**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:** - (1979)

**Heft:** 1755

#### Inhaltsverzeichnis

### 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:** 03.12.2025

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

## The Swiss Observer

**Published Monthly at** 63/67 TABERNACLE STREET **LONDON EC2A 4AH** Tel: 01-253 2321 Telegrams: Paperwyse London

EDITOR: Marianne HILL-MOSER

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

Founded in 1919 by Paul F. Boehringer

HON, PRESIDENT: Gottfried Keller

Advisory Council: F. Burri (Chairman) B. Simon (Vice-Chairman) O. F. Boehringer, J.P. (Hon. Sec.) J. Eusebio, A. Kunz, R. M. Suess P. Schweizer

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (POST FREE) UNITED KINGDOM

6 issues £2.40

12 issues £4.40

SWITZERLAND and elsewhere

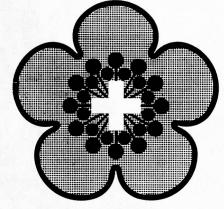
Frs. 13-or £2.50 Frs. 25-or £4.60

Swiss subscriptions may be paid into Postcheck Konto Basle 40-5718

# **Contents**

The Canton of Glarus	2
Official Communications:	Ĭ
<ul><li>The new 20-franc banknote</li><li>Stamps Europa Cept 1979</li></ul>	10 11
- The Swiss abroad and	٠.
unemployment insurance in	
Switzerland	11
<ul><li>Free Admission of Gift Parcels</li><li>Appeal to the Old Citizens of</li></ul>	12
Rougemont	12
<ul> <li>National Council Elections –</li> </ul>	
21st October 1979	12
- Stamps Pro Patria 1979	12
Communications of the Secretaria of the Swiss Abroad NSH	at
<ul> <li>Assembly of the Swiss Abroad</li> </ul>	
Application	14
Centre for Genetic Epistomology	15
Emblems of the Swiss Abroad	17
Rochat de tous pays, participez	
à cet anniversaire	17
Reka	19
Operation Nationality	20
The Sport of Shooting in Switzerland	22
Book reviews	23
Summons to all Former Students	
of the ETH Zürich	23
Swiss Community News 24-	37

### **Swiss National Day Fund**



1st August 1979 This year, the collection organized by the Swiss National Day Fund will benefit «Woman in the Service of the People». We recommend this lovely badge with St. Gall embroidery, produced almost exclusively by handicapped people.

## The Canton of Glarus

The author, Prof. Dr. Georg Thuerer, was born at Tamins (Grisons) in 1908. He grew up in the Land of Glarus. His thesis describes «The Culture of the Old Land of Glarus». From 1940 to 1978 he was Ordinary Professor of German Language and Literature, as well as of Swiss History at the Graduate Institute of Economics and Social Sciences in St. Gall. His chief scientific work is the «History of St. Gall» (1953/72). The publication in honour of his birthday, «Erker», «Speeches and Essays on the Culture of Eastern Switzerland» and offers a catalogue of his poetic, historic and civic works for which he was awarded the Culture Prize of the town of St. Gall (1966) and that of Glarus in 1978.

Nature preshapes the State

Amongst the Swiss Cantons, there are a few whose boundaries could almost be recognized on a map in relief. We think of the giant compound of the Valais, of the valley State of Uri or the rocky area of Glarus. The Zurich chronicler Johannes Stumpf depicts this rocky protection admirably «The Land of Glarus is guarded on three sides with terribly impressive, even high and mighty mountains which act as invincible city walls». Only towards the North is there a gateway which could be blocked by a The self-contained barricade. landscape is such that every drop of water which runs off Glarus ground is collected by the river Linth in the valley. The yokes of the passes in the East and the South rest on the watershed, and it is only in the West that the Cantons of Uri (Klausen) and Schwyz (Pragel) reach above the pass height.

Most of the mountains of Glarus (Toedi, Glaernisch, Wiggis and Schilt) consist of limestone. In the East, we find the red sernifit and in the North some conglomerate rock. The bottom of the valley rises only slightly from the Lake of Walenstadt towards the capital Glarus. Yet the smallest village

right at the back of the main valley, Linthal, lies only 682 m above sealevel; the Toedi (3620 m) rises to nearly 3000 meters behind it. The impressive rockfaces rising steeply from the bottom of the valley give the landscape a majestic character. Along the Linth, the villages are strung like pearls on a rope. There are only two inhabited sidevalleys, the Sernf - or Small Valley to the East and the Kloental to the West, as well as the settlements on the two terraces, the holiday and sports resort of Braunwald (South) and the Kerenzerberg (North).

Of the People and its Language

The people of Glarus are small in number. In 1977, its population was estimated at 35 700. Thus it is one of two Cantons - the other is its neighbour Uri - which send more Councillors of State to Berne than National Councillors; two of the former, one only of the latter. The proportion of foreigners with 16% is rather high. This is explained by the fact that a large number of inhabitants work in industry. For over a thousand years, German has been the main language in the Canton. Previously, Rhaeto-Romansh was spoken on the Upper Linth, and many names still remind us of this. The name of Glarus (Clarona) is derived from the Latin clarus which, in Romanesque languages, means a light spot in the dark wooded countryside. There is no doubt that the primitive Rhaeto-Romansh population was not

In the language, however, the Alemans who immigrated around the 7th century, prevailed com-

expelled, but germanized. This is

shown in the fact that there is only

one fair-haired, blue-eyed person

to a dozen people with dark hair

and eyes.