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Communications of the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad

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Assembly of the Swiss Abroad at Porrentruy 24th-26th August 1979

Application

Final date for applying: 20.7.1979

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Number of children _____

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Gemeindehaus (Hôtel de Ville)
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Saturday, 25th August
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Signature: _____

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I am taking part at an Assembly of the Swiss Abroad for the first time ☐ yes ☐ no

Number of participation tickets required _____ at 80 Swiss francs
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- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 24.8 Friday afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Crossbow shooting (personal expenses) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Tour of the town (Fr. 5.-) |
| Friday evening | <input type="checkbox"/> Official opening of the Assembly (Fr. 5.-) |
| 25.8 Saturday morning and afternoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Plenary session (free lunch) (Fr. 10.-) |
| Saturday evening | <input type="checkbox"/> Festive evening at Porrentruy, with dinner (Fr. 25.-) |
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I shall need bed and breakfast for the following dates: _____ rooms with _____ beds for

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Communications of the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad

Centre for Genetic Epistemology

In the «Year of the Child», we should like to present a personality who has devoted all his life to the psychology of the child. It is Professor Jean Piaget, the world-renowned authority in the field of human behaviour in genetics.

Jean Piaget was born in Neuchâtel on 9th August 1896. As a child he was first interested in mechanics, then in birds, fossils and seashells. At the age of 10, he wrote his first scientific essay; it was an article on «An Albino Sparrow», which was published by a magazine on natural history. During the following four years, he was allowed to study birds at the Natural History Museum in Neuchâtel, apart from going to school. By the time he was 21, when he completed his studies with a doctorate on zoology, he had already published over twenty articles on molluscs. A few years previously, his knowledge had brought him a flattering offer to take on the post as curator of the mollusc collection of the Natural History Museum in Neuchâtel; he had to refuse the offer, since at that time he had still two years to go to matriculation.

After he had written his thesis on zoology, Piaget turned to philosophy, and immediately, it was the field of epistemology (theory of the grounds of knowledge) which fascinated him. He decided to devote his life to the «biological explanation of knowledge». Since he was at first unable to do any experimental research, he established a system which was to serve him as a guide for his future work. He began with the tests of his theories at the Binet Institute in Paris. He conducted methodical discussions in the course of which

he made the surprising discovery that the most simple reflections which imply fitting a part into a whole, presented difficulties for children up to 11, of which adults have no idea.

After he had been nominated leader of this work at the Rousseau Institute in Geneva, Piaget decided to concern himself with the psychology of the child, in order to gain experimental knowledge of the structures of intelligence. Subsequently, he wanted to establish a scientific epistomo-



Jean Piaget

logy. What was intended as a preliminary only, occupied him for more than 30 years and resulted in a complete renewal of the theories on psychology and intelligence. In 1925, Piaget accepted a call to the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Neuchâtel, where he lectured on «the study of development of ideas as observed in the history of research as well as in

child psychology. In 1929, he was appointed professor of history on scientific thinking at the University of Geneva, where he was also involved in the foundation of the International Office on Education. In 1939, when the chair of sociology became vacant, Piaget was nominated for the post without his knowledge. Nevertheless, he accepted and subsequently wrote his work «The Moral Judgment of a Child». He was appointed director of a series of research projects and initiated his experiments on fundamental concepts of physics regarding time, movement and speed. The study in the field of the beginning of intuition about speed had been recommended to him by Einstein in 1928; the latter, while he was leader of the first international courses on philosophy and psychology at Davos, advocated the theory that the psychological notion of speed was older than the notion of time.

From 1952 to 1963, Piaget taught child psychology at the Sorbonne in Paris. In 1956, he received a notable financial gift from the Rockefeller Foundation, which enabled him to create an International Centre for Epistemology at the University of Geneva, which unites specialists in various fields (logicians, mathematicians, physicists, biologists, experts on cybernetics, psychologists and linguists), who combine theoretical investigations with experimental analysis.

At the age of 83, Jean Piaget has honorary doctorates from over 30 universities. He gave up his lecturing at the University in 1971 and has since devoted his time entirely to research. For some years now, he has been preoccupied with the basic processes and mechanisms of psychogenesis.

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Piaget's Work

Jean Piaget has written an impressive number of books and is co-author of the 36 volumes published so far by «Presses Universitaires de France» under the title «Etudes d'épistémologie génétique». Below are mentioned some of his works:

- Le langage et la pensée chez l'enfant, Neuchâtel and Paris, Delachaux & Niestlé, 1923.
- La naissance de l'intelligence chez l'enfant, Neuchâtel and Paris, Delachaux & Niestlé, 1936.
- La construction du réel chez l'enfant, Neuchâtel and Paris, Delachaux & Niestlé, 1937.
- Le développement de la notion de temps chez l'enfant, Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1946, 8^e éd. 1973.
- Les notions de mouvement et de vitesse chez l'enfant, Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1946.
- Traité de logique. Essai de logistique opératoire, Paris, Colin 1949; réédition, Paris, Dunod, 1972.
- Les relations entre l'affectivité et l'intelligence dans le développement mental de l'enfant, Paris, C.D.U., 1954.
- Traité de psychologie expérimentale, t. I et VII, Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1963.
- Biologie et connaissance, Paris, Gallimard, 1967.
- Le structuralisme, Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1968; coll. «Que sais-je?».
- Psychologie et épistémologie (choix d'articles), Paris, Denoël, 1970.

Emblems of the Swiss Abroad

You can purchase the following articles from the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, 3000 Berne 16:

- Flags with the emblem of Fifth Switzerland, price according to size, from Sr. 40.- for 30×50 cm; Sfr. 60.- for 100×100 cm. Swivel hook Sfr. 2.- extra.
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Novelties

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Il y a 500 ans, vos ancêtres arrivaient à la vallée de Joux

Rochat de tous pays, participez à cet anniversaire

Au début de l'an 1480, Vinet Rochat et ses fils, fuyant la région alors particulièrement tourmentée de Rochejean, dans l'actuel département français du Doubs, traversaient la forêt du Risoux et s'installaient à L'Abbaye, aux portes d'un couvent de Prémontrés. Par la suite, les descendants de cette famille prirent souche dans toute la vallée de Joux, se répandirent à travers le canton de Vaud, la Suisse et même de nombreux pays étrangers.

C'est aux Rochat expatriés dans ces derniers que s'adresse cet appel. Les 1, 2 et 3 août 1980, en effet, les personnes portant ce patronyme se retrouveront à L'Abbaye pour célébrer le 500^e anniversaire de l'arrivée de Vinet sur le territoire comblé. Ce retour aux sources devrait permettre de nombreuses et sympathiques rencontres et retrouvailles au gré des diverses manifestations auxquelles il donnera lieu. Mais pour que cette fête revête toute sa signification, il est très important que le plus grand

nombre possible de Rochat y participe. C'est la raison pour laquelle les organisateurs tiennent à y associer ceux «des leurs» qui, momentanément ou de manière permanente, depuis peu ou depuis plusieurs générations, résident à l'étranger. Car pour ceux-là comme pour ceux qui vivent en Suisse, cette manifestation sera, d'une certaine manière, le moyen de retrouver leurs origines.

Les personnes intéressées sont donc priées de faire parvenir au plus vite, à l'adresse ci-dessous, leur demande de renseignements pour l'inscription. Par ailleurs, le comité d'organisation serait reconnaissant à tous les Suisses de l'étranger qui liront ces lignes de bien vouloir les signaler à l'attention des Rochat qu'ils pourraient connaître dans leur pays d'adoption.

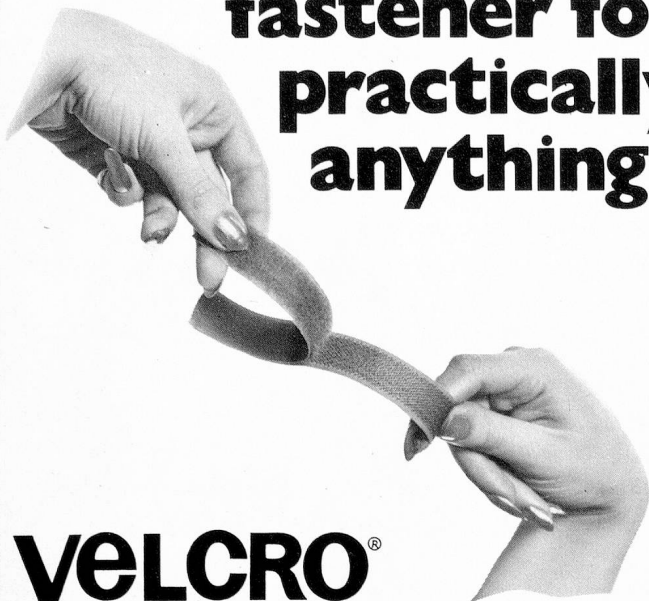
Comité d'organisation du 500^e
anniversaire des Rochat
CH-1341 L'Abbaye



Apart from these articles, we have pleasure in informing you that the book by Hans Tschaeni «Mini-Profil der Schweiz» published in 1974, has been translated under the auspices of the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad. It has been illustrated by André Paul. An additional chapter regarding the Swiss abroad has been put in the French version. 140 pages, pocket-size, price Sfr. 10.-.

We shall be pleased to look after your order and to give you additional information if you need it.

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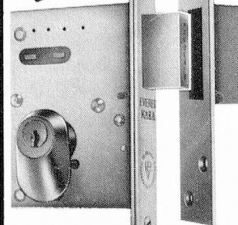
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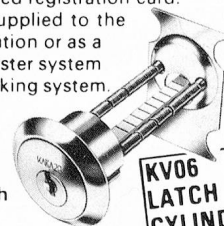
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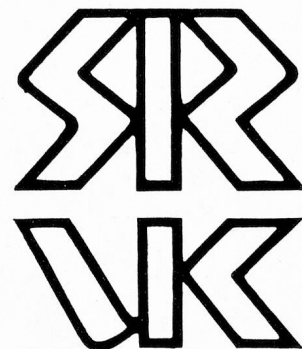
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Reka

The Services of the Swiss «Reisekasse» (Travel co-operative)

Reka is a co-operative society with the aim of promoting tourism in Switzerland, especially for those who have limited resources at their disposal. Its most important instrument are the *Reka-cheques* which are issued at reduced prices by many employers, employees' associations and co-operative societies to employees or members. Reka-cheques represent a means of payment for hotels and travelling in Switzerland, and they are accepted by most transport undertakings, many hotels and restaurants, owners of holiday flats, coach companies, travel agents etc.

In its *holiday centres* at Albonago near Lugano, Berguen in the Albula Valley, Lenk in the Simmental, Montfaucon in the Franches Montagnes, Wildhaus in the Toggenburg and Zinal in the Val d'Anniviers, Reka lets comfortable holiday flats. The rents are adjusted to the income of the tenants: someone with a low income pays less for the same flat than somebody who has a medium or high income. During school holidays, the Reka Centres are reserved for families resident in Switzerland (Christmas/New Year/Easter/July to the middle of August). Outside school holidays, they are also available to tenants resident abroad.

The *Reka Hiking Pass* is a particularly favourable offer. It is issued for the following regions: Emmental, Jura, Appenzell, Toggenburg and the Canton of Schwyz. The price of 44 francs (valid 2 days) 104 francs (valid 4 days), or 188 francs (valid 7 days) includes the use of all public trans-



Reka-holiday centre at Wildhaus in the Toggenburg.

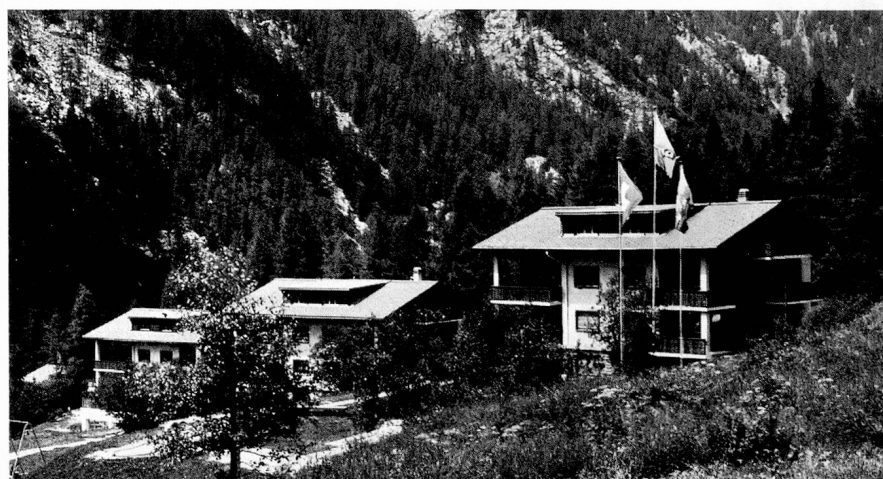
port in the region (like in a general season ticket) plus the corresponding numbers of nights with bed and breakfast at a hotel. Children up to 16 pay half only. Together with every pass, a booklet with suggested rambles is issued. The passes are on sale at station ticket offices or direct from Reka.

The *Reka season ticket for cable railways* allows cheaper use of them in summer. It contains

vouchers to the value of 132 francs and is issued at 95 francs, i.e. a reduction of 28%. It is valid for three years and may be used summer and winter in payment of single trips on over 1000 funicular railways, aerial cableways, cabin and chair lifts. The season ticket is not personal and thus particularly useful for families. It may be purchased at most co-operative stores «Coop» or direct from Reka.

Reka, Schweizer Reisekasse, 3001 Berne

Reka-holiday centre in the Val d'Anniviers.



Communications of the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad

Operation Nationality

The appeal which appeared in our December number 1978 has provoked lively interest. We should like to thank warmly all those who have given us their comments or their suggestions. The Swiss societies generally have been very active in the matter, which is also most gratifying. We should also like to express our thanks and appreciation to the ad hoc groups which were formed and worked with admirable zeal. We are thinking above all of the groups in Belgium, Columbia, Spain and Singapore.

Some Swiss papers abroad published a questionnaire, so for instance «Le Messenger Suisse» (France), the «Swiss American Review» (USA) and the «Gazzetta Svizzera» (Italy), which contributed considerably in stimulating the interest of our compatriots living abroad. The societies strengthened their discussion meetings by an appeal to all members, so that everyone could express an opinion on the subject.

We received nearly 2500 letters. Although the time limit has passed, we still receive comments every day. It is therefore not possible to answer everyone individually, and we trust that you will understand.

The evaluation has been started. In one of the next issues of this paper, you will be given the final results. It is certain already that they will be in favour of our initiative.

We should like to stress that the flood of letters motivated our President, National Councillor Dr. Alfred Weber, to intervene in Parliament in order that Swiss nationality should also be accorded to children of Swiss mothers and foreign fathers, born abroad. This was the fourth effort in this matter within two years, and a Motion has already found agreement in the Federal Council.

The legislative machinery has thus been set in motion, and we can assure you that we shall follow carefully all further developments.

Many thanks for your kind assistance in the matter and your valuable co-operation.

Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad

Springli

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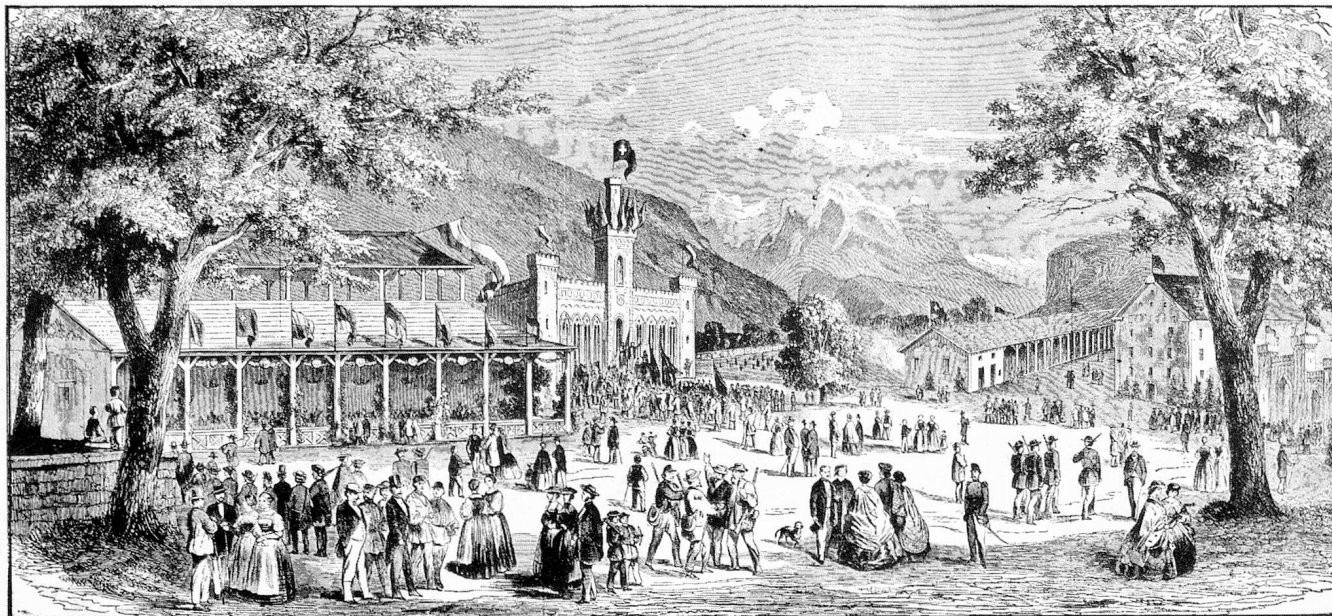
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Stans 1861

The federal shooting festivals played an important role in the unification of the country. The photo was taken at the one at Stans in 1861. (The picture is by courtesy of the *Schweizerisches Schützenmuseum* [the Swiss Museum of Carabineers] in Berne.)

The Sport of Shooting in Switzerland

A Tradition of a Thousand Years

For centuries, Wilhelm Tell poses at his residence at Altdorf, his crossbow over shoulder and chest. It is not just a stereotype image or traditional expression which the outsider may consider as the origin of our old-established sport; this symbol actually comes very near to reality, for it was there that, at the beginning of this millenium, a sense of national independence was born and developed and later extended to Communes in mountains and valleys of Central Switzerland.

Popular Festivals

Every organization connected with shooting has as its aim to secure the running preparations for war, or rather the defence of national independence. Thus quite early, associations or companies

for archery, crossbow shooting and the use of the lance were established. Their shooting contests very soon offered an opportunity of real popular festivals, of «Kilbis», and these always under a patron saint; the basis of every association in the Middle-Ages was indeed its organization in a religious sense. These fraternities, like those of St. Sebastian, were able to count on the support of the civic authorities, and from the 14th century onward, they also extended to *Romand* territory, and steadily expanded under the rule of the House of Savoy which encouraged them by according them privileges and committed them to donate annual prizes. Amongst the many types of shooting, *le tir au papegeai* (shooting on wooden birds) was very popular. These companies had an almost family character and followed an extremely strict code of honour;

they were still very much alive after the introduction of fire-arms which gradually supplanted the arquebusiers with sharp-shooters. They disappeared completely at the end of the 19th century with the French Revolution and the arrival of the Helvetic Republic.

The Rallying of the Fraternity

Once the first quarter of the 19th century had passed, the sport of shooting was to flourish again. The guiding principles of the future Confederate State had been established. The companies were re-instated and took on an unifying and patriotic role, and in 1824, the first federal shooting festival took place. Out of that grew the creation of the Swiss Rifle Shooting Society which later established itself as civil partner of the State, responsible for maintaining the exigencies of the militia army's capacity to shoot. With an

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umbrella of cantonal associations, the Society has half a million members today from nearly 5000 sections.

Men and Women Champions

One must not forget that patriotic and military shooting which obliges every soldier to join a shooting association ever since 1883, is also a sport in which Switzerland has won many world victories. Suffice it to mention just Konrad Staehli who, at the beginning of this century, was world champion 23 times, or Moritz Minder who won the gold medal in free pistol shooting at the last

world championships in Séoul and to whom Switzerland owes a return to the top of the international scene after a long eclipse. Shooting as a sport, by the way, is not followed only by the so-called strong sex, but it is also open to women who, like recently in Séoul, have achieved excellent results.

More than 70 Swiss Associations abroad

Over the whole globe, Swiss abroad, united in 70 different groups, follow this age-old sport with enthusiasm outside the frontiers of

our country. One finds them above all in France, Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, Australia, South Africa, USA and Chile. The federal shooting festivals which take place every five years, afford them an opportunity of competing with their compatriots in Switzerland on the occasion of the traditional honorary contest of the Swiss shots from abroad. This year, they are expected in large numbers on 14th, 15th and 16th July during the 50th Federal Shooting Festival organized by the town of Lucerne to commemorate the 800th anniversary of its foundation.

Book reviews

«La nouvelle littérature romande» (The new French-Swiss literature)

The author of this work, Manfred Gsteiger, Professor of comparative literature at the University of Lausanne, tries to make better known the *Romand* authors from 1945 to the present.

This book contains two parts. 1. Works, themes and trends. 2. Helvetic perspectives. 247 pages. Text in French. Format 16x24 cm. Editions Bertil Galland, rue du Lac, 1800 Vevey, Switzerland, and Publications Ex Libris in Lausanne and Zurich.

«Image des autres, image de soi?» (Portrait of the others, self-portrait?)

How do the Swiss see the Third World? The author Gilbert Rist answers this question. But apart from the analysis of the documents published by the Swiss Organization for Co-operation, other questions crop up which go beyond the Swiss context and the simple phenomenon of the perception of others. Format 16x24 cm. 416 pages. Text in French. Price SFr 34. — Orders to be sent to the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, 3000 Berne 16, Switzerland.

«La Suisse à la rencontre de l'Europe» (Switzerland meets Europe)

This is a book describing the epic of the foreign service covering the period from the Council of Basle (1444) to the Peace of Westphalia (1648). It has a preface by the Duke of Castries of the Académie Française.



The author of this remarkable work is Jean-René Bory, well known in Swiss centres abroad and to many participants at the Assembly of the Swiss Abroad. Throughout the 312 pages richly and beautifully illustrated, Jean-René Bory lets us discover many historic aspects hardly imagined, by his catching style. A slice of history which one reads like an exciting story. It is published in French only by Editions Spes SA, route d'Oron 39, 1010 Lausanne. This book of 312 pages with 510 illustrations will delight everyone. Format: 220x285. Price: Sfr 130.—, luxury edition bound in plain leather: Sfr 240.—. Available: in France: DNS, rue de Grenelle 32, 75007 Paris. In Belgium: Servedi, rue Otlet 44, 1070 Brussels. In Canada: Dif Liaisons, 525, 4^e Verdun, Montreal, H.4.G.2Y.2.

Summons

to all Former Students of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH (Zürich)

On the occasion of next year's 125th Anniversary of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zürich (1855–1980) the Association of Former Students of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich (GEP) would like to present the ETH with a gift in the form of a statistical graphic (world map) entitled: «The emanation of the ETH Zürich in the World.» Number and faculty section of the former students of the ETH Zürich will be quoted and arranged countrywise. In order to shape the graphic as representational as possible, we kindly ask you to submit the following counterfoil until end of October 1979 to

GEP-Secretariat
Association of Former Students
of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
ETH-Zentrum
CH-8092 Zürich/Switzerland

Counterfoil

For: Graphic «The Emanation of the ETH Zürich in the World»

Surname: _____

First Name: _____

Faculty Section at ETH: _____

Year of Diploma: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____