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# The Swiss Observer

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SWISS COLONY IN THE U.K.

Founded in 1919 by Paul F. Boehringer

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## PUBLISHER'S NOTE RE POSTAL CHARGES

The Post Office has announced that rising costs and the requirements to reduce losses have made increases in postal rates an unhappy necessity as from 29 September 1975. To cover this additional cost of publishing we regret that we are obliged to raise our annual subscription rate from £2.40 to £2.90 (other rates accordingly) with all renewals as from our October 1975 issue.

# NEWS FROM THE COLONY

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Dr and Mrs H. W. Egli will celebrate their 39th wedding anniversary on 6 November.

Mr A. Kunzler will be 79 on 15 November, and Mrs R. Weber will be 86 on 21 of the month. Mrs Selma Egli will have her birthday on 23 November.

Congratulations and best wishes to these and any other readers who will be celebrating birthdays and anniversaries within the next few weeks.

## Forthcoming Events

LONDON SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY, 29 October, monthly meeting with film show.

26 November, cup competition. No meeting in December.

Thursday 30 October — Queen Elizabeth Hall, 7.45 pm — Recital by the pianist *Albert Ferber* (Franck, Glinka, Rachmaninov, *Ernst Bloch*, Debussy).

Thursday 20 November; Monday 24 November; Friday 28 November — Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, 7 pm — *Silvio Varviso* conducts performances of Der

Rosenkavalier, in which *Edith Mathys* sings the part of Sophie.

Thursday 23 October, 7 pm — Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9 Belsize Grove, NW3 — Open Meeting of Nouvelle Société Helvétique — *Monsieur Charles Glausser*, Head of Consular Section of the Swiss Embassy, will give a talk on The Work of a Consul — all Swiss and their friends are welcome.

Wednesday 3 December, 7.30 pm — Swiss Church, 79 Endell Street, WC2 — an Evening of Advent Music (no tickets required, a collection will be taken).

CITY SWISS CLUB, Friday 21 November 110th Annual Banquet and Ball (see advert on page 31).

## An Apology

In our issue of September 1975 we inadvertently said in the caption to the picture "In praise of the Alphorn" that Mrs Meier had reviewed the record. Whilst she introduced the review, the latter was, of course, a reprint from the Quarterly II/III 1975 of the International Liszt Centre for 19th Century Music in London. We apologise to the ILC for the mistake.

## GOOD RESULTS FOR ACROW

The financial press in Britain is rating Acrow (Engineers) as one of the best investment opportunities in a generally depressed stock market. This company was founded by our compatriot, Mr W. A. de Vigier, who continues to run this empire with great success as shown by the rise of its ordinary shares, which gained 8p on 54p on the strength of the 1974-75 results. This was a rare exception to the general slump of industrial shares in the City. Acrow (Engineers) realised a £5.89 million pre-tax profit during its last financial year. Exports shot up by 42 per cent last year, accounting for 43 per cent of total sales of £80 million. Exports in the current year are keeping pace and the

productivity of the company has been boosted in the past two years with heavy investments in new plant and traditionally good labour relations. Output per man-year increased during that time from £5,800 to £10,700.

The Acrow (Engineers) main range of products touch on civil engineering and general construction. The firm, which is only one of the Acrow group of companies, makes elements for scaffolding, steel structures, struts, bailey bridges, shuttering systems and other items of this nature.

## NEW EXCURSION FARES TO SWITZERLAND

From 1 November Swissair will offer new excursion fares between the UK and Switzerland, available on all day flights and providing substantial savings on normal economy class return fares.

The new excursion return fare London-Basle and London-Geneva is £69.70, London-Zurich £73.70 and Manchester-Zurich £90.30. The fares are valid for one month with a minimum stay of six days, excluding the day of outward travel; their introduction means that for the first time one-month excursion fares are available on day flights between the two countries.

The main feature of Swissair's UK-Switzerland winter schedules is the operation of stretched DC-9-51 twin-jets on services from London to Zurich and Geneva, notably the peak morning and evening departures. The seating

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## SWISS WELFARE OFFICE for young people

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