

Book reviews

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Book reviews

Prices are subject to changes without notification.

«Hawai'i and the German-Speaking Countries»

Niklaus R. Schweizer, Peter-Lang-Verlag, Bern, 293 pages, Sfr. 54.-. German text.

The Pacific Ocean and its islands are still largely unknown to us in spite of the increased interest manifested in the past few years. Praise is therefore due to the Swiss Honorary Consul on Hawai'i, Mr. Niklaus Schweizer, who attempted an outline of the history of the 50th state of the United States of America. In the past two centuries since the discovery of Hawai'i by the British seafarer Cook European adventurers and immigrants have helped to shape its present appearance. Schweizer describes the relationship between the European influence and the native reaction to it with a lot of sympathy for the natives. He concentrates on the achievements of the German-speaking peoples, among them the Swiss like John August Sutter and John Waeber who accompanied Cook on his trip. A worthwhile book.

«The Regiment Meuron 1781-1816»

Guy de Meuron, Editions d'En Bas Lausanne, 390 pages, Sfr. 68.-. In French.

In a scientifically documented, but very readable work Guy de Meuron describes the eventful history of the well known Swiss regiment de Meuron in foreign service. The book shows how the regiment played an important role in decisions of international consequence in India, South Africa, Canada as well as the United States. The author depicts in a lively way the achievements as well as the problems of Swiss troops in foreign service. Being a descendant of the regiment's founder the author would appreciate to get into contact with people interested in the regiment's history. Contact may be established either through his publishing house or through us.

«Canada One Way: The Farmers Leave Switzerland»

by Orell Füssli-Verlag Zurich, 188 pages with illustrations mostly black and white, Sfr. 32.-. In German.

Werner Catrina describes with great sensitivity the motives, hopes and assimilation problems of the several hundred Swiss farmers who have left Switzerland since the beginning of the seventies, and have settled in Canada. Catrina proves that the reason for emigration was very often unbridgable difficulties at home, be it the loss of tenant land, family quarrels or whatever.

The emigrants have therefore ambiguous feelings about Switzerland. On the one hand, they feel a certain bitterness, on the other hand, it is easy to detect a certain homesickness. All in all, a highly interesting book.

«Valais: Valleys and Mountains»,

ed. by Huber Verlag Frauenfeld, 164 pages, 92 pictorials, Sfr. 64.-. German text.

Anyone who knows and loves the Canton of Valais will be enthusiastic about this book. Edmund van Hoorik succeeds in capturing the diversity of the landscape of Canton Valais from the peaks of 4000 meters to the Rhone river valley reminiscent of Spain. Short contributions by Charles F. Ramuz and Maurice Chappaz form a necessary complement to the photos. These texts introduce the people of Valais in an affectionate way, people who are a bit anarchistic in tendency and therefore often misunderstood by other Swiss.

«Berne in pictures 1680-1830»

Cäsar Menz/Berchtold Weber, by VDB Verlag Bern, 160 pages, with 135 illustrations, Sfr. 68.-. In German.

Drawings of the city and city life have a long tradition in Berne and were in popular demand very early already. City authorities therefore commissioned well-known artists to portray the city. This art form



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This year's winter ski camp for young Swiss abroad will take place at Zweisimmen in the Bernese Oberland from

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reached its full bloom in the eighteenth century when the works of the «Bernese portraitists» sold like hot cakes and made Berne known all over Europe. It is to the credit of the authors that they were not satisfied by printing only those works which are well-known already but enable the reader to get a comprehensive view. A short introduction into the history of city portraits of Berne is followed by the reproduction of 124 works, most of them for the first time.

«The Big Atlas of Switzerland»

François Jeanneret, Franz Auf der Maur, Kümmerly and Frey-Verlag Bern, 208 pages with 180 color photos, 11 double pages with a general map of Switzerland, 45 topical maps, 50 aerial views etc. Sfr. 119.-. In German.

The big atlas of Switzerland is more than an ordinary atlas. Of course the detailed general maps are not missing, but the voluminous book also offers short chapters on geology, the weather, the climate, the history and the population of Switzerland. Furthermore the different regions and resort areas are described in detail. The numerous color illustrations are well chosen, and allow you to gain a picture of Switzerland as it really is.

«The Peaceful Destruction of the Swiss Countryside and First Steps to its Rescue»

Hans Weiss, Orell-Füssli-Verlag, Zürich, 232 pages with 91 illustrations, Sfr. 32.-. German text.

Switzerland is in many respects still a beautiful country. But progress has not by-

passed her. The development of tourist facilities has helped to destroy the countryside in many places. Highways and ugly suburban areas with unimaginative architecture have changed Switzerland's appearance. Hans Weiss, the secretary of the Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, is just the man to demonstrate this «peaceful destruction», as he calls it, with impressive examples. But Hans Weiss' aim is not just to stir our conscience, but also to give concrete examples of how to save what can still be saved.

Swiss Mountaineers' Calendar,

ed. by Meier + Cie, Schaffhausen, 12 detachable posters, Sfr. 27.-. Explanations in German, French and English.

Anybody who loves the mountains will be impressed by this calendar. Dölf Reist, a well-known Swiss mountain climber and photographer created this calendar showing the beauty of the Alps. 12 pages of description and maps complement the pictures. Swiss abroad will particularly appreciate the fact that the calendar is of poster size.

«The dog-party»

Ernst Kreidolf, by Rotapfel-Verlag, Zurich, 28 pages, color illustrations, bound, Sfr. 17.50. In German.

Let's introduce a children's book for the beginner reader. Ernst Kreidolf's book, which was out of print for a long time, but is now available again, has a special appeal for young (but not exclusively young) dog lovers. In beautiful drawings Kreidolf

tells the story of a ball for dogs, which is presented in verse. An ideal present for our young ones.

«Swiss Customs throughout the Year»

published by Artemis Verlag, 316 pages with 384 color photos. Text in the language of the region mentioned, linen, Sfr. 148.-. The beautifully illustrated book is more than simply another picture volume of Switzerland. Instead it is a standard



work for everybody who is interested in ethnology. Written in a clear and readable style, without neglecting the necessary scientific precision, however, this volume presents 116 well-known and less well-known customs in text and picture. Each contribution is the work of a local ethnologist. Literature references in the appendix enable the scientifically interested to read up on a specific custom. But even as an amateur one gains an intimate knowledge of the origin and character of Swiss customs.

«Switzerland and Her Glaciers»

ed. by Swiss Tourist Office, Verlag Kümmerly und Frey, Bern, 191 pages, with numerous pictorials, Sfr. 39.-. Available in German, French, English, Italian and Spanish.

This book is not primarily written für the expert but rather the interested amateur who would like to learn something about the history and present state of Switzerland's glaciers. Countless photos and maps illustrate the work.


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Actuellement, il n'y a plus de places libres dans notre école. Si vous désirez nous confier votre fille veuillez vous annoncer le plus tôt possible.

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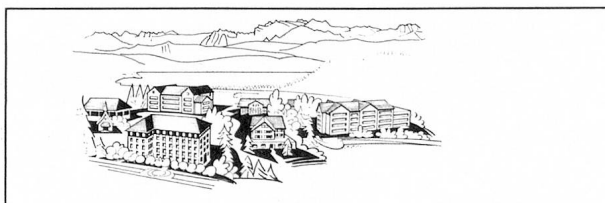
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Internat: familiäre Kleingruppen, Knaben und Mädchen, Primar-, Sekundar-, Realschule, Gymnasium. Flexible Kursorganisation (Fähigkeitsgruppen, nicht Jahrgangsklassen) ermöglicht u.a. Umschulung auf Schweizerische Schulverhältnisse.

English-speaking school system: CEEB and GCE preparation. Gründer: Paul und Edith Geheeb. 150 Schüler, 34 Lehrer. Leitung: Natalie und Armin Lüthi-Peterson.



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