

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: - (1958)
Heft: 1323

Artikel: Pestalozzi children's village trust
Autor: Buchanan, Mary
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-691046>

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.](#)

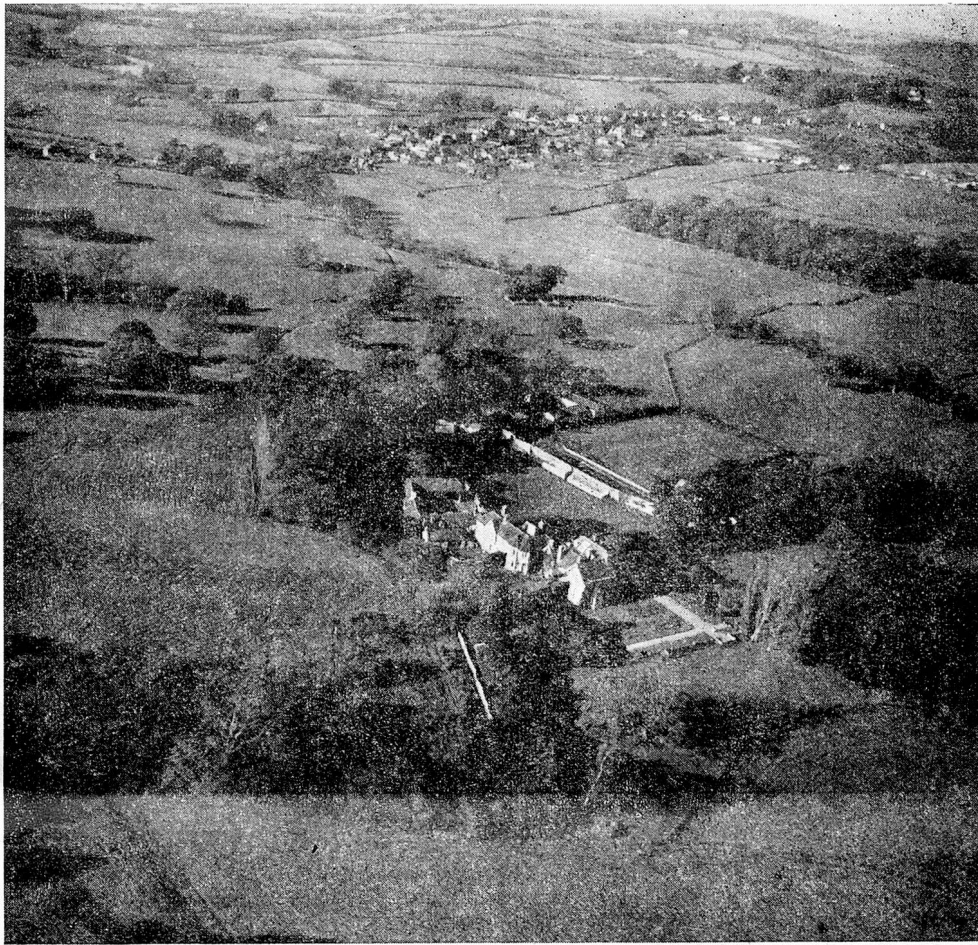
Terms of use

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: 01.04.2025

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

PESTALOZZI CHILDREN'S VILLAGE TRUST



Photograph taken and donated by Alfred Lammer, London.

PESTALOZZI VILLAGE, BATTLE (SUSSEX)

Dear Supporters,

At last we can give you wonderful news about the international Pestalozzi Children's Village in Britain.

As you know, ever since we began to raise funds to maintain British children in the Pestalozzi Children's Village at Trogen, Switzerland, and thus to enable them to take part in that unique scheme of education in an international setting, we have had a second, much larger object in view — to establish an international children's village in this country, more or less on similar lines to the Swiss village but not only, as in Trogen, for European children but also for children from other continents, especially from Commonwealth countries.

Having reached a stage when we could consider the future of the British houses in Trogen financially secure, and having seen the excellent result achieved at Trogen where up to now some 150 children have completed their education, we decided to go ahead with our plans for such a village in Britain. What we have to report now is the first big step towards the realisation of this object.

The above reproduction is of an aerial photograph of the house and land which has been bought for the project. It is in one of the most historical settings

of Britain, and the surrounding countryside is hilly and well-wooded. It is three miles from Battle and six miles from Hastings, which means that it is a little over an hour by rail from London.

In the background of the photograph you can see the lovely little village of Sedlescombe, which has a charming church and many attractive old houses lining the long village green, less than three minutes walk from our entrance gate.

The main house of the estate, which is some 125 years old, was designed by Decimus Burton, a contemporary of Nash. It occupies a pleasant position in the centre of the estate.

Near to the house, there is a range of farm buildings which are provided with a concrete road. The farmland comprises about 130 acres, bounded on the north by the River Brede. There are also some 20 acres of woodland. In addition there is a delightful, easy-to-run garden which has been well maintained and includes rosebeds and lawns with a full-size tennis court.

Then there is a large walled market garden, which although it has been neglected in recent years could within a year or so provide all the fresh vegetables, salads and fruits the children's village would need.

A VILLAGE WHERE THE WORLD IS ONE

An International children's village is being established in Britain similar to the Pestalozzi Children's Village which was founded at Trogen, Switzerland, in 1946.

The village will be for needy children, including refugees, from many countries of Europe, the Commonwealth and other parts of the world. By being educated and living together, these children may learn from their own experience the lesson of international understanding and tolerance.

During the next two years, large funds have still to be raised for the first phase of developing the new Children's Village. Donations and bequests to help fulfil this task will be especially appreciated at this time.

*For further information please write to the
Hon. Secretary:*

**PESTALOZZI CHILDREN'S VILLAGE
TRUST,
Battle, Sussex.**

GLENDOWER HOTEL

**GLENDOWER PLACE
LONDON S.W.7.**

TEL. KENSington 4462/3/4

Every modern comfort,

120 rooms, some with private baths,

Fully licensed,

Excellent Continental Cuisine,

Room & Breakfast from 25/-,

Weekly terms on request,

Private Parties & Weddings catered for.

A. SCHMID & FAMILY
ESTABLISHED OVER 40 YEARS

The walls are covered with fruit trees — peaches, nectarines and soft fruits. There are several glass houses and nearby is an apple orchard.

The existing farming facilities are very important to our plans, for several reasons. Firstly, a home farm can provide the children's village with fresh food; then there will be youngsters who want to go into farming as a career and can receive their initial training on the spot; and last, but not least, we attach great importance to the value of agriculture as an educational medium generally.

So here at last we can start the work which each of you as a supporter has helped to make possible. Needless to say, we are more urgently in need of funds than ever before. Immediate repairs and adaptations are essential and extensive alterations are necessary during 1958 before we start our educational and humanitarian work. All this must be achieved as quickly as possible. At the same time we are endeavouring to amass a substantial building fund to enable us to take our plans into the second phase, that of building the first children's houses.

Already in the first phase, children will be accommodated in the existing large building, which will also house educational and other staff as well as offices. As this accommodation is more suitable for older children, the first group to come to us will be teenagers. Some of them, we hope, will be drawn from refugee camps in Europe, who are urgently in need of help. We want to give a special chance to young refugees, boys or girls, who would like to emigrate later on to any part of the British Commonwealth. They will thus have the opportunity to become fluent in the English language, to get to know the British way of life, and to be taught farming or a craft or trade. When they eventually reach the Dominions they will integrate far more quickly than if they had gone out totally unprepared, and thus they will become useful citizens of their new world more easily and quickly.

This is a truly constructive piece of work, for which we urgently need your financial backing. It is only one of our plans. There are others which we will tell you about as it becomes possible to start them. We know the present time is an extremely difficult period to begin our work, but we are confident that our objects cannot fail to appeal to the human conscience.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Buchanan.

Hon. Secretary,

Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust.

SWISS GENTLEMAN, 42, married, after many years abroad taking up residence in U.K. looks for interesting position. Formerly Manager of Trading Firm abroad. Experienced in Export/Import Documentation, Finance, Accounts, Marketing, Buying and Selling. Languages: English, German, French and Spanish. Best references. Please write Box N. 77, c/o Swiss Observer, 23, Leonard Street, London E.C.2.