

# De Kantonsroht

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Objektyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand**

Band (Jahr): **11 (1945-1946)**

Heft 12

PDF erstellt am: **13.09.2024**

Persistenter Link: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942858>

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the guild's stock and allow in particular for relief of the poor and to assume the guardianship among the guild-members.

The membership of the Bernese guilds varies between about 160 and some 1400. Where, as a rule, a large rigid municipal administration would exercise its authority and power, the said functions are taken care of within the smaller circle of guild-members. These know one another from childhood when, on occasion of the guild's annual festivity, they meet at the "innere Enge", where Bernese buns are served, joyful games are played and every child may chose a present from a table laden with a wealth of gifts. Boys may receive scholarships. When, on coming of age, the young man attends at the general meeting and has to make his maiden speech - he realises the fact that he is a member of a small democratic community which, though subject to the changes of the time, has, true to tradition, done its duty for centuries and in closer human and personal touch than would be possible to a large administration.

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De Kantonsroht.

Im Schwyzerlændli isch halt schoeh  
do haemmer zwoezwaenzg Kantoeh  
ond üuseri Vorvaeter, die alte  
haend no drüü Kantoenli g'spalte  
So isch, wie die Sach bischuet no stoht,  
ond jedes haet en grosse Roth  
Drom isch es i Üüsere Schwyz so nett  
wo jede 5te Maa aes Aemtli haett  
Treffst eine aa, ond weisst noed wie ner heisst  
tuest am beste, wenn d'ohm Herr  
Kantonsroht seist. A. Moosberger

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SUNDRY NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND.

In place of the previously elected Prof. Hug of Zurich, who subsequently declined the honour, Nat. Council Kurt R. Dürby has been appointed a Federal Judge by the two Houses in a joint session; he obtained 112 votes against the 83 of his liberal opponent, Dr. W. Geerig, who is an official at the Federal Court. Judge Dürby, a socialist, is a well-known Zurich lawyer noted for his expert treatment of refugee problems. His place in the National Council will be taken by another socialist, Hermann Oldani, a leading figure in the Zurich labour movement who has already been a member of our second chamber from 1928 to 1934.

Prof. Dr. Hunziker died in Zurich at the age of 77. He was the dynamic force in the cultural life of Winterthur. A scientist, an acknowledged authority on literature and a prolific chronicler of Swiss authors and poets he displayed an active and leading interest in musical manifestations of the town.

Standerat Julius Bühler died unexpectedly in Schaffhausen at the age of 56; he belonged to the upper chamber since 1943 and was also a member of the Grosse Rat of Schaffhausen.

The sickness insurance fund in Basle which is on a voluntary basis and open to everybody has now reached a membership of 120,477 out of a total population of 176,636. After many years of adversity the accounts for last year closed with a surplus of about 750,000 francs.

Former Nat. Council Richard Zschokke died at the age of 82 at his home in Gontenschwil (Aargau). Apart from military works in the St. Gotthard region his name remains identified with the construction of the Jungfrau railway.

Maurice Köchlin died near Montreux at the age of 90. An Alsatian by birth, a citizen of Zurich and a graduate of the ETH he is reputed to have contrived and designed the plans of the Eiffel tower which was built for the Paris exhibition in 1889.