

**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:** - (1941)  
**Heft:** 986

**Artikel:** Appreciations  
**Autor:** Weber, R. / Louise, Marie  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-686669>

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he knows that he is fighting for a just cause he will never surrender but with grim tenacity will see the thing through to the bitter end or to glorious victory. The insignificant little man of to-day may wear the George Medal to-morrow. Our modest companion in the bus or in the train may be the next Prime Minister, the great scientist or the famous philosopher of the near future. And last but not least:— the Man in the Street of to-day may be the Unknown Warrior of to-morrow at whose national shrine at Westminster Abbey his grateful fellowmen will not only pay humble homage but seek fortitude and inspiration for generations to come.

F.I.

### APPRECIATIONS.

(We wish to express our sincere thanks for the tangible support which continues to be extended to us by many well-wishers, whose letters constitute a much-needed tonic. Ed. S.O.)

25th Feb. 1941.

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to see that you are still able to let us have an issue of the Swiss Observer now and then and am always pleased to receive it.

As I fully realise all your troubles and difficulties, I have pleasure in enclosing cheque for three guineas, every little helps.

With best wishes, Yours sincerely,

R. Weber. An Old Swiss

\* \* \*

March, 1941.

Dear Mr. Boehringer,

It was a great pleasure to see the S.O. again and I fully appreciate your kindness in taking so much interest in its publication.

My annual subscription should be renewed about New Year — I gladly send you two pounds.

Kindest regards from your sincere compatriote,  
Marie Louise Dupuis.

\* \* \*

Similar "bouquets" have been received from Mr. K. O. Keller, Miss Imhof and Mr. R. Weist.

### FROM OUR POST-BAG.

3rd March, 1941.

Editor of Swiss Observer.

#### NEWS AT RANDOM.

In your last number we find a reference to the answer sent by the British Government of the 15th February to the protest of the Federal Council anent the bombing of Basle and Zurich.

We are intrigued by this answer since it is neither fish, flesh, fowl or good red herring.

If the proofs of responsibility were not conclusive why was responsibility accepted?

There never was any doubt about the responsibility of the R.A.F. in connection with their flights over the South Western part of Switzerland to attack their Italian military targets, but the dropping of bombs on Basle and Zurich cannot be laid to their charge unreservedly.

Two questions seem to arise:

- 1) why was responsibility accepted on inconclusive evidence, and
- 2) why was the Federal Council satisfied with less than a clear and full apology?

In justice to both Governments one would have liked to see the matter probed to a definite result. —

While in the foregoing remarks we have as it were been tilting at the British Government we raise in the following remarks a *prima facie* case against the Federal Council.

According to your "record of News" from the English Press the arms and equipment of interned French soldiers "were surrendered to Germany."

What difference can the *repatriation* of these French soldiers make to the general principle that arms and equipment of internees have to be immobilised, in trust, by the neutral country for the duration of the war.

It will be on record how this same question was treated in the 1870/71 war and in the meantime the man in the street is distinctly worried by the facts stated by you.

J.J.E.

\* \* \*

14/1/41.

The Swiss Observer,

Sirs,

Through courtesy of the Swiss Consul in Wellington, we received some time ago a copy of your periodical, and have read some rather interesting news, particularly relating to present conditions in Switzerland.

The committee of our Society decided recently to subscribe to your paper, and I have pleasure in enclosing a money-order 12/- being in advance for one year.

Will you kindly forward the Observer regularly to the above address.

We trust sincerely that all our compatriots in London are spared from misfortune, during the distressing time England now passes through.

Yours faithfully,

Swiss Benevolent Society in New Zealand.  
E. Merz, President.

\* \* \*

3rd March, 1941.

The Editor,

The Swiss Observer,

Dear Sir,

Can you tell me, when giving information of the Cantons of Vaud, Neuchâtel, etc., why you refer to them under their German names? (See for instance bottom paragraph, front page, your issue February 22nd, 4th paragraph, second column, same page). I have yet to learn that German is the official language of Switzerland, and it seems to me that the correct procedure for you is to use French names for French Cantons, and German names for German Cantons. Also there is no Grosse Rat in the Canton of Vaud, there is a Grand Conseil.

I think it would please all French speaking Swiss if you would kindly attend to this matter, which may seem trifling to you, but to which others attach some importance.

Yours truly,

Chas. Lehmann.

(We must certainly plead guilty; the Editor has no intention of inflicting his particular vernacular on the readers.)