreusement par ces autres pièces magnifiques, qui seront pour les miens et moi-même un admirable souvenir de votre bonté.

C'est le moment que je vous remercie tous, du plus profond de mon coeur, vous, Monsieur le Ministre, qui êtes le chef de notre Colonie, et vous toutes les Sociétés suisses et vous tous les membres de la Colonie, pour tout ce que vous avez fait pour moi. Vous m'avez comblé de témoignages d'affection et d'appréciation les plus immérités, moi qui suis conscient d'avoir fait si peu! Vous m'avez surtout fait sentir votre sympathie et m'avez comme porté par votre amour dans les heures sombres, longues et douloureuses par lesquelles j'ai passé dernièrement. Vous ne savez pas le bien que vous m'avez fait, le secours que votre tendresse a signifié pour moi.

Aussi mon plus grand désir est-il de tâcher de vous rendre un peu tout ce que vous avez fait pour moi.

Mais ici je dois invoquer votre clémence. Les années qui passent commencent à peser. On n'a plus tout à fait la force de jadis et les obstacles physiques et matériels vont en augmentant, ne serait-ce que de par la dispersion étonnante de mes paroissiens. Vous êtes répandus partout, sur toute l'étendue de cette ville immense et jusque dans les comtés avoisinants et je ne possède pas le don d'ubiquité pour garder le contact avec vous tous. Pourtant c'est tout mon désir, et je ferai de mon mieux, à l'avenir, comptant sur l'aide et le secours d'En Haut. Quoi de plus beau, en effet, que de pouvoir travailler pour notre Colonie, c'est-à-dire pour notre patrie tout entière, dans un esprit de foi et d'amour!

Qu'est ce que notre petite Suisse en effet, sinon l'incarnation d'un acte de foi, elle qui, coincée au milieu des grands peuples totalitaires, en est l'exact contraire, composée qu'elle est de races, de langues et de confessions différentes. Ce n'est que par la foi qu'elle peut vivre, la confiance réciproque, la confiance dans l'amour, dans le sacrifice, celui que nous rappelle l'emblème de notre drapeau. La croix du Christ qui nous unit est le signe suprême de l'amour sur cette terre, du sacrifice, de la foi. Et tout comme l'empereur Constantin y trouva le gage de la victoire, quand le labarum lui apparut dans le ciel, je veux moi aussi y voir ma seule raison d'être y puiser toute mon inspiration: *in hoc signo vinces!* j'en accept l'augure, que Dieu me soit en aide!

This truly fine address was acknowledged with great cheering and applause and seldom before have I witnessed such scenes of enthusiasm. —

Thus a memorable evening came to a close, an evening which will linger for many a day in the memory of those who had the privilege to attend.

Humbly we join in the eulogies to a man who has well deserved all what was said. Not only has he proved to be a spiritual leader, friend and comforter, but he has been a true and faithful Swiss, a patriot in the truest sense of the word.

May the sincere tributes, which were paid to him, on this great day be a source of encouragement in the performance of his arduous duties. The success of his work has not only been recognised and appreciated by his own parishioners, but by a much wider circle, and whatever the future may have in store for our two London churches, we are sure, that fortified by this universal recognition he will see that unity will prevail, and that the harmony which has been so spontaneously expressed will receive a new impetus for the glory of His Master in whose service he has spent so many years of fruitful work.

ST.

Apart from those already mentioned, the following were present:

Mr. and Mrs. M. Audemars, Mr. and Mrs. Averard, Miss Averard, Mr. and Mrs. Baerlocher, Miss L. Beaud, Mr. Tt. Becker, Mr. W. Beckmann, Mr. and Mrs. J. Berger, Mr. A. T. Bodmer, Mr. and Mrs. P. Bessire, Mr. M. Bezencenet, Mr. and Mrs. A. Bieri, Miss H. Binzwanger, Mr. and Mrs. J. Boos, Mr. P. Bormand, Miss M. Bourgeois, Miss E. L. Brasse, Mr. and Mrs. C. Brullhard, Mr. G. Bruschweiler and party, Mr. U. Bretscher, Mr. P. Brun, Mr. Brun, Miss A. Bucher, Mr. C. Campart and Miss Campart, Mrs. H. Cedard, Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Chapuis, Mr. and Mrs. R. Chappuis, Mrs. L. Chapuis, Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Cooke, Miss M. Cugny, Mr. and Mrs. G. Cuendet, Mr. de Bourg, Mr. C. de Castella, Mr. J. Delmue, Mr. and Mrs. W. Deutsch, Mr. E. P. Dick, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Downs, Mr. and Mrs. S. Dreyer, Mr. Du Bois, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Dufour, Mr. H. W. Egli, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Elliot, Mrs. L. Elmer, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. R. Fader, Mr. and Mrs. Frick, Dr.

Ch. Ferrière and Mrs. Ferrière, Mr. F. G. Finsler, Mrs. A. H. Finsler, Mrs. W. Fischer, Miss B. Frischknecht, Sir William Goscombe John, R.A., Mr. C. H. Gallmann, Mr. F. M. Gamper, Mr. E. Gassmann, Mr. H. Gattiker, Mr. J. Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Glauser-Oggier, Mr. E. A. Goergens, Mr. and Mrs. G. Godet, Mr. F. Golay, Mr. E. A. Gotz, Mr. W. Graf, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Grau, Mrs. R. Greenfield, Mrs. Greenfield, Mr. and Mrs. W. Guignard, Mr. and Mrs. Gysin, Miss Haag, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hafter, Mr. W. Hauser, Mr. P. Hilfiker, Mr. J. Hoerler, Mr. and Mrs. R. Holes, Mr. A. Hugentobler, Miss Huguenin, Mr. G. Jenne and party, Mr. and Mrs. L. Jobin, Miss R. Joerg, Mr. and Mrs. Joss, Miss L. Keller, Mrs. Kenyon, Mr. Th. Kesselring, Mr. W. Kilchenmann and party, Mr. and Mrs. Koelliker, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Kraft, Miss L. Kramer, Dr. P. Lansel and Mrs. Lansel, Miss M. Lassueur, Mr. Paul Lequint, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Lichtensteiger, Mrs. C. F. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss A. Maeder, Mr. J. E. Maeder, Mr. F. Magnin, Mr. David Mange and party, Miss J. H. Magron, Mr. G. Marchand, Mr. and Mrs. A. Marti, Mrs. R. Martin, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Matthey, Miss Ida Matthey, Miss Merkel, Mrs. Meylan, Mr. O. Meyer and party, Mr. and Mrs. J. Monn, Miss Morel, Mrs. A. Morris, Mrs. Muller, Miss O. Muller, Mr. J. T. Mustard, Mr. and Mrs. Nickles, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Niklaus, Miss Ochsenbein, Mr. J. Oertli, Mr. Oguey, Mrs. Oguey, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Oltramare, Mr. W. Pellet, Mr. and Mrs. J. Pfandler, Mr. and Mrs. H. Pfirter, Mr. and Mrs. A. Pluss, Dr. H. Rast, Mr. G. O. Ray, Miss Reber, Miss E. Reist, Mr. Th. Ritter, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Roost, Mr. Rothlisberger, Miss H. Ruegg, Mr. and Mrs. J. Scheuermeier, Miss Schlup, Miss H. Schmid, Mr. A. Schmid, Mr. Max Schneider, Miss L. Seliger, Mr. H. Senn, Mr. H. Shuldham-Shaw and party, Mr. J. Sermier and party, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Sigerist, Mrs. E. H. Spooner, Miss M. L. Spuhler, Miss Simmen, Mr. A. R. Stauffer, Sister T. C. Stauffer and party, Miss A. Steiner and party, Mr. A. Steinmann, Mr. A. Steiner, Mr. Pierre Savoie, Mr. H. Schaufelberger, Mr. and Mrs. Schallibaum, Miss M. Streit, Miss Sushina and party, Mr. Adrien Vaucher, Miss E. von Arx, Mr. A. F. Suter's party, Mr. and Mrs. C. Th. Hahn, Mr. P. Walser, Mr. C. L. Walthard, Miss Walter, Mr. J. Weber, Mr. and Mrs. Wetzler, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Whittall, Mr. G. Wirz and party, Miss C. Wuarin, Miss I. Wyss, Mr. and Mrs. M. Zahn, Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Ziegler, Mr. F. E. Ziegler, Mr. J. Zimmermann, Mr. F. Zogg, Mr. and Mrs. E. Zwicky, Mr. S. Zwingli.

**A BRITON LOOKS AT THE SWISS.**

The Silver Jubilee was an evening to be remembered and treasured. As a visitor it was an inspiration and a tonic. There were so many fine outstanding items in the evening's programme, which left abiding memories as I am sure it must have done with those, who have deep reasons for treasuring the work of your grand priest and man.

What impressed me most was the spontaneous gratitude by speech and look and attitude of that delightful throng. It was good to be among them, to feel almost a halo of deep and abiding purpose envelop one. It was magnificent in its very simplicity and homeliness.

The speeches were on a very high plane; they rang true, and were permeated with high purpose and sane idealism. If I had any preference it was for that clever wise speech of Mr. Suter. One was gripped by its honest frankness about things which really matter in this world yet it was so practical and useful. But there was that other speech full of real bits of wisdom — of how, when, where, and the opportunity to do good useful actions to help your neighbours. It raised your faith in human kind.

Listening and watching your Pastor one readily understood why he was cherished and loved — such men are the salt of the earth.

As my eyes wandered some faces appeared just a bit tired-looking, a little lined, as though the stress of life to them had been strenuous. One such face of a friend I noted. We all stood to sing our National Anthem with decorum and in due form as befits good Swiss grateful to England. La Patrie! Ah, what a change was there to see for "The chiel among ye taking notes!" My friend's face like that of many others were transfigured — It was like sunshine glowing on your homeland snow-capped peaks — It was radiant, vital, alive and pulsating with some grand passion and devotion. Or was it the memory of some delicious day or night in their beloved La Patrie making their features reveal their inmost heart? Whatever the cause it was a picture one can never forget. La Patrie! What a land that can stir such spiritual fervour in its sons and daughters. Happy Land, Happy People! True an inspiration and a tonic; and may all prosperity be yours to carry such sanity and enthusiasm into the world.

It was just a little startling to hear the request for your Pastor to close the evening with prayer. Yet how fitting. It was the appropriate coping stone to an evening which had passing through it what is best expressed in the words of Tennyson:—

“And so the whole round world  
Is knit by bonds of gold  
About the feet of God.”

J.T.M.

**BEROMUNSTER ITEM.**

Sunday, Nov. 11th at 4.10 p.m.

*Uebertragung aus Degersheim.*

Toggenburger Heimat- und Jodellieder.

Mitwirkende: Männerchor Harmonie Degersheim. Frauen und Töchterchor Liederkrantz, Degersheim, Jodel-Quartett Degersheim, Solo Jodler: P. Müller Flawil und A. Brunner Degersheim, Ländler Kapelle Speer, Ebnat-Kappel. Prof. H. Edelmann, St. Gallen, A. Scheu, alt Lehrer, Flawil.

1. Ländlerkapelle: A. Kerker: a., Mit Schick und Schneid, Marsch; b. Wenn die Rosen wieder blühen, Walzer.
2. Männerchor: Ambühl: a., De Fruehlig; b., Toggeburger Vrenele.
3. Jodlerquartett: a., Ambühl: s'Alperösle; b., Naturjodel, c., Düsel: Im schöne Toggeburg.
4. Frauen- und Töchterchor: a., A. Forrer: Auf der Höhe; b., R. Wiesner: Toggenburgerlied.
5. Gemischter Chor: a., Of de Berge, Volkslied; b., Ambühl, s'Toggenburger Maitele.
6. Plauderei von Prof. Edelmann, St. Gallen, über das Toggenburg.
7. Ländlerkapelle: a., Auf Fuchsacker-Höhe, Ländler; b., Kerker: De Jakob im Stadium.
8. Jodelquartett: a., Düsel: Bergfriede; b., Naturjodel; c., Ambühl: E. Maitli, das viel Taler hätt.
9. Plauderei von alt Lehrer A. Scheu, Flawil, über Teggerschen.
10. Männerchor: Ambühl: a., De Unentschlossene; b., Nach der Heimat.
11. Gemischter Chor: Us de Berge, liebe Fründe, Volkslied.
12. Ländlerkapelle: a., Gruss aus Oberhächen, Schottisch; b., Ski-Chilbi in Degersheim, Ländler.

**THE ACADEMY CINEMA,  
165, Oxford Street, W.1.**

Film goers who find pleasure in René Clair's films will simply revel in his latest fantasy "Le Dernier Milliardaire" now showing at the Academy Cinema and those, to whom René Clair makes no appeal, had better stay away, for they will not appreciate his biting irony or the subtleness of his sarcasm. —

You will remember the ingenious way in which René Clair explained the story of "Le Million" for the benefit of those whose French was not perfect, by means of a dialogue between two men who looked through an attic window. —

In "Le Dernier Milliardaire" he has made use of an equally ingenious device by presenting a kind of synopsis in the form of a short silent film which explains the story and which is accompanied by a commentary in English.

In a little state, by name Casinario, a combination of Monte Carlo, Utopia, Tryphème and any other ideal state of which you can think, there lives the queen, her son and his wife and their wonderfully beautiful daughter, the Princess Isabelle. Now in this ideal state, none apparently does any work, unless it be the one and only Beggar in the country, and the needs of the people are met by the profits made by the Casino, which presumably is the staple if not the unique industry of the place.

But hard times have come, no more profit is made and the Treasury is empty. No means of executing the magnificent architectural plans which are to make Casinario the most beautiful city in the world.

The Queen and her ministers are in despair, and finally it is decided to bestow the hand of the Princess Isabelle on Mr. Banco, "Le dernier Milliardaire," who consents to pay the sum of 300 millions into the Treasury within one week of his marriage.

But the Princess has other ideas, for Mr. Banco is in his sixth decade, while the Princess is barely twenty and she has fallen in love with the leader of the Palace Orchestra, a charming young man who is equally in love with the Princess. Mr. Banco decides to go to Casinario but in the meantime, ruin has fallen upon the State. There is no money — the army goes on strike, so does the police and the telephone operators, and even the footman in the Palace refuses to buy a tie until his wages have been paid.

The inhabitants are forced to barter, and when one citizen desires to pay for a drink with a hen, he receives as change, two chickens and an egg, and the egg is returned to the waiter to take the place of a pourboire.