

Interesting books and other publications

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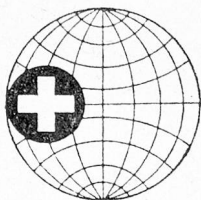
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INTERESTING BOOKS
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The **Annuaire of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique** in Switzerland (1967) has been edited by the former President, Mr. Théo Chopard, Berne. It contains some two dozen essays on State Reform by prominent people. The idea of total revision of the Federal Constitution has started serious discussion, and the New Helvetic Society hopes that the book will make a valuable contribution to the vital problem of State Reform. Amongst the authors are Councillor of States Dr. Karl Obrecht ("Notwendigkeit und Aufgabe der Totalrevision"), National Councillor Dr. Peter Duerrenmatt ("Der Versuch der Totalrevision"), Prof. Roland Ruffieux ("La contribution de la science politique à la réforme de l'Etat"), Dr. G. Locarnini ("In merito alla proposta revisione della Costituzione federale") and others.

The second part of the book consists of four essays by the former Federal Councillor Max Petitpierre ("La Suisse et le monde de demain"), by the President of the N.S.H., Oskar Reck ("Engagement oder Abkehr?"), by Prof. André Lasserre ("Les intellectuels et la Constitution de 1848"), and by Councillor of States Louis Guisan, Chairman of the Commission of the Swiss Abroad ("Force et faiblesse du compromis").

In the third part, various aspects of a constitutional revision are considered, technical evolution (Councillor of States Eric Choisy), "Quelques remarques sur l'évolution future des liaisons entre l'Etat et le secteur privé" (Dr. Charles Tavel), "Die Finanzordnung als Verfassungsproblem" (Dr. Vincent C. Frank), on Parties and economic federations (Dr. Waldemar Jucker), "Die Verwaltung als vierte Gewalt?" Dr. Karl Huber) and "Wandlungen in der Politik und ihre Folgen für die Verwaltung" (Dr. G. Schuerch, former Chairman of the Commission of the Swiss Abroad). "Planifikation — Kein gangbarer Weg für die Schweiz" (Dr. Willy Linder) and "Tra cantone e comuni: la regione" (Giuseppe Mondada).

National Councillor Alois Huerlimann ends the book with an article on "Staatsreform und Federalismus".

The N.S.H. Annuaire makes extremely interesting reading and gives ample food for thought on a very complex question. It can be ordered from the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, 3000 Berne.

In this connection, we should also remind readers of two other publications by the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad "**Die Schweiz — heute, ein Buch für junge Schweizer im In-und Ausland**", edited by Leonhard Rössli, a book which we have reviewed on previous occasions, but should like to recommend again. The other publication is Dr. Edmond Mueller's booklet on "**Fifth Switzerland**" in either French, German or Italian, published last year to mark the special year dedicated to the Swiss living abroad.

Another book which has been mentioned before in the "Swiss Observer" is Dr. Ernst Boos's "**Die Schweizerkolonie in England nach Berufsgruppen**", a geographical study of the development of the Swiss community in Great Britain up to 1960. This interesting survey published by Francke, Berne, was compiled with great care and pains-

taking thoroughness and gives detailed information both from a historic and social point of view. The first part describes the most important occupational groups in the history of the Swiss Colony in the U.K. The second chapter of the book conveys a general picture of the professions and occupations of the Swiss community. A detailed analysis forms the third part, followed by a special chapter on the women of the Colony and one on "Die Schweizerische Irlandkolonie". Detailed tables, explanatory remarks and references are contained in the last part of the book. Anyone interested in the history of the Swiss community in the British Isles will find a wealth of well-presented information and fascinating data.

Two booklets have come to hand published by the Swiss Credit Bank. One is called "**The Swiss Economy in 1965**", some seventy-odd pages packed with interesting facts and figures. The other is "**Portrait of the Swiss Banker**" by F. W. Schulthess, Chairman of the Board of the Swiss Credit Bank (whose London Offices are at 27-32 Old Jewry, E.C.2). The subject was dealt with by the Chairman at the General Meeting of shareholders at the end of February.

The speech made by the Chairman of the Board of the Swiss Bank Corporation, Dr. Samuel Schweizer, early in March, "Developments on International Capital Markets — Special Problems of Switzerland", was reported in the Swiss Bank Corporation's regular Business News Survey "**Prospect**". (SBC, 99 Gresham Street, E.C.2.)

The Swiss National Tourist Office, Swiss Centre, 1 New Coventry Street, London W.1, may be asked for a comprehensive leaflet "**Summer in Switzerland**". It gives details of cultural events, exhibitions, festivals, sports, etc., in the International Travel Year. The slogan is *Roam, don't rush*. In the autumn, the S.N.T.O. will be celebrating its Golden Jubilee, and several special events are listed in this useful reference booklet obtainable free of charge.

Also from the Swiss National Tourist Office may be had a copy of the Special Edition of **Switzerland News** giving, in condensed form, the results of an enquiry into innovations and major events at Swiss resorts this summer. The information is based on material received from regional and local tourist offices throughout Switzerland.

Finally, we should like to draw attention to the programme schedule of the European and Overseas Services of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation in Berne. There are two editions *per annum*, available in English. The booklet's title is "**Switzerland Calling**" and contains not only programme details, but is illustrated and has some interesting information. It is obtainable free of charge from European and Overseas Services, Swiss Broadcasting Corporation, 3000 Berne 16, Switzerland. A "General Chart of SBC's Shortwave Transmissions" is also available.

MM

FELIX WEINGARTNER DIED 25 YEARS AGO

On 7th May, it was 25 years since the great conductor Felix Weingartner died in Basle at the age of 79. He collapsed while conducting in his beloved town on the Rhine where he was in charge of the Conservatoire and conductor of the "Allgemeine Musikgesellschaft".

He had been head of the Vienna Philharmonic for 19 years and Manager of the Vienna Court Opera before becoming Swiss in 1931. He was a pupil and friend of Liszt's.

("Basler Nachrichten.")