

**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:** - (1973)

**Heft:** 1667

**Rubrik:** Obituaries

### **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:** 04.02.2026

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

protestants met regularly on Sundays at 4 p.m. for prayer and bible studies. The photoclub was not yet able to resume its activities, since the laboratory is not finished yet. It will re-open again in 1973.

Accommodation and office for the chaplain was so far ready by the middle of December, that he was able to move from his temporary accommodation. This was the hardest struggle, since the builder who was employed and had promised to finish by the end of March proved utterly unreliable and incompetent. After one of his workmen had started a fire on the roof area which had done considerable damage (13th May), he lost interest which brought the work to a practical standstill. After the fact of a broken contract had finally been established he was dismissed. Mr. John Staunton, clerk of works at the Westminster Cathedral, offered his help. From 15th November until well into 1973 he worked with the chaplain and some helpers, often late into the night, undid the sloppy work of the previous builder and really made good what had been neglected. Some outside and inside work, a full redecoration and a new system of central heating lies still ahead but thanks to him and all the helpers the financial loss has been kept at a minimum. The building Account has not yet been closed but it is hoped that it will not be more than about 15 to 20% above the estimated cost – if no unforeseen problem is encountered.

The ecumenical co-operation with the protestant communities proved a real blessing, all the social activities are now run on a ecumenical basis, the mothers group on the third Wednesday of the month, the youth club activities, and in conducting the divine service there is mutual help and assistance.

The news magazines *Die Stimme* and *Messenger* have been greatly improved. Through the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad in Berne an amount of Fr. 5000 was received from the Swiss First of August Collection towards the cost of a printing machine. This enables us to prepare all our necessary printed matter ourselves and have it duplicated by off-set printing which reduces the cost by nearly 50%. It does mean more work, but it offers more scope. Since the information service is one of the most important tasks in our field of work, this is well worth the trouble.

All in all, one can say that the move from St. Ann's Church to the John Southworth Centre in 48 Great Peter Street has been successfully completed. It remains to find out, how far the chaplain can involve himself in the successful running of this Youth and Community Centre to the benefit of the Swiss Community in London. There is a different approach to former times when the young Swiss were more for themselves and the chaplain had his own church to look after. The year 1973 will probe the way a little bit further.

Our thanks go to His Eminence Cardinal Heenan, the Diocesan Finance Offices and the Parish of Westminster for

the co-operation and help in this difficult year and for the welcome we have received at 48 Great Peter Street.

We are also very grateful to the *Schweizerische Fastenopfer* who has considerably raised its yearly contribution and has always shown a great interest in the work of the Swiss Catholic Mission in London.

We thank His Excellency the Swiss Ambassador, Mr. A. Weitnauer, and the staff of the Swiss Embassy for the interest, help and co-operation received and also the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad in Berne for the substantial support.

A special thank to everybody who has helped me during the strenuous year 1972, the pastors of the protestant churches, Bruno Frei and all the other helpers who were always ready to work during their free time to make the move a success. Here I also include especially the untiring work rendered by our Chairman, Mr. O. Grob, and Mr. I. R. Daetwiler with all the members of the Committee who took part in all the anguish and were always ready to assist with work and advice, whenever the chaplain was in a tight corner, which happened more than once.

Paul Bossard, Chaplain

#### ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

The Chairman thanked the Chaplain, the officers, the Hon. Auditor and the members for their loyal support given to him during the past year. He especially mentioned the hard work rendered by our Hon. Treasurer Mr. I. R. Daetwiler.

Fr. Paul Bossard was elected to act as temporary Chairman,

The following were unanimously elected:

Chairman: Mr. O. Grob

Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Schneebeli

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. I. R. Daetwiler

#### HON. AUDITOR

Mr. S. B. Stray, A.C.I.S. was unanimously re-appointed as our Hon. Auditor for the ensuing year.

On resuming the Chair Mr. O. Grob thanked the Meeting for the confidence shown in re-electing him as Chairman.

*E. P. Siegfried, Hon. Secretary.*

#### In memoriam

**Robert Lehner FHCI FCFA**

12th August, 1892, St. G 11

22nd April, 1967, Goring by Sea

Secretary, Swiss, 21, with knowledge of German, French and English, is looking for a job in London or surroundings with the purpose of

improving her English. No working permit. Please write to Swiss Observer, Box No. 1.

#### Wedding

We have great pleasure in announcing the marriage of *Miss Kaye Hearn* to *Mr. Anthony Bartholdi*. The wedding will take place at the Church of St. William of York, Da Cros Drive, Stanmore, on Saturday, 1st September at 4.00 p.m.

#### Rectification

Owing to an unfortunate error in our report on the death of *Mrs. Lucie Meyer-Tissot* in our 13th July issue, we referred to her late husband as "Mr. Tissot". This should naturally have read "Mr. Meyer." We apologise for this error to the relatives of the family.

Apologies are also due to those who were misguided by a printing error in the "forthcoming events" announcement of our 22nd June issue. The *Nouvelle Société Helvétique* July meeting was unfortunately dated on Thursday 16th July instead of Thursday 19th July.

#### Acrow executive released by terrorists in Argentina

Mr. Charles Lockwood, 63, Chairman of Argentinian subsidiary of the Acrow Group of companies, was set free at the end of July after having been held captive for six weeks by left-wing urban guerrillas. The "Peoples Revolutionary Army" had demanded 2 million dollars for his release. The Acrow Group was founded by Mr. William A. de Vigier, a compatriot who both manages and chairs its British companies.

## Obituaries

#### MRS. MARIE ROSE LANG-CHENAUX

We have sadly to report the death on 20th June after a short illness of *Mrs. Marie Rose Lang-Chenaux*, of 18 Falmouth Road, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex. She was 84 and had come to this country in 1913. Both she and her husband, whom she lost in 1951, had remained Swiss nationals. Mrs. Lang had lived for many years in Oxford, where she is buried. She is survived by two daughters, to both of them we should like to extend our heartfelt sympathy.

#### ARMIN BAENZIGER

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Armin Baenziger, of 4 Dulwich Wood Park, SE 19. He died on Monday, 23rd July at the age of 78. Hailing from the Canton of Appenzell, he came to this country as a very young man. He joined the well-known non-ferrous metal merchants A. Strauss & Co. to which he devoted all his working life. He advanced to Manager,

then joined the board and became Managing Director. At a time when he might have thought of retiring he had to work even harder, for the untimely death of one of his co-directors Mr. Walter Meier left a serious gap. But with great energy and sense of duty he continued to direct the company until his retirement a few years ago. He was a shrewd business man of few words and with the wit and humour of his countrymen from the Appenzell. His knowledge of the non-ferrous metal trade was unequalled, and he was much respected in the City.

Mr. Baenziger joined the Swiss Mercantile Society in 1921 and he was a generous supporter of the Swiss Benevolent Society, the Swiss Observer and the Swiss Church.

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

The following couples will be celebrating their wedding anniversaries: Mr. & Mrs. H. Suter on 22nd August (52nd), Mr. & Mrs. E. Zwicky on 28th August (51st), Mr. & Mrs. H. Humbel on 24th September (35th).

The following readers will have their birthdays soon: Mr. F. Good will be 73 on 15th and Mr. G. Godet (La Neuveville) 83 on 22nd August. Mr. C. Fairweather will have his 83rd birthday on 7th September, and Mr. J. G. Michel his 65th on 8th. Mr. P. B. Haberstick will be 74 on 9th September.

Mrs. N. Towers of 75 Albion Road, N.16, will have her 75th birthday on 10th September. On 18th of the month, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Jean de Stoutz, Swiss Embassy, Per Stopani, 2/5, Moscow, USSR, will be celebrating his 60th birthday.

On 20th September, Mrs. A. Boog will have her birthday, and on 23rd Mr. W. B. Sigerist (Territet, Vaud), will be 82. Mr. M. Rothlisberger will be 74 on 25th September, and Mr. O. Rohn 67 on 1st October. Mr. W. Burren will be 66 on 4th and Mr. H. Humbel 68 on 5th October. Mrs. H. Jenne (Andeer, Gr) will have her birthday on 9th October, the same day as Mr. P. Lehrian who will be 76. Madame B. de Fischer (Berne) will have her birthday on 10th October.

To all these and any other readers whose birthdays and anniversaries will take place in the same period, we send best wishes and congratulations.

## THE DISTRESSING SACRIFICE TO MATERIAL THINGS

A reader from London, Mrs. E. Tober, has sent us the following comment following our rather severe appreciation of two of the films shown during the recent Swiss fortnight at the National Film Theatre.

I was surprised to read in your last but one issue your article about the Swiss film season at the NFT. Surely, there was no need to express your dislike of Soutter's *Les Arpenteurs* in such strong terms. This and the other film were, after

all, outside the usual run of films today – no display of copulation and no violence! You may not have liked them but it could have occurred to you that they might have appealed to some people.

I went to see two of the sessions. I admit the audience was sparse and many of them did walk out before the end. Such is the taste of today's public. I, however, as well as my English husband and teenage son, enjoyed the films very much. And for once I felt proud of my countrymen. Here are young people who have the courage to create something which they know will not be a box-office success and not appeal to the masses.

This is certainly a rare feature for the Swiss of today who have made money their god and whose ideals aim at quantity rather than at the quality of life. The materialism which exists today in Switzerland is indeed frightening. They sacrifice everything for money – more production, bigger exports, bigger profits, larger and more roads, heavier lorries, more cars, more foreign workers, etc., to achieve it. And the results are hidden by "clever" politicians and greedy capitalists!

This results in overpopulation leading to shortages of essentials such as water and electricity, over building on a restricted countryside, property speculation, pollution of lakes, rivers and the atmosphere, cutting down of forests, demolition of old buildings, overcrowding in schools and a breakdown of essential services such as the postal service and the hotel industry.

In short, a deterioration of the quality of life and an ecological breakdown!

Maybe this is why Mr. Tanner and Mr. Soutter could not show us the traditional images of Switzerland (as P.M.B. no doubt would have liked it) with its sparkling lakes and rivers, its quiet mountains and pretty villages. They are no more to be found! ... As for the film portraying the boredom of a Swiss family, it is not only true for the Swiss, but for millions of families all over the western world – because the "luxuries" we have "gained" cannot replace the things we have lost!

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION:** Next shoots at Bisley on Sundays 26th August and 7th October.

**SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY, CITY SWISS CLUB, NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE** – no meetings until September. **SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY** – no meeting until October.

## CULTURAL NEWS

Switzerland will be prominently represented at the forthcoming Edinburgh Festival. Herewith a list of events featuring Swiss artists:

Monday, August 20th – Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, 11 a.m. – The soprano *Edith Mathis*, accompanied on the piano by her husband

Bernhard Klee, sings Lieder by Mozart, Debussy and Brahms.

Wednesday, August 22nd – Usher Hall, Edinburgh, 8 p.m. – Performance of *The Soldier's Tale* by Stravinsky/Ramuz (English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Daniel Barenboim; speaker: Peter Ustinov).

# Swiss Churches

**SERVICES EN FRANCAIS:** à l'Eglise Suisse, 79 Endell Street, W.C.2, tous les dimanches à 11h15 et 19h00.

**PERMANENCE:** chaque jeudi de 15h00 à dimanche du mois, matin et soir.

**SAINTE-CENE:** le premier et troisième 18h00. **REUNION DE QUARTIER:** huit veillées en automne et au printemps: voir "Le Messager".

**CLUB DES JEUNES:** tous les dimanches de 12h00 à 22h30, tous les jeudis de 15h00 à 22h30.

**REUNION DE COUTURE:** le 2e mardi du mois. **LUNCH,** tous les dimanches à 13h00.

**VISITES:** sur demande.

**PASTEUR:** A. Nicod, 8 Park View Road, London, N.3. Téléphone 01-346 5281.

**SWISS CATHOLIC MISSION:** John Southworth Centre, 48 Great Peter Street, London, SW1P 2HA.

**Sundays:** Holy Mass at 6.30 p.m. with sermon in German, in the Club hall, ground floor.

(2nd floor at the same time, Protestant service in German).

**CONSULTATIONS AND CONFESSIONS:** by appointment.

**SERVICES EN FRANCAIS:** Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, W.C.2, on Sundays, 10.00, 11.00, 12.15, and 6.30 p.m.

**SWISS CATHOLIC YOUTH CLUB:** Open every Sunday from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. (48 Great Peter Street). Discussions, dance, lectures (with members of other denominations), Sunday services and refreshments. See programme "Die Stimme."

During the week: open according to programme of the English Youth Club.

**RESIDENCE OF CHAPLAIN:** Bossard, Swiss Catholic Mission, 48 Great Peter Street, (2nd floor), London SW1P 2HA. Telephone: 01-222 2895.

**SERVICES IN GERMAN:** at Eglise Suisse, 79, Endell Street, W.C.2, every Sunday at 9.45 a.m. Sunday school takes place on the first and the third Sunday in the month for children of all age groups. Children assemble in the church with their parents who attend the normal Service. Liturgical Service takes place every second Sunday in the month. Services also at John Southworth Centre, 48 Gt. Peter Street, S.W.1 every Sunday at 6.30 p.m.

**HOLY COMMUNION:** every first Sunday of the month at evening service at John Southworth Centre. Every second Sunday of the month at morning Services at Eglise Suisse. On major feasts at morning and evening services.

**CONSULTATIONS:** every Wednesday 4-6 p.m. at Eglise Suisse.

**DISTRICT GROUP S.E.21 and SERVICES OUTSIDE LONDON:** see "Stimme."

**"KONTAKT" (Youth Group):** every Wednesday 4-10 p.m. at Eglise Suisse. Supper at 7 p.m. Programme at 8 p.m.

**WOMEN'S CIRCLE:** every first Tuesday of the month from 12 noon onwards at the Eglise Suisse.

**MOTHER'S REUNION:** third Wednesday in the month, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Eglise Suisse.

**VISITS:** by request.

**MINISTERS:** Pfr. U. Stefan, 1, Womersley Road, N.8. Tel: 01-340 9740.