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:	- (1982)
Heft:	1790
Rubrik:	Educational Opportunities in Switzerland

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. <u>Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.</u>

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. <u>Voir Informations légales.</u>

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. <u>See Legal notice.</u>

Download PDF: 02.04.2025

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

LAST year, Dr Hugo Rast celebrated his 90th birthday in Kaufdorf, Berne (see Swiss Observer, August 1981). Though he still enjoyed excellent health, he did feel that the light of his life had begun to flicker.

When his wife, Ruth, had to attend to some urgent business in London towards the end of March, she did not feel happy to leave his side. She told him that she would prefer him to go with her. He loved the idea, and they hired an ambulance plane from Belp and together they flew back to their real home in London.

The weather was fine and the flight in the small aeroplane was a delight, like a going home. Together they visited old friends and old places and enjoyed past memories of a life filled to the brim with creative work, joys and sorrows.

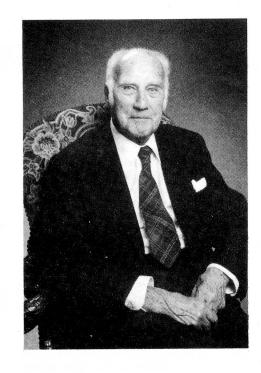
But he knew, and even wrote it down, that he was like a candle, collecting with an effort the rest of the remaining wax, radiating light and warmth for the last time before going out. On March 28 he suffered a stroke and died in the Middlesex Hospital on April 6 with a last look of grateful farewell to his wife and the personnel of the ward who had cared for him so well for the last 10 days.

It was holy week. Easter was approaching, and the symbolic meaning of that liturgical event summed up his whole life: He lived and worked with Christ for the well being of the people; he died with Him, and rose with Him to eternal life.

Dr Rast was quiet, but a great character of the Swiss colony in London, and his name spelt healing. He was from Hochdorf (LU), being born in Berne on August 6, 1891, and was a lover of life, of music, of art, of mountain sports, but above all of people.

In spite of his strict upbringing in Catholic discipline, God let him see the humour, the love, the kindness and the beauty in his religion and in life. That is why he studied to become a medical doctor.

His main interest was surgery, but he felt that there was more in a suffering patient than a defective organ, and he tried to understand all possible aspects of his profession, including the new science of psychotherapy. He graduated as an MD in Berne in 1915 but his studies brought him to Lausanne, Paris and finally to



'Our Dr Rast' dies, aged 90

London in 1919.

In the First World War he was medical officer supervising the trains which carried prisoners of war to be repatriated under the Geneva Convention. It was as if he had prepared himself for his much greater responsibility during the Second World War.

In London he began work at the German Hospital. He took postgraduate courses to bring his qualifications up to English standards, and qualified in 1922 as FRCS (Engl) and LRCP (Lon). Then London took hold of him. He became a surgeon in 1925, senior surgeon in 1938 and medical superintendent of the German Hospital in 1939.

His high qualities as a medical doctor, his command of languages and his deep concern for the patients won him the respect and confidence of the Home Office, of the War Office and finally of the United States War Department. He was appointed chairman of the Mixed Medical Commission for civilian internees, for prisoners of war and then for the European theatre of war.

He became the medical adviser for 14 embassies and legations in London: Belgium, Brazil, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey. Several publications in scientific research not only helped to combat disease but also won him the respect of his colleagues.

A secret of his great capacity for work was the love of mountains. As a member of the British Alpine Club he was a frequent guest, and was well known in Zermatt. He knew the Matterhorn, which he climbed for the last time when he was 70.

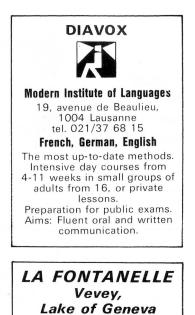
Hugo Rast remained an active member of the Swiss colony, and several societies enjoyed his regular presence and cooperation in office. He was simply "our Doctor Rast" who could listen, go to the heart of a problem and give advice until, a few years ago, he built his second home in Kirchdorf (Berne).

To the delight of his friends he married Ruth Berthe Aeberhardt in May 1970. She became his devoted wife, friend and companion. With her we all share not only the sadness that he is no longer among us but also the joy of having known him and the deep confidence that his spirit will remain an inspiration to us and that we shall meet again once we have reached the cross of the mountain peak and, like him, gone beyond.

Fr. Paul Bossard.

WE regret to announce the death of Mrs Theresa-Maria Furrer, of 29 Grandison Road, London SW11. She died on April 16 at the age of 91. We extend our sympathy to her family.

EDUCATIONAL



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS French and other languages. Audio-visual for beginners. Domestic science and secretarial. Winter sports. Holiday course -July-August.

Principals: Mr & Mrs D.A. Savage Tel: 021/51 33 58

Parents, our **free**

advisory service helps you to choose the **RIGHT SCHOOL** in the **RIGHT PLACE**

- more than 60 private
- schools and institutes teaching: well reputed for its quality and diversity
- Summer and Winter sports

LAKE OF GENEVA REGION

- Canton of Vaud SWITZERLAND favourable environments
- for studying hub of a vast network of
- international lines of communications
- beautiful landscape healthy climate

PRIVATE SCHOOL ADVISORY BUREAU

10 Ave de la Gare CH-1002 Lausanne Tel 021/22 77 71 Telex 24390



Under the patronage of the Association of private schools (AVDEP) and the Tourist Office of Lake of Geneva Region (OTV)

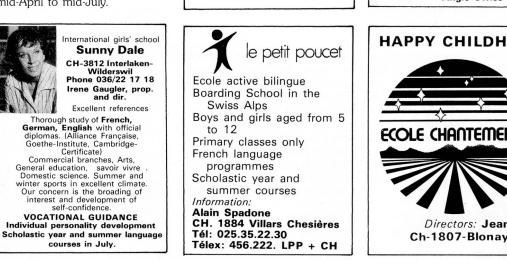
OPPORTUNITIES IN SWITZERLAND

SWITZERLAND, with a population of just over six million people, supports no fewer than 10 establishments of university level. Of these, seven are universities proper, two are institutes of technology and one a university standard school of economics, business and public administration.

There are five establishments in German-speaking Switzerland and five in the French-speaking part of the country, though Fribourg University is bi-lingual. There are, however, no university level institutions in the Italian-speaking areas.

Although the universities all have a similar structure, each establishment has its own character and its own reputation. Like universities in other European countries, Swiss universities provide a specialised education which builds on the more general secondary education.

Unlike the English three term system, Swiss universities divide the academic year into two semesters; the winter semester lasts from mid-October to early March and the summer one from mid-April to mid-July.





ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL

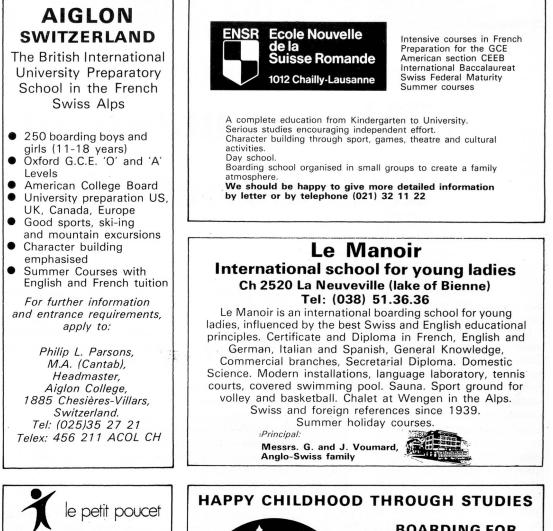
1815 Clarens-Montreux

British girls' boarding school, founded in 1927.

Beautifully situated by lake side. Purpose built: Extensive grounds. All sports. Preparation for G.C.E., S.A.T. and university entrance.

Enquiries:

The Rev. L.V. Wright M.A. Tel: (021) 61.34.24 - Telex: 453131 geor





BOARDING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

aged from 5 to 15

FRENCH PROGRAMMES CP to 3rd form; O-Level

Intensive tuition in French

Holiday Courses - Summer, Christmas, Easter.

Directors: Jean and Mathilde Wegmüller Ch-1807-Blonay/Montreux Tel: 021-531193



Phone 038/33 22 41

Girls boarding school 15-19 years. Family atmosphere. One year course.

FRENCH (Alliance Française)

Language lab, audio-visual method. Commercial branches. Domestic science.

SUMMER HOLIDAY COURSE