

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

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1941)

Heft: 994

Rubrik: Correspondence

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

Download PDF: 14.03.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

CORRESPONDENCE.

Johannesburg, Sept, 18th, 1941.
25, Mons Road.

My Dear Boehringer,

In order that you and the S.O. should be well informed as to what is happening down here, I am sending you some cuttings giving a description of the campaign in Abyssinia by the S.A. troops.

You will see from the reports that it was the very accurate and excellent shooting which gained the rapid S.A. victory. As Swiss you will no doubt be pleased to know this and will be reminded of the story of the German Emperor when asking a Swiss rifleman what we would do if invaded by a superior force he received the reply that "we would simply have to shoot twice."

In one of the illustrated articles enclosed you will recognize in the very foreground my son Victor Theophile who is with the forces already for over a year and is now staff sergeant in Addis Ababa with the S.A. Eng. Corps. He has been at Lake Rudolf, the Juba River, Mogadisho, Mombassa, Aden, Berbera, Dirre Dowa, etc. By the way, can you find out — when you have time — what ship the "Bundesrath Donner" is; he travelled on it from Mombassa to Aden. Bundesrath seems to be very typical Swiss and Donner was the maiden name of my mother her father being born in Schwyz in 1803. Victor writes it was a very beautiful big ship with first class luxury cabins and everything of the best. I wonder if "Bundesrath Donner" forms part of the new Swiss Mercantile Fleet? Anyhow, I hope that you or Stauffer can enlighten me on this particular point and I am sending you sincere thanks in anticipation.

I also enjoyed and appreciate very much your courtesy in reprinting my letter about my soldiering days in Switzerland. I sent it to my son up North, as they call it here, but so far he has not received it. Could you send me another copy?

I also enclosed copy of the leading paper in Addis Ababa. Dated Aug. 29th it is only three weeks old and you will notice how up-to-date is the news about what happens in the world.

I notice that some contributions have been sent to you recently to encourage you to continue the good work of the S.O. I have always appreciated your efforts and I am enclosing a cheque for £5, a small offering on my part.

Please remember me to my old friends in the C.S.C., etc.

Theophile Schaerer.

* * *

We are reprinting the above letter from our "counterpart" in the hope that some of our readers may be able to come to the assistance of the Editor who has not yet taken up the study of Swiss genealogy. Though the titles of our ships are likely to be as fleeting as the Swiss Navy we are sure that no "Bundesrath Donner" has recently carried the Swiss flag across the Atlantic. Unfortunately our archives have been destroyed by an unkind "Blitz" so that we cannot definitely state whether a Federal Councillor has ever owned up to the bold name of "Donner;" we fancy he would have been out of harmony in the placid capital but we hope that our old friend and former colleague Stauffer can rectify our shortcomings. — We have carefully read the cuttings (mostly from the S.A. "Star") and are impressed by the descriptive and

engaging way in which the progress of the war on the African continent is recorded. We envy young Schaerer on reading that his regiment arrived in Addis Ababa to find "at least 460 liquor houses" and a plentiful stock of these medicines. Most of us over here are sick and sore of paying something like 15/- for a bottle of red wine of dubious vintage or origin and some of our club secretaries might keep this place in mind for future social gatherings. — To Mr. and Mrs. Schaerer we wish to convey on behalf of their many London Friends hearty good wishes for the New Year coupled with the hope of a safe and early return of the "Stammhalter."

* * *

Miss A. H. and Others. — Sorry we cannot advise you. We have not heard of any Swiss Calendars being available and we fear that none will reach this country.

* * *

With many thanks we acknowledge contributions from: — H. Markwalder, P. Walser, W. Wagner, A. Homberger, G. Hafner, G. Wüthrich, H. Pfirter, Theo. Schaerer, Miss A. Wiedmer, L. A. Arnould, Miss A. Hohlfeld.

SWISS STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES.

Through the courtesy of the London Office of the Swiss Bank Corporation we are enabled to publish the quotations of some of the leading stocks.

	14th Oct.	11th Nov.
Bankverein	455	449
Kreditanstalt	522	523
Rückversicherung	3050	3175
Ciba	6000	5975
Nestlé	907	913
Aluminium Neuhausen	3175	3240
Columbus	308	323
Sulzer	1220	1270
Brown Boveri	279	284 ex right
Wehranleihe 3% 1936	102.60	102.05
SBB Jura-Simplon	103	102.50

GOOD-BYE.

So friendly were we, he and I,
The parting really made me cry.
To-day he went, left me alone,
A tug, a wrench — and he was gone;
Yes, never to return again,
That's why I suffered all this pain.
Great is my loss, let's face the truth,
Oh! how I miss you — ACHING TOOTH.

H. E.

Drink delicious "Ovaltine"
at every meal — for Health!