

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: - (1926)
Heft: 275

Artikel: In the Swiss textile industry
Autor: B.I.S.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-692803>

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: 14.05.2025

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

Telegrams : FREPRINCO, LONDON.

PRICE 3d.

The jubilees that are celebrated in certain big undertakings afford one the opportunity to glance back at their beginnings and growth and note the important part they have played in the economic life of the country. Such an opportunity is given to us through the publication of a very interesting

commemoration booklet on the fiftieth anniversary of the Swiss String Works of Flurlingen, near Schaffhausen, and of its allied firm, the Swiss Linen Industry Co., Ltd., of Niederlenz, in the canton of Aargau.

Ever since the Middle Ages, and for centuries afterwards, the cultivation of flax and hemp has formed an important branch of Swiss Agriculture. It is not surprising, therefore, to find the manufacture of linen yarn and linen fabrics established on Swiss territory as early as the 13th century. That industry, though thriving during more than one period, began, however, to decline as soon as cotton made its appearance. Not before the second half of the 19th century was there any revival of it. Then it was that a factory was founded at Flurlingen, near Schaffhausen, for the manufacture of strings by machine; and ever since its foundation, in 1874, that factory produced not only strings and ropes, but also boot and shoe-laces, linen yarn and other such articles. Its normal output was 1,100 kgs. a day. From the outset, that enterprise was placed on a rational footing with such machinery as could turn out articles adapted to the requirements of customers. The total value of goods sold in the course of the first year of its existence amounted to 400,000 francs, Switzerland absorbing for her own needs a quantity worth 190,000 frs., Germany coming in for a share of 210,000 frs., and various other countries for 40,000 frs. Following on such a promising beginning, difficulties soon arose. As in other Swiss industries at that period, the disposal of the products of the Flurlingen Works was seriously checked through the putting up of customs duties in Germany, France, Austria, etc. In spite of this, the quantities exported amounted up to the year 1884 to 40 or 50 per cent. of the total output. Owing to various difficulties, it became necessary in 1896 to re-organise the firm on a new financial basis, which allowed an improvement in the means of production and inaugurated a new era of prosperity. In 1906 two factories, producing linen and hempen yarns and fabrics, were purchased at Niederlenz and at Schleithelm (Ct. of Aargau), the latter of which was closed and the former enlarged and finally made self-supporting and independent in 1918 under the title of "Swiss Linen Industry Co., Ltd." The effect of this aggrandisement, coupled with a new technical re-organisation, was both to strengthen the position of the enterprise as a whole in regard to foreign competition, and to increase its production. The capital of the Flurlingen Enterprise was, after several successive increments, raised up to 6 million francs. During the Great War, both works were kept pretty busy generally, although great difficulties had to be overcome in regard to the supply of raw materials. After the war, the competition of countries with depreciated currencies constituted no small obstacle. But the gradual recovery of exchanges, coupled with the readjustment of prices which ensued, made it once more possible for the enterprise to find a ready outlet for its goods on the international market. Its export trade has developed even to a greater extent than before the war. In addition to the above historical survey, we hope some of our readers will be interested in the following information as to the present situation of the Flurlingen and Niederlenz Works so far as production is concerned.

The buildings and plant have been insured for 10 million francs, while the stocks of raw materials and manufactured articles are covered by an insurance of 6 million francs. Six hundred workmen are employed by the enterprise, and its consumption of electric energy amounts to 2 million Kw. per annum. The yearly output is 2 million kgs., total value 7 million francs. As regards raw materials, hemp comes chiefly from Italy, jute from India and flax—in order of importance—from Belgium, Holland, Lettland, Russia, France, Checo-Slovakia and Ireland. The consumption of home-grown flax amounts to not more than 30 tons per annum. The variety of specialties produced by both works is worth noting. It is as follows: The Flurlingen Spinning-mills produce hempen and jute yarns, destined not only to be used for the manufacture of strings in the same works, but also for sale as twine to saddlers, shoemakers, upholsterers, etc., yarns for the weaving of belts, carpets, hose-pipes, etc. The spinning-mill at Niederlenz supplies sewing yarns, yarns for the weaving of cloths, both at the works themselves and for sale. The manufacture of strings and ropes includes all species and kinds in that line. The Flurlingen factory has about 180 different kinds in stock. The Niederlenz weaving works specialise in coarse linen and hempen fabrics for technical and domestic use, e.g., sail cloth, waterproof canvas for awnings, as well as certain kinds of coarse mixed linen and cotton fabrics, especially for aprons, kitchen cloths, etc.

—B.T.S.

EUROPEAN & GENERAL EXPRESS CO. LTD.

(Managing Director: E. Schneider-Hall)

The Oldest Swiss Forwarding Agency in England,
15, POLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Forward through us to and from Switzerland your **Household Furniture** (in our own Lift Vans),
Luggage, Private Effects, Merchandise.

UMZÜGE — GEPÄCK holen wir überall ab.
Aufmerksame Bedienung. Mässige Preise.

DÉMÉNAGEMENTS — BAGGAGES enlevés et
expédiés partout Service attentionné.
Prix raisonnables.

"TIGER" BRAND SWISS PETIT GRUYÈRE CHEESE

Manufactured by Roethlisberger & Fils,
Langnau, Emmental, Switzerland.

In boxes of 1 lb. nett weight, 6 sections in each (or whole cake)

"Tiger" Brand Gruyère Cheese has a world-wide
reputation based on *unvarying* high quality.



GOLD MEDAL, Swiss Agricultural Exhibition, Berne, 1925

Sold by all the leading Stores, Grocers and
Provision Merchants.

Also obtainable at the principal Hotels and Restaurants.

Insist on "Tiger" Brand and thereby get The Best genuine
Swiss Petit Gruyère.

Sole Importer for the United Kingdom:

A. FRICK, 1, Beechcroft Avenue, Golders Green, London.
Telegrams: Bistrusk, London. Telephone: Speedwell 3142.

100,000

Schweizerkinder in
Heimat und Fremde
freuen sich auf ihr
liebstes Weihnachtsgeschenk: den Pestalozzkalender. Wer Buben und Mädchen beglücken will, denke darüber nach, wo überall seine jungen Freunde wohnen und schicke ihnen den neuen Pestalozzkalender. Zum Pestalozzi-Gedenkjahr 1927 ist das erzieherisch wertvolle Buch als prächtig ausgestattete Spezialausgabe erschienen.
Verlag: KAISER & CO., A.G., BERN.

RÜHMANN'S DELIKATESSEN

32, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, W.1

— THE HOUSE FOR SWISS AND —
OTHER CONTINENTAL CHARCUTERIE —

GREAT CHRISTMAS DISPLAY of Basler Leckerli, Nürnberg
Lebkuchen, Lübeck and Königsberg Marzipan, Chocolates, etc.,
in all their different varieties.
Rippli (Sauerkraut), Speck (Linsen), Schüblig, Frankfurterli,
Cervelat and Landjäger.
Leberwurst, Balleron, Lyoner, Zungen- u. Blutwurst.
Emmentaler, Glarner, Tilsiter, etc. Käsestangen u. Salzbrezeln.
Maggi's Preparationen.

RENOWNED FOR QUALITY SINCE 1887.

Telephone: MUSEUM 1622.

W. WETTER, Wine Importer

67, Grafton Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1

BOTTLED IN SWITZERLAND.

Valais Fendant ...	49/-	55/-	Dezaley ...	48/-
Neuchâtel, White ...	46/-	52/-	Johannisberg ...	50/-
" Red ...	54/-	57/-	Dôle Red Valais ...	57/-

(Carrriage Paid for London.)

As supplied to the Clubs and all principal Swiss Restaurants.

SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

QUOTATIONS from the SWISS STOCK EXCHANGES.

BONDS.		Nov. 23		Nov. 30	
		Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.
Confederation 3% 1903	...	500	79.50	500	79.62
5% 1917, VII Mob. Ln	...	1000	101.00	1000	101.10
Federal Railways 3 1/2% A-K	...	1000	82.12	1000	81.95
" " 1924 IV Elect. Ln.	...	1000	100.75	1000	100.70

SHARES.		Nov. 23		Nov. 30	
		Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.
Swiss Bank Corporation	...	500	776	500	775
Crédit Suisse	...	500	800	500	805
Union de Banques Suisses	...	500	662	500	662
Société pour l'Industrie Chimique	...	1000	2557	1000	2540
Fabrique Chimique ci-dev. Sandoz	...	1000	3990	1000	3975
Soc. Ind. pour la Schappe	...	1000	2847	1000	2785
S.A. Brown Boveri	...	500	500	500	496
C. F. Bally	...	1000	1184	1000	1202
Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Cond. Mk. Co.	...	200	551	200	552
Entreprises Suisses S.A.	...	1000	975	1000	971
Comp. de Navig. sur le Lac Léman	...	500	550	500	550
Linoleum A.G. Giubiasco	...	100	87	100	87
Maschinenfabrik Oerlikon	...	500	920	500	886

G. BRUSCHWEILER,

Beef and Pork Butcher.

CHARCUTERIE ET DELICATESSES SUISSES.
DELIKATESSEN.

Specialities:

Landjäger.
Cervelat.
Schüblig.
Wienerli.

Boef et Veau,
lardé et roulé.
Filet piqué.
Toute sorte de volaille.

Hotels, Restaurants, Clubs and Families catered for.

27, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Sq., W.1.

Telephone: MUSEUM 0800.

Established 1874.

AUG. BINDSCHIEDLER House Decorator.

ELECTRICITY PLUMBING GASFITTING
CARPENTERING ROOFING Etc.

HIGH CLASS WORK AT MODERATE PRICES.

9, Tolmers Square, Hampstead Road,

Phone: MUSEUM 412

N.W.1

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

Not exceeding 3 lines.—Per insertion, 2/6; three insertions 5/-
Postage extra on replies addressed *to Swiss Observer*

FOR COMFORT AND GOOD FOOD stay at 18,
Albion Road, nr. Swiss Cottage or Finchley Road
Stations. Single rooms 55/-. Double from 3 guineas
per person, inclusive. Good bus service.

BOARD RESIDENCE, Private, English family. Students or business people. Convenient for City and West End, also Swiss Mercantile School. Double or single rooms, terms moderate. Near Warwick Avenue tube, 6 and 18 bus.—44, Sutherland Avenue, W. 9. Phone: Maida Vale 2895.

TO LET: Comfortable Bed-sittingroom with breakfast. Easy access to City and West End. Write 'S' 20, Blackett Street, S.W.15.

WANTED, situation as Governess to one or two children, by young Swiss Lady speaking French and German.—Write H. M., 25 "Swiss Observer," 23 Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.

REQUIRED FOR INDIA, capable Sales engineer age 26-32, with sound technical training, practical knowledge of Diesel and other Crude-Oil motors, and experience in Sales Department of large manufacturing works. Must have selling ability and know some German.—Apply S., c/o "Swiss Observer," 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.

REQUIRED FOR SWITZERLAND, capable young Engineer (Swiss) with sound technical education (at least Technician) and practical experience in Works and Sales Department of English Manufacturing Engineers. Must know English and French.—Apply S., c/o "Swiss Observer," 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.

SWISS FAMILY would receive business gentleman as Paying Guest. Front bedroom, with running water; comfortable new house; central heating. High and healthy position, Surrey. 30 minutes City. Terms 2½ gns.—H. H., c/o "Swiss Observer," 23, Leonard St., London, E.C.2.

Alfred Muller, Watch and Clock Repairer,
58, DEAN STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Special attention to Precision and High-grade Watches.

Vente de Montres et Horloges avec Carrillon Westminster.