

**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:** - (1961)

**Heft:** 1383

  

**Nachruf:** Hans Wehrli †

**Autor:** [s.n.]

### **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:** 05.04.2026

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

**TH. SIEGFRIED †**

As briefly mentioned in our last issue, Mr. Théophile Siegfried, of "Wingfield", Pinewood Grove, New Haw, Weybridge, Surrey, passed away on 20th March at the age of 73.

The departed was a citizen of Landiswil (Ct. Berne) but was brought up in Vevey, where he received his schooling at the Primary School and the "Collège Industriel", followed by an apprenticeship in a leading drapery concern at Lausanne. He later obtained a post with an insurance company in Winterthur, in which town he remained for three years.

Being eager to acquaint himself with the English language, he packed his bag and, towards the end of 1911, arrived at Tewkesbury (Glos.), where his sister held a post as teacher of French and German. After a few months' stay, he proceeded to London, finding a post as French and German correspondent with the firm of James Walker & Co. Ltd., of Woking, manufacturers of high class engine packings and jointings, becoming in time their export manager.

At the outbreak of the first World-War in 1914, the deceased—like so many of his compatriots in this country—returned home to join the army. After nine months' service he was released and returned to his post at Messrs. James Walker Ltd., where he gained rapid advancement. He retired in 1957, after forty-five years' service with the firm.

Mr. Siegfried was deeply attached to his native land, which he visited frequently, and to which he had been contemplating returning shortly, to live on the shores of that Lac Léman he loved so much. Alas—it was not to be, but his ashes will rest in the dear soil of St. Martin.

The deceased had been a member of the City Swiss Club since 1927. Both he and his wife were often seen at the Colony's social gatherings. He leaves a widow, a married daughter and a son, to whom we tender our sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

ST.

**HANS WEHRLI †**

It is with deep regret that we have to report the passing away of yet another old resident of our Colony in London. On 12th March, 1961 Hans Wehrli died suddenly from coronary thrombosis. His remains were laid to rest at Putney Vale Cemetery on 20th March, the Rev. Peter Wipf officiating.

Hans Wehrli was born in 1894, educated at the "Kantonschule" Zürich, and afterwards apprenticed to a silk firm. Before the first world-war he went for three years to Lyons in order to extend his knowledge of the silk trade, returning to Switzerland at various periods during the war for military service. In 1919 he was appointed manager of a French silk firm in London. Later he went into partnership with an Englishman and together they built up a prosperous business as importers of artificial silk. The outbreak of the second world-war in 1939 unfortunately ruined the business and the departed friend for some time was hard put to make both ends meet. After the war he established himself as manufacturer's agent of important Swiss, French and German firms, experiencing the "ups and downs" of the textile trade.

In his younger days our friend was a keen yachtsman on the River Thames and as such achieved considerable success. He won a number of important races and was the holder of various trophies, all of which helped to make him known as the "Swiss Admiral".

He was married to an English lady who preceded him in death about four years ago.

During almost the whole of his forty years in London Hans Wehrli was an ardent supporter and active member of the Swiss Male Choir. He loved exercising his clear tenor voice and took a particular delight in the singing of our national folk songs.

He leaves two daughters, both married, one living in Kuwait and the other in Lagos. To both of them we extend our deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement.

S.

---

**COMMITTEE OF SWISS CATHOLICS  
IN LONDON**

A Requiem Mass will be said for the late C. Berti, a founder member and former Chairman, at St. Ann's R.C. Church at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 15th April 1961.

The Secretary.