What other people say about us : Switzerlands national stocktaking

Autor(en): **[s.n.]**

Objekttyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): **- (1939)**

Heft 916

PDF erstellt am: **19.03.2024**

Persistenter Link: https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-692783

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Inhalten der Zeitschriften. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern.
Die auf der Plattform e-periodica veröffentlichten Dokumente stehen für nicht-kommerzielle Zwecke in Lehre und Forschung sowie für die private Nutzung frei zur Verfügung. Einzelne Dateien oder Ausdrucke aus diesem Angebot können zusammen mit diesen Nutzungsbedingungen und den korrekten Herkunftsbezeichnungen weitergegeben werden.
Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Die systematische Speicherung von Teilen des elektronischen Angebots auf anderen Servern bedarf ebenfalls des schriftlichen Einverständnisses der Rechteinhaber.

Haftungsausschluss

Alle Angaben erfolgen ohne Gewähr für Vollständigkeit oder Richtigkeit. Es wird keine Haftung übernommen für Schäden durch die Verwendung von Informationen aus diesem Online-Angebot oder durch das Fehlen von Informationen. Dies gilt auch für Inhalte Dritter, die über dieses Angebot zugänglich sind.

Ein Dienst der *ETH-Bibliothek*
ETH Zürich, Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zürich, Schweiz, www.library.ethz.ch

http://www.e-periodica.ch

Wakefield, Chief Commoner, Mr. Deputy Dutton and Mr. Robertson.

The other guests were :—

The Earl of Limerick, Marshal of the R.A.F., Sir John Salmond, Sir Horace Rumbold, The Hon. Sir Odo Russell, General Sir Sidney Clive, Sir Kynaston Studd, Sir Claud Schuster, Mr. Leslie Burgin, M.P., Mr. L. S. Amery, M.P., Brig.-General E. L. Spears, M.P., Colonel H. Nathan, M.P., The Mayor of St. Marylebone, Alderman P. Stiles-Allen, Councillor T. C. G. Sperni, M.P., Admiral Im Thurn, Dr. G. Kullmann, Major Hans Vischer, Mr. H. Oppenheimer, Mr. R. Deakin, Mr. A. Stanley Bell, Mr. Gordon Montgomery Morier, Mr. Briner, President of the Government of the canton of Zurich, Dr. Klöti, "Stadtpräsident" of Zurich, Mr. W. W. Schindler, Mr. M. H. Pillichody, Colonel Max Hoegger, Mr. P. Cardinaux, Mr. F. Niederer, Mr. R. Cottier, Mr. G. Schürch, Mr. Primus Bon, Colonel Anton Bon, Mr. V. P. Ceresole, Mr. E. Kessler, Mr. A. Nussbaumer, Dr. Pettavel, M. de Jenner, M. Girardet.

After dinner, a reception took place for the Presidents of the Swiss Societies in London and other members of the Swiss Colony.

The special Delegation left London for Paris on Friday morning.

WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAY ABOUT US.

SWITZERLAND'S NATIONAL STOCKTAKING.

The launching of a great national exhibition is very much an act of faith at the best of times, but in periods of high political tension, when the measure of public support cannot be gauged accurately and the attendance of visitors from outside the country is problematical, the risks of heavy financial loss and damaged prestige are doubled.

It takes men of vision and patriotic courage to plan such enterprises in a time of trade depression, as Scotland did so successfully at Bellahouston Park, and it may not be without significance for the future of the troubled Continent of Europe that two small nations, Switzerland and Belgium, are this year daring the political storm by holding exhibitions at Zurich and Liége.

The last Swiss National Exhibition was opened in Berne shortly before the outbreak of war in 1914, and all Switzerland is hoping that history will not repeat itself in this respect.

As these national "stocktakings" of a progressive and inventive people are held at intervals of 25 years, they have a profound significance to every canton, city, and commune in registering the advances made in all aspects of the rich Helvetian civilisation. They are equally important as a token of confederative union.

Proudly flying the flags of all the cantons, the city is proclaiming Switzerland's "unity in diversity" anew, to herself and to the world. The National Exhibition is a magnificent demonstration of her democratic faith and her achievements in agriculture, science, engineering, medicine, and the social services. There is no specific art pavilion in the Exhibition, yet art is everywhere evident in the treatment of subjects.

In the two beautiful parks situated on opposite shores of the Lake of Zurich, with their background of hills and alpine peaks, the 27 architects who collaborated in designing the buildings and layout of the Swiss Exhibition had an ideal setting on which to bring their plans to fruition.

Challenge to Mountains.

Their decision to establish an aerial link between the two sides of the Exhibition gave Swiss engineers an opportunity to throw up a new challenge in the face of the mountains and provide the dominant spectacular feature — a suspension railway with two towers, 225 feet high, and a span of 2,700 feet joining the Belvoir Park and the Zürichhorn sections. This overhead ferry gives its passengers full value for their money in a superb view of the Lake, the Exhibition, and the lustrous city below.

By holding the tenth Swiss Agricultural Exhibition at the same time as the national display, the organisers were able to show their own people — varied in race, language and religion — a microcosm of the national life in which German, French, Italian, and Romansch-speaking elements participate without sacrificing their individual characteristics, and to express to the world at large Switzerland's historic achievement as the welder of races.

While the Exhibition gives the impression of being the most comprehensive national display ever organised, it does not flaunt its nationality. On the contrary, a visitor feels that there is an air of cultivated understatement in Switzerland's account of her stewardship.

The architectural style of the pavilions and the technique of display adopted inside them suggest the warm, intimate, and friendly atmosphere of Swiss homesteads. Whole forests had to be felled to provide timber for the Exhibition, but the picturesque trees on the site were spared so far as possible to take their place in the general scheme.

There is a pleasing diversity of building forms. All are fairly low so that the natural harmony of the landscape is not disturbed. The profusion of flowers in the decorative scheme, the tree-lined lanes of winding waterways lend an aura of freshness to the layout.

Touch of Nature.

On the right shore of the lake in the spreading parks and gardens of Zürichhorn the agricultural section provides a charming touch of the country with all the paraphernalia of Swiss husbandry represented. It pictures the soil and the people who live by it, and there is a typical village as the centre of life in the commune. Here visitors can sample the wines of the Valais, Vaud, Neuchâtel, and Ticino districts in wine lodges built in the characteristic style of each canton.

The National Exhibition on the left side of the lake reveals facets of Switzerland's activities in the industrial, social, and cultural spheres which are not always adequately appreciated in other countries.

The arrangement of exhibits makes for clarity. This clarity is evident in every department of the Exhibition. Everything is relative to the main theme. The importance of a product or an industry to the country can be judged by the space given to it and by comprehensive tables "animated statistics."

The technique is also productive. Electricity generated in the pavilion is at the service of the Exhibition; milk from the Exhibition cows, vegetables from the gardens, and other products of this "working model" of Switzerland find their way direct to the guest houses and restaurants of the Exhibtion, and even to neighbouring parts of the town.

Work is in progress in all sections of the Exhibition. The visitor can gain a good idea of why Switzerland, a country with no metals, has succeeded in building a great export trade for precision instruments and engineering products.

The biggest "workshop" in the Exhibition is the aluminium pavilion, where the display starts with bauxite mining and leads through the various processes to the production of the metal proper and the finished article. Engineers and chemists are at work on research and control work. Miners and factory hands carry out their allotted tasks in the machine-like organisation.

Land and People Section.

The "Land and People" section, with its first pavilion dedicated to the soil of Switzerland, is one of the most interesting to visitors from abroad. Here the political and spiritual values that have been the foundation of the State for 650 years find expression. Federalism, that essential quality of the whole political life of the country, the independence of the cantons and communes, and the rich cultural life are illustrated by gigantic frescoes and "tables of history."

The pavilion, which is dedicated to "The People," has a fascinating "language cinema," which gives the foreign visitor an idea of the amazing variety of dialects spoken in Switzerland, some of which have come down almost unchanged from mediæval times.

Transport arrangements are miniature electric trains driven from batteries and the Schifflibach, a powered canal which threads its way through the Exhibition carrying boatloads of visitors without a boatman. The "Schiffli" enables visitors to see the panorama of the Exhibition in lordly leisure gliding through flowery gardens, under bridges, and into the actual pavilions. This ingenious device was perfected by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.

(*Glasgow Herald.*)

PERSONAL.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. O. Schneider, Chancellor to the Consulate General of Switzerland, in Dublin, on his appointment as Acting-Consul in the Free City of Danzig. Mr. Schneider was for several years at the Swiss Legation in London where he has a large circle of friends.

* * *

The wedding is taking place to-day at St. Mary's Church, Acocks Green, Birmingham, of Miss Mary, Elisabeth Ellison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Ellison, Birmingham, to Mr. Dermot Nesbit Evans.

We extend our best wishes for a happy and bright future to the bridal pair.

ADDA HEYNSSEN AND EVA CATTANEO PIANO AND SONG RECITAL.

June 8th and 9th, at 8.30 p.m.

We are pleased to inform our readers that our well-known compatriote, Mlle Eva Cattaneo, who on so many occasions delighted us with her beautiful voice, will give two songs together with Mlle. Adda Heynssen (Piano).

The concerts are given under the auspices of the London Theatre Studio Society at the London Theatre Studio, Providence Place, Upper Street, Islington, N.1. (Tube: Angel).

The programme will include Mozart, Schumann, Heynssen, Pizzetti, Milhaud.

Tickets 3/6 (Tax included) *in advance only from* Eva Cattaneo, 74, Cromwell Avenue, N.6. (Tel: Mountview 1085).

We hope that many members of the Colony will attend one or the other of these recitals.



In 3 hours to
SWITZERLAND
by
SWISSAIR
or IMPERIAL AIRWAYS

LUXURIOUS AIR LINERS. *Stewardess on board.*

Daily Service :

14.00	dep.	CROYDON	arr.	12.40
16.45	arr.	BASLE	dep.	9.40
17.25	arr.	ZURICH	dep.	9.00

At Basle and Zurich train connections to and from all parts of Switzerland.

Booking by any travel agent or Imperial Airways (*General agent*) Airways House, Buckingham Palace Road, (Tel. Victoria 2323) - day & night, - or Swiss Federal Railways, 11b, Regent Street, S.W.1.

Drink delicious "Ovaltine" at every meal—for Health!

Peaceful
SWITZERLAND
£ now buys around 21 Swiss francs

- no bother at the frontier
- prices to suit every pocket
- short and inexpensive journey
- direct rail and air services
- customs facilities for cars
- cheap petrol for visitors
- holiday centres for all seasons

Swiss National Exhibition, Zurich, May 6-Oct. 29

INFORMATION from the Swiss Railways & State Travel Bureau, 11-B Regent Street, London, S.W.1. 'Phone: WHitehall 9851

Switzerland's
GRUYERE
CHEESE



"As Popular in ENGLAND as it is in the OLD COUNTRY"

"UNEQUALLED in FLAVOUR"
"EASILY DIGESTED"
"RICH in VITAMINS"

WISS CHEESE UNION. BERNE. SWITZERLAND