

Switzerland in Britain's cultural life

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Meetings of the S.K.V. and the friendship which survived her husband's death in 1961. She recalled special occasions like when he was made an Hon. Member of the S.K.V. in 1956, and the 50th, 60th and 75th anniversaries of the S.M.S. And she finished with a quotation from the Jubilee Booklet 1938:

"Education and training have always gone hand in hand with friendship and a sense of community amongst members of the S.M.S. and

the College". An excellent record, of which the Swiss Mercantile Society may well be proud of.

The evening was a great success, and members now look forward to the centenary in 10 years' time, but more immediately to the Jubilee Dinner and Dance on Saturday, 3rd February 1979.

MM

(By courtesy of "Schweizerisches Kaufmännisches Zentralblatt", Zürich.)

Birthdays and Anniversaries

First of all, we should like to apologise to Mr. and Mrs. Willy Renz, of 7 The Highway, Sutton, Surrey, that we are late in wishing them the best of health and continued happiness on their Golden Wedding. It took place on 30th July, but unfortunately nobody informed us of the happy event. Congratulations and our sincere apologies.

Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Boehringer will celebrate their 33rd wedding anniversary on 2nd February.

Mr. G. A. Schmid will have his 93rd birthday on 1st February, and Mrs. N. Burri will celebrate her birthday on 6th February. Mrs. H. Hanftwurcel will have hers on 17th of the month, the same day on which Mr. R. E. Maag will be 66. Mrs. E. Jamieson will be 79 on 20th February, and the former Swiss Ambassador in London, Monsieur Armin Daeniker, Berne, will have his birthday (87th) on 24th of the month.

Finally, Mr. F. Gerber will miss his 87th birthday, for he was born on 29th February, 1892.

Congratulations and best wishes to all these readers and to anyone else of whose birthdays and anniversaries we are not aware.

J. W. BONJOUR 80

It is with great pleasure that we announce the 80th birthday on 23rd February of Mr. W. J. Bonjour, of 72 Shirley Avenue, Croydon, Surrey.

He was born at Blonays/Vevey where he attended a private school from the age of 5. When he was 10, he went to the *Collège Scientifique* at

Vevey for six years. After that, he spent four years at the commercial section of the *Oberer Realschule* in Basle.

After a two years' apprenticeship at a bank, combined with evening classes in commerce, commercial law and languages, Mr. Bonjour went to Orbe where he worked at the offices of Nestlé. On 1st April, 1920, he joined the staff of the Swiss Bank Corporation in London where he worked for six years in the Foreign Correspondence Department. In 1926, he was transferred to the Payments Department where he was second in charge. Mr. Bonjour was promoted to "fondé de pouvoirs" in charge of that department until he retired early in 1964.

In June 1924, he married Miss Louise Collet of Brests/Montreux. They celebrated their Golden Wedding on 10th June, 1974.

Mr. Bonjour was a member of the Swiss Club for a short time, and the City Swiss Club for 20 years. He is still a member of the Swiss Philatelic Society and the Swiss Mercantile Society, as well as a Council member of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique.

Since his retirement, his main hobby has been looking after the garden.

Nobody will believe that J. W. Bonjour has reached the rank of the octogenarians. All his friends hope that his good health and energy will continue and that he will not only enjoy a happy birthday, but many equally happy returns of it. MM

SWITZERLAND IN BRITAIN'S CULTURAL LIFE

Till mid-February — British Library Galleries, British Museum — Exhibition of manuscripts, books and portraits to mark the bicentenary of the deaths of Voltaire and Rousseau.

Friday, 26th January, to Sunday 28th January — Musical Weekend at the White Hart Hotel, Lincoln: *Die Kammermusiker Zürich* play quintets by Beethoven, Brückner, Dvorák, Martinu, Mendelssohn and Mozart.

27th January to 17th February — Inverness Museum and Art Gallery — 3rd to 31st March — Billingham Art Gallery, Stockton-on-Tees — 9th April to 5th May — Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Norwich — *Photography in Switzerland from 1840 until Today*.

Tuesday, 30th January — Bishops-gate Hall (opposite Liverpool Street Station), 1 p.m. — Recital by *Die Kammermusiker Zürich* (leader: Brenton Langbein).

Sunday, 4th February — Royal Festival Hall, 7.30 p.m. — *Charles Dutoit* conducts the London Philharmonic Orchestra (Berlioz, Debussy, Lalo, Stravinsky).

Monday, 5th February — University of Manchester, 2 p.m. — Tuesday, 6th February — Swiss Embassy, 16 Montagu Place, W1, 6 p.m. (a limited number of free tickets available from the Cultural Counsellor) — Wednesday, 7th February — University of Bristol, 11 a.m. — Thursday, 8th February — University College, Cardiff, p.m. — Friday, 9th February — University of Nottingham, 12 noon — Monday, 12th February — University of Sheffield, evening — Wednesday, 14th February — University of Aberdeen, p.m. — Friday, 16th February — New

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University of Ulster, Londonderry, 8 p.m. — The German-language writer *Erica Pedretti* reads from her works and discusses them with her audiences.

8th February to 8th April — Hayward Gallery, South Bank — Outsiders Exhibition, incorporating works by *Wölfli, Aloise and Müller*.

Sunday, 18th February — Wembley Conference Centre, 7.30 p.m. — *Erich Schmid* conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (Mozart, Rachmoninov, Schubert).

Monday, 19th February — The Forum, Wythenshawe, Manchester, 8 p.m. — The pianist *Tamas Vasary* is the soloist-director at a concert by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (Haydn, Mozart, Schubert).

Tuesday, 20th February — St. Peter-upon-Cornhill, 1 p.m. — the mezzo soprano *Margret Luginbühl* sings works by Mozart and Campbell Allen (at the piano: Peter Gill).

Wednesday, 28th February — Purcell Room, 7.30 p.m. — Recital by the *New Zürich Quartet*.

NEW DEPUTY PRESIDENT FOR SWISSAIR

Swissair's Board of Directors has elected Mr. Hans Schneider, executive vice-president finance and associated companies, as the airline's new full-time deputy president from 1st August. He succeeds Dr. Heinz Haas, at present deputy president and secretary-general, who retires on 31st July on reaching the age limit.

Mr. Schneider has been with Swissair since 1939 and joined the airline's Management in 1964 as head of the finance department. Dr. Haas became in 1948 Swissair's first general manager for Western Switzerland in Geneva and a member of the Management as secretary-general at the Zürich head office in 1951. He was in addition appointed deputy president in 1972. In view of Dr. Haas' retirement, the functions of the general secretariat have been delegated to other departments.

As from 1st August, Swissair's top management consists of the president, his deputy, three executive vice-presidents heading department groups and thirteen vice-presidents in charge of departments and central services.

ERICA PEDRETTI IN PROFILE

The writer ERICA PEDRETTI was born in Sternberg, Northern Moravia, in 1930. She grew up in Zabreh, but spent part of her youth also in her native town and in Berlin and Freudenthal. In 1945 a Red Cross convoy brought her to Switzerland. From 1946 to 1950 she attended the Zürich College of Art. She then emigrated to the United States, and worked for two years as a gold and silversmith in New York. In 1952 she married the Swiss painter and sculptor Gian Pedretti. They lived and worked in Celerina until 1974, when they moved to La Neuveville. They have five children.

Prose:

Harmloses, bitte. Short pieces. Suhrkamp, Frankfurt, 1970. Ex libris, Zürich, 1974.

Heiliger Sebastian. Novel. Suhrkamp, 1973.

Veränderung. Novel. Suhrkamp, 1977.

Radio plays:

Badekur. Stereo. Basle, Stuttgart, Salzburg, 1970. Ex libris cassette, 1974.

Kaninchen. Stereo. Stuttgart, ORF, 1971.

Catch as Katz can. Stereo monologue. Basle, 1972.

Gang in es Institut. Audioplay collage. Zürich, 1972.

Februar. Audioplay collage. Berne, 1972.

ART 4/73 oder Soviel Kunst kann es gar nicht geben. Audioplay collage. Basle, Hamburg, 1973. Steine. Monologue. Stuttgart, Hamburg, 1976.

Illustrations:

Trais Sudos. Picture book. Flamberg, Zürich, 1971.

R.O. Tonjachen: Ostriada e Nuschaglia. SJW No. 293. 1974.

Exhibitions:

1973/1975 Bratislava Biennial of Children's Books.

1975 Bildende Künstler als Dichter — Dichter als bildende Künstler. Art Museum, Berne.

1975 Aspekte aus neueren Solothurner Sammlungen. Municipal Museum, Solothurn.

1976 Municipal Museum, Solothurn.

1977 Berne Art Exhibition. Art Gallery, Berne.

Bibliography:

Kindlers Literaturgeschichte der Gegenwart, Die zeitgenössischen Literaturen der Schweiz (ed. M. Gsteiger), Part II Elsbeth Pulver: Deutschsprachige Literatur. Zürich and Munich, 1974.

P.A. Bloch: Der Schriftsteller in unserer Zeit. Berne, 1972.

P.A. Bloch: Gegenwartsliteratur. Berne, 1975.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 3rd February — Dorchester Hotel — ANNUAL DINNER DANCE — Swiss Mercantile Society — (Please ring Secretary for information: 01 637 3609).

Thursday, 8th February — Regent Centre Hotel — ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and DINNER — Nouvelle Société Helvétique (Please ring 01 624 5360 for information).

SCHWEIZERBUND (SWISS CLUB)

On 24th February the Swiss Club will celebrate its centenary. It has an interesting history, and we shall write about it after the celebration dinner which will take place at the Café Royal, Regent Street, W1, at 7 for 7.30 p.m. on Saturday, 24th February. It is most unusual that such an anniversary actually takes place on the very day of the foundation, and the organisers look forward to a full house. Reservations are essential, so please ring Mr. J. Schmid, 01-734 1921 for details.

AN APPEAL

The Swiss Embassy would like to complete its *Swiss Observer* archives. The following issues are missing:

1951: No. 1161

1952: Nos. 1174, 1175, 1176

1953: No. 1198

1954: No. 1225

1978: Nos. 1738, 1739

Also missing are the complete years between January 1943 and December 1950.

If any reader has some or all of these missing issues, Monsieur J. Rial, Counsellor of Embassy, would be most grateful to have them for the Embassy archives. Please telephone 01 723 0701.

ENGELBERG — SEASON TICKET FOR RAMBLERS

The mountain transports of Engelberg have created a season ticket specially tailored for rambblers.

The reduced price is Sw.Fr. 37 and includes two journeys each on the Brunnli aerial cableway, the Engelberg-Truebsee-Titlis cableways and on the Jochpass chairlift.