

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: - (1972)

Heft: 1633

Rubrik: Swiss Cathedrals

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: 30.01.2026

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

need only 2 hours 25 minutes to do the same job. The construction of the road tunnel—on which some 500 men are employed—together with its safety gallery, its 65 lay-bys and emergency exits, and its ventilating shafts will require the removal of about 1.6 million cu.m. of rock. Among the already existing road tunnels, the Great St. Bernard, opened in 1964, is handling more and more traffic. 1971 recorded the all-time high of 434,491 vehicles; in 1965, the first complete year the tunnel was open, the figure was 306,991 vehicles.

Big improvement in precision optics

Visitors to the European Machine Tools Fair, held in Milan a few months ago, were able to admire the new centreing projector presented by a Swiss firm from Biel (Berne), specialising in the manufacture of precision optical instruments. Its performances enable this centreing projector to compare favourably with the classical centreing microscope used on many precision machine tools (pointing machine, coordinate measuring machine, milling machine, etc.). This machine with its compact, handy screen is fitted with an episcopic element, working at a low voltage. The image projected shows remarkable brilliance and perfectly sharp outlines. This projector makes it simple to carry out all operations of edge alignment, hole centreing, etc., without any need for painstaking setting of the angle of view and work distance. In addition, the screen, which is inclined at 70° to the horizontal, is well protected against incident light, making it possible to work for a long time without tiring the operator's eyes.

(Swiss Office for the Development of Trade)

SWISS CATHEDRALS

ZURICH—THE GROSSMÜNSTER

The Grossmünster, on the right bank of the river Limmat, with its two majestic towers, dominates the panorama of the old town. This imposing edifice, in spite of numerous and drastic restorations, remains endeared to the past. It is the church of the ancient canonry where Ulrich Zwingli deployed his activity from 1519 to 1531. Built in Roman style, it was started in 1078 and was erected on the site of a more ancient church of the French Carolingian period (8th and 9th century) dedicated to the memory of Saint-Felix and Sainte Regula and destroyed by fire.

The actual cathedral, built during the 11th and 13th centuries, has replaced, so it is said, a collegiate church founded by Charlemagne.

The facade is framed between two high towers in three tiers surmounted by two cupolas. The southern tower is adorned with a gigantic stone statue—the original is in the Crypt—representing Charlemagne crowned and seated, holding a sword. The left side porch, whose square pillars have been restored, is adorned with sculptures and capitals. The nave is vaulted with ogives; the raised chancel is completed by a flat chevet, whereas a gallery runs above the side aisles. The modern stain glass windows, in which the real and ideal seem to blend, are by Augusto Giacomelli (1932).

During those years of struggle for freedom and independence, the Church wasn't strong enough to alleviate the hardship and misery suffered by the people. It was then that Zwingli appeared, initiating the Reformation of Zurich as early as 1591, and succeeding by his preaching in transforming Zurich from the treble point of view—moral, political and religious. With the establishment of the Reformation, the mercenary service was forbidden. The town, under the influence

of Zwingli, became an intellectual centre. His defeat and death on the second battlefield of Kappel (10th October, 1531) did not succeed in disturbing the great work which he had started.

The Grossmünster is a monument to his living memory.

Pierre Savoie

WELFARE OFFICE

for

SWISS GIRLS IN GREAT BRITAIN

(For Information, Advice or Help)

31 Conway Street, London, W.1

(Nearest Underground Station:

Warren Street)

Telephone: 01-387 3608

RECEPTION HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

2 p.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment

NEALE & WILKINSON LTD.

Member of the Constantine Group

MEMBERS OF EUROVAN

REGULAR ROAD SERVICE TO SWITZERLAND AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

LLOYDS BUILDINGS, EMPSON STREET, BOW, LONDON E3 3NB
TEL: 987 4011/2 TELEX: 897 330 STENCILLER

International Household Movers, Fine Art Packers and Shippers

16