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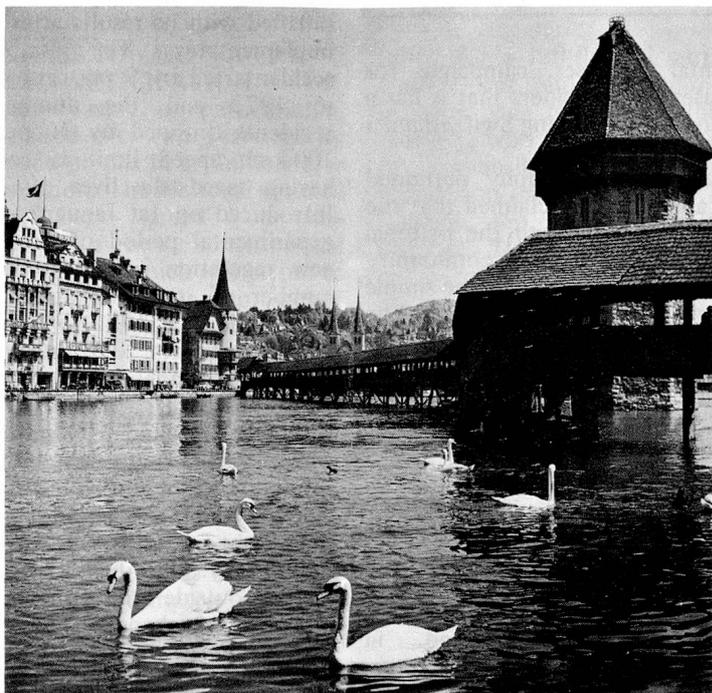
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FAVOURITE SWISS BOOKS

by Max Hubacher

Readers might be interested to learn about some good books on various aspects of Swiss life and history. These books, published by the "Verein Gute Schriften", can be obtained directly from "Gute Schriften", either from Petersgraben 29, Basel 4003, or from Falkenplatz 22, Bern 3012, or from Zetlweg 13, Zurich 8032. Their cost is from Fr. 3.50 to Fr. 6.50. A list of all the currently available booklets of this "Verein Gute Schriften" is also available. Included are reprints of classical Swiss and German literature, and works of modern Swiss authors.

I have read every one of the books mentioned below, and enjoyed every one of them:

Rudolf von Tavel Erzähla aus seinem Leben. This is an autobiography of the Bernese newspaper editor and language professor (1866–1934).

Die Schlummermutter, edited by **Hansjörg Schneider.** An old widow, a "Baselerin", relates her life to a radio reporter. Especially interesting are her keen observations and humorous comments of the present Swiss "Wohlstands Staat".

Schweizer Reise 1831, by **Felix Mendelssohn.** In the wet summer of 1831 this famous composer travelled a second time through Switzerland, mostly on foot. This is his diary, illustrated by pencil drawings he made. He visited the Wallis, the "Genfersee", the Pays d'Enhaut, the Simmenthal, Unterseen, Grimsel, Uri, Rigi, Engelberg, Meiringen, Einsiedeln, Altstätten, Trogen and St. Gallen. This diary still makes interesting reading.

Gostilitzi Erinnerungen aus der Russischen Revolution 1918–1925: by **Wera Zum Wald-Mertens.** This courageous daughter of a Russian-German family, whose father owned an estate in the

Gouvernement Kurk, and whose mother was of English birth, relates her experiences during the Russian revolution. She was eventually able to leave Russia, married a Swiss in Estonia, and the two returned to Switzerland, where she spent the rest of her life from 1927–1958.

Bergbauerin Werden, Welch ein Abenteuer, by **Josy Doyon.** The life of the author's five-member family on a piece of land on the slopes of the Engstligerental, near Frutigen, Kanton Bern, is described.

Im Dorf auf dem Seerucken, by **Illa Tanner.** It is a lively description of a "handwerklichebauerliche" family at the end of the last century and the beginning of this, living on the ridge overlooking the Untersee in the Canton of Thurgau.

Erlebnisse eines Oberländer Käasers in Russland, by **Wilhelm und Margarethe Lengacher**, illustrated. Mr. Lenacher, an Urner born 1875, emigrated in 1894 to Russia. He first worked as a cheese maker, then as manager of the farm of the estates of the old Russian nobility. He and his wife witnessed the Russian Revolution, then returned in 1921 to Switzerland.

Erinnerungen aus der Jugendzeit 1868–1890, by **Dr. Adolf Streuli.** The author was born on a small farm near Käpfnach on the southern shore of the Lürichsee. He describes the struggle of his widowed mother to educate her children, his law studies in Zurich, and his one year stay with a law firm in Paris. Dr. Streuli later became Regierungsrat of the Canton of Zurich.

Das alte Haus am Wasser, by **Ida Röthlisberger.** The author's widowed mother had to raise her children in an old house situated on the Aare river in Bern. Among many incidents, she describes the flood of the Aare, which this writer also witnessed, her encounters with the kindly Bundesrat Frey. The visit of the German Kaiser to Bern, and the rescue by one of her brothers of a baby from the waters of the river, for which deed he received 20 Rp. remuneration are also described.

Erinnerungen enter Grossmutler an Ihre Jugend- und Dienstjahre, by **E. B.** This is a reprint of a booklet first printed in 1889, and still makes interesting reading.

(Swiss American Review)