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Le roi d'Angleterre a accordé la distinction de MBE (member of the British Empire) à la doctoresse suisse Bertha Hardegger, pour son activité de médecin missionnaire dans le Basoutoland. Le diplôme lui a été remis par un envoyé spécial.

* * *

M. Hermann Rusch, d'origine appenzelloise, chef de cuisine au Lexington Hotel, à New-York City, a gagné la médaille d'honneur du gouvernement français, attribuée à l'occasion de l'exposition nationale hôtelière à New-York. C'est la distinction la plus recherchée dans le monde culinaire.

* * *

The International Bank has sold an issue of Swiss franc bonds amounting to 28,500,000f. \$ (6,625,000) to a group of leading banks in Switzerland. The bonds, purchased at par, bear interest at 2½ per cent.

Purpose of the transaction is to enable borrowers of the International Bank to obtain the necessary francs for purchases of equipment in Switzerland.

THE CAT CONTROVERSY.

For the benefit of those of your readers who are not familiar with the Swiss dialects, I have attempted a free translation of the amusing verses a Lucerne maiden has contributed to your issue of March 10th, 1950, under the title "Zor Chatzedebatte."

J.J.F.S.

Believe the horrid tale or not,
Someone has launched a rumour that
The Swiss put in their cooking-pot
Now and again a pussy-cat.

Jugged hare, I'm told, is very nice,
A delicacy and a treat,
Even though feline in disguise;
But there are other things to eat.

There's oysters, snails and caviare,
Duck, chicken, for the gourmet's fork,
Though for my part I would by far
Prefer a slice of pickled pork.

There's venison, roast kid and hare,
Trout, lobster, of the frog the leg
And, if in luck, my bill of fare
At times includes a new-laid egg.

So cry no more, Puss of my heart.—
Folks of Lucerne, I raise my hat
To you for mastering the art
Of rightly measuring a cat.

Here, every child will tell you: "Why,
By "Chatzestrück" the hill is meant
Which people crossed in times gone by,
On pious pilgrimage intent."

There's not a cat in house or farm,
Stretching its limbs, that I have met
Has ever come to any harm,
Twas just a pampered household pet.

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