

# Obituaries

Objektyp: **Group**

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

Band (Jahr): - **(1979)**

Heft 1756

PDF erstellt am: **15.08.2024**

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# OBITUARIES

**Lucile Inebnit Kiener** was born 22nd March, 1891 in Château-d'Oex, eldest of a large family, daughter of a dedicated country vet from Berne, where she later went to school and qualified as a Froebel teacher. Before going to England for a year, she became engaged to Jean Ph. Inebnit, the man whose life she shared until her death on 25th February, 1979.

They were married in 1917 and, after teaching in Lausanne, set off for England in 1920 at her suggestion, intending to stay only for a year or so. They settled in Leeds, Yorkshire, where they joined the Society of Friends. Countless friends and generations of her husband's students and volunteers from many nations were made welcome and enjoyed her personal ministrations. In fact it was at their home, No. 1 Lyddon Terrace, that the International Voluntary Service

for Peace, the British branch of the Service Civil International, was founded and had its modest headquarters.

They were a living bridge between their friendly, generous land of adoption and the beloved land of their birth and ancestors, to which they returned annually except during the great separation of the last war. She kept the home fires burning for a year and looked after a refugee youth, while her husband brought some help from people in England and Switzerland to sufferers in France after the liberation. She always cooperated, if she felt it was right, no matter how inconvenient, tiring or lonely for herself.

When a long illness very gradually disabled her, natural dismay was transformed until she became for each member of her family, including her two grandsons, a source of love and serenity.

We learned with great regret of the death of **Mr. Friedrich Gerber** on 13th June in hospital in Brighton after a short illness.

Friedrich Gerber, born 22nd February, 1892, originated from Bätterkinder/SO, and was another Swiss "pioneer" of the hotel business.

He came to Britain in April 1913 to learn English and the ropes in the catering trade. In 1914 he was summoned to do his military service in Switzerland. He returned to Britain in 1916.

In 1922 he took over Ilchester Mansions Hotel, together with an elderly partner. In 1927 Friedrich Gerber acquired Leinster House Hotel, which was at that time full of retired Civil Servants from the East.


The depression in the early 1930s affected the hotel trade badly, followed by the war, which more or less wrecked Mr. Gerber's hotel in London. But he kept going, repaired the damage and continued in Leinster House until 1964 when he decided to slow down. He sold his business in London and settled in Hove with his family, where he owned Chatsworth Private Hotel.

He was married to Marie Anna Gerber, who died in 1974. They had three children, two sons and one daughter. His elder son is continuing in his father's footsteps in Chatsworth Private Hotel, his younger son is in the Ambulance Service. The daughter is married in Canada.

For many years Friedrich Gerber had been a member of the Swiss Rifle Association and was a keen marksman in his time.

We would like to express our feelings of sympathy to the families and friends of Mrs. Lucile Inebnit-Kiener and Mr. Friedrich Gerber.

*mhm*



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