

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: - (1971)
Heft: 1607

Artikel: Another departure from the embassy
Autor: Keller, Gottfried
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-686154>

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>

Another eminence present was the writer Sir Arthur Briant. He added a few words after Professor Forster's exposé, which he highly appraised, and found that there were many parallels between the sanguinary histories of Scotland and Switzerland.

ANOTHER DEPARTURE FROM THE EMBASSY

The exit from the Swiss Embassy continues. Our Ambassador and Madame René Keller, who have together played such an important part in the life of Great Britain's Swiss Colony, will be followed by Mr. and Mrs. Franz Muheim.

Mr. Muheim, First Secretary of Embassy, is also being recalled to Berne, and if my information is correct, he will be serving there under the same Chief as here in London, in the Section for International Organisations of the Federal Political Department.

Mr. Muheim is a native of Berne and has studied at the Universities of Fribourg, Geneva and Paris. His entry into the service of the Swiss Foreign Office dates back to 1960. His first posting abroad took him to Belgrade as Attaché d'Ambassade, whereupon he returned once again to the Federal Capital as Secretary to the Secretary General of the Political Department, Ambassador Micheli. From 1963 to 1967 Mr. Muheim was en poste in Rabat, and from 1967 to his forthcoming departure he and his charming wife have been part of the diplomatic scene in London.

During his years in London Mr. Muheim has been one of those Swiss diplomats who are particularly painstaking to obtain solid and reliable information in various fields of his activity. He was even in a position in a recent telephone conversation with me to tell me point blank certain likes and dislikes of mine. To my surprised question how he had acquired such knowledge, came the reply: "Ah, diplomats have to be well informed."

This will, no doubt, stand him in good stead and lead him further and further in his career. Those who have known him during his time in London will, I am certain, like to join me in wishing "The Muhems" all possible success.

Gottfried Keller.

THE YORKSHIRE SWISS CLUB VISITS SANDOZ

On the 16th November 1970, following up a new series of activities, the Yorkshire Swiss Club visited the large modern laboratory, manufacturing and administrative site of Sandoz Products Limited at Horsforth, near Leeds. This visit had been arranged between Mr. Ermanni Berner, the vice-president of the Club, and Mr. Richard Mueller, an employee of Sandoz, and a former president of the Yorkshire Swiss Club.

The evening turned out to be a very great success. Fifty-five club members and their friends assembled in the brightly lit modern reception hall of the Administrative Building. It was particularly gratifying to find a large number of young keenly interested people amongst the party.

Mr. F. Illingworth, the joint sales manager of the firm, met the visitors and gave a short introduction into the Sandoz background.

The Sandoz Chemical Company Limited as it was then known was incorporated in England in 1911 and has been from the outset a subsidiary of Sandoz, Basle, Switzerland. The present site at Horsforth had been developed prior to 1960 and it was in 1960 that the firm finally transferred its activities from Canal Road in Bradford to the new premises. Today about 600 employees work at Horsforth in the Dyestuff/Chemical Section, the Pharmaceutical Section and the Administrative Departments.

The visitors were split into four groups, three of which were shown around the Laboratory and Administrative block by Mr. F. Illingworth, Mr. B. Ellse and Mr. J. Holland. The Application Laboratories for Dyestuffs and Chemicals were particularly attractive to see in view of the many brightly coloured exhibits which had been prepared by the textile, leather and paper departments. The range of high quality leather dyeings and sheepskin rugs which were on view for the occasion attracted much interest and delight, and the ladies in the party were particularly interested in the wide range of material and colourful dyeings which can be obtained by applying modern technology to textile, leather and paper.

Another point of particular interest was the dyehouse where semi bulk quantities of textile material can be experimentally treated and the wide range of products and the high standard of technical services to the customers became apparent.

The fourth group was formed by visitors who were more interested in production technology. They were taken round the Chemical Manufacturing Building by Mr. Richard Mueller who first took the visitors to the roof of the five-storey manufacturing building, explaining the general layout of the site which was sufficiently visible in the moonlight to distinguish the various buildings. Following this the party was led storey by storey down the building in the same way as the raw materials run from vessel to vessel and manufacturing stage to manufacturing stage, until at the end of process they are run off into containers, mainly on the ground floor of the building and are then despatched to the customers or to the storage building.

After these tours the visitors were entertained to refreshments in the canteen. This airy, modern and pleasantly decorated canteen where approximately 500 meals are served every day was a very suitable assembly point for all the visiting groups. Over a cup of tea Mr. Berner mentioned that our President was unable to be with us but that he wished us all a successful and happy evening. Mr. Berner, also in the name of all the members and friends present, expressed his thanks to Sandoz and in particular to Mr. A. D. Ferns the Managing Director, to Mr. Illingworth and the other guides who had sacrificed their television evening for the benefit of the members of the Swiss Club.

(Ermanno Berner)

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY

The speaker at the December meeting of the Swiss Mercantile Society was Mr. Walter Stettbacher of Glasgow, an old friend of the SMS and indeed, of the Swiss Observer, in whose columns he has sent many accounts of his mountaineering adventures in the past. Mr. Stettbacher showed us a series of colour slides on Majorca and the Ticino. He has certainly learnt to make the best

THESE VEHICLES



TRAVEL TWICE MONTHLY TO AND FROM SWITZERLAND AND ENGLAND

Providing DOOR TO DOOR SERVICES with vans specially equipped to carry

- Household Removals.
- Exhibition Goods.
- Works of Art.
- Machinery.

For full information contact

In Switzerland

Kerhli + Oeler,
3001 Berne,
Nachf. A. Oeler,
Bubenberplatz 9.
Tel. 031 22 00 22.

In England

Neale & Wilkinson Ltd.,
1 and 2 Rangoon Street,
London, E.C.3.

Tel. 01-480 6351. Ext. 54 or 58.