

**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:** - (1980)  
**Heft:** 1763  
  
**Rubrik:** For the gardener

### **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:** 11.12.2025

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

teller, also read the bible and sang hymns with them. He also worked as a vet and as a dentist.

In order to fully understand Jacob Kuenzler's great achievements, one has to say a few words about the political situation. The Armenian Question arose after the Russo-Turkish war in 1878. Under the pretext of liberating Armenians from their Turkish overlords, Russia annexed more of Georgia and Armenia. Great Britain intervened. Under the Treaty of Berlin the Russians left Erzerum and the Upper Euphrates Valley in return for a promise from the Turks that reforms would be made in the provinces inhabited by Armenians. Thus the Armenians became an instrument of British anti-Russian policy in Turkey, and slowly they were being oppressed; their language was stopped, the schools closed, the property of the Church confiscated and many Armenians exiled to Siberia.

Gradually the situation worsened, and in 1895 the Sultan succumbed to British pressure and agreed to implement the proposed reforms, but was exasperated by foreign interference in his country's affairs that he gave orders for a general massacre of Armenians – 300,000 were killed. This appalling slaughter led to an attack by a group of

Armenians on the Ottoman Bank in the capital in 1896, hoping to attract Western attention to the suffering of their fellow-countrymen. 6,000 Armenians were killed in Constantinople before the very eyes of the Western Powers who were supposedly responsible for their protection.

In the Balkans and South Arabia there had been uprisings against the Turkish Government and these had been put down in bloody massacres. The Union of Progress planned a bloodless revolution in 1909; separatist movements and national minorities became active, and in turn Kurds attacked Turks, Armenians and Assyrians in Eastern Anatolia. The Turks, reacting against the liberal policies of the new leadership, attacked Armenians and killed another 30,000 of them. A year of unrest followed until the government of the Young Turks was firmly established, but the hopes of the minorities remained unfulfilled.

In 1909 Jacob and Elisabeth Kuenzler and their young family went on leave to Switzerland. On returning they carried on their work right up to the war in 1914. When it came nothing changed at first. Dr. Vischer was in Switzerland, was called up and did not return to Urfa until 1919. The Kuenzlers were faced with the well-nigh super-

human task of running the Mission in wartime. Some of Jacob's assistants were called up. Every fund-raising opportunity had to be seized, as all communications with the outside world were cut.

Beds at the hospital had to be kept for soldiers. Elisabeth was busy dipping candles, smoking meat, drying fruit, making corn starch and grape sugar, grinding wheat for flour. Children and servants collected twigs and manure which were made into flat "cakes" dried in the sun, to be used as fuel later.

Jacoub Effendi fell ill with typhoid fever. In mosques and churches they prayed for him. Fighting on all fronts with Turkey went on, and casualty lists lengthened. Lots of Armenians deserted, and the population suffered rough treatment at the hands of the Turkish police.

In March, 1915, eighteen of the more influential families in Urfa were arrested and deported. Over 200 Armenians were taken prisoner. When Jacob had recovered, he went to Aleppo to report the state of affairs to the Consuls of Britain, France, Germany and the USA. But though his statements were put on record, nothing was done — the nations had bigger worries. Things went from bad to worse, all Armenian soldiers were put in labour camps.

*(To be continued)*

## FOR THE GARDENER

### LUPIN (*Lupinus*)



**LUPIN**

Hardy and half hardy annuals and perennials of more than 100 species. Only a few of these species are now grown as they, with their hybrids provide a great variety of lovely plants.

Both annuals and perennials are best propagated from seed which should be sown outdoors from March to August. The small plants should be pricked out and planted in position.

Lupins do best in a good rich, well drained soil, preferably in a sunny position. They do not like lime and care in choosing a site should be taken in this respect. A heavy dressing of manure should be given annually with plenty of liquid manure during dry spells.

Plants should not be moved when once planted out and early staking is

advised. To prolong the flowering season dead spikes should be removed as soon as possible.

Modern Russell Lupins are a variety which come in various and mixed colours looking very handsome when planted in clumps.

Apart from their decorative use Lupins can be used as a green manure as they are capable of obtaining nitrogen from the air.

Species:

*L. polyphyllus*: is the commonest type. Has really lovely leaves and good spikes of dark blue flowers.

*L. arboreus*: (Tree Lupin) is a hardy evergreen which develops into good bushes with yellow and red flowers.

*L. a. Albus*: is the white variety of the Tree Lupin. It is very fragrant.