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**Autor:** J. J. F. S.  
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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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