

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: - (1960)
Heft: 1368

Artikel: Message of Mr. A. Renou
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-691237>

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: 15.05.2025

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

showing buildings of historic interest and fountains and monuments. Great hilarity was caused by the showing of the cortège of the Basle "Fastnacht". No less admired was a historic procession in Berne, the Youth Festival at Geneva, and the "Thalerschwinger" in the canton of Appenzell.

Lovely mountain scenery was shown, which awakened nostalgic feelings in many a heart. There was chamber music and, of course, yodelling too, which encouraged some members of the audience to break out in blood-curdling shrieks. Whoever was responsible for choosing this very fine film deserves a pat on the back.

Newcomers to a 1st of August programme were the Swiss members of the choir of the Anglo-Continental School of English, Bournemouth, under the efficient conductorship of Mr. O. Rosenorn-Lanng. This choir, consisting of very attractive young ladies and gentlemen, rendered songs in German, French, "Schwyzerdütsch" and English with much warmth and purity of tone. All the songs were sung with feeling, restraint and perfect harmony; it was a real joy to listen to their performance. Waves and waves of applause greeted their singing.

They were followed by a piano recital by Heinz Hugentobler, who played Polonaise in A flat major by Chopin. This young artist deserved a better instrument than was available, when his competent rendering would have been more enjoyed. He bravely fought against heavy odds, for which he deserves much praise.

Amongst old performers to appear were the "Corale" of the Unione Ticinese under the leadership of Sig. Bruni. Their hearty singing of the "Canzonette" of their native canton is always much appreciated, and as usual it was acknowledged with much applause. They are old and faithful friends of the Swiss community. In their programme were included yodelling songs by Maria Dubacher, who hails from Walchwil, and, therefore, is really a "gate-crasher" in the Ticinese *ensemble*, but a welcome and a charming one! Miss Dubacher yodelled lustily, and was much applauded.

Also much enjoyed were a series of sketches, "A day in the Life of a Swiss Student", delightfully acted by several of the Swiss students of the Anglo-Continental School.

The choir of the Bournemouth school once more appeared with songs, which were listened to with great pleasure; then followed community singing led by the assembled choirs, in which the entire audience joined with much vigour.

The programme ended with the singing of the "Schweizerpsalm".

Mr. F. Streit, president of the First of August Committee, thanked the various performers for their collaboration in the programme, the Swiss firms who by their donations enabled the committee again to hold this celebration, and the Swiss Ambassador and Madame Daeniker for having honoured the national celebration with their presence.

The second part of the evening was entirely reserved for dancing. Hundreds of couples, young and old, joined in, and vigorously turned and twisted to the sounds of Harry Vardon's Band. Conspicuous amongst the revellers was Mr. Bossert, who in spite of his 80 years danced like a twenty-year-old.

At 1 a.m. the National Anthem was played and another First of August celebration came to its end.

It was a most successful evening, and in concluding this report I wish, on behalf of all those who were present, to thank those who had worked so hard in making this year's celebration a success. Special appreciation should be given to the president of the First of August Committee, Mr. F. Streit, and his colleagues.

Let us hope that next year we shall be able to celebrate our National Day in less disturbing circumstances.

ST.

MESSAGE OF MR. A. RENOU, President of the Fête Suisse Committee, to Radio Suisse Romande

Radio Suisse Romande asked Mr. A. Renou to send a message over the air, on the occasion of the Swiss National Day, and we have much pleasure in publishing the text of this message.

"Mes chers Compatriotes,

"Les cloches sonnent, les lampions brillent gaîment, sur les sommets des feux s'allument.

"Souvenirs d'enfance, combien précieux aux Suisses à l'Etranger. Il faut quitter son pays pour mieux l'aimer; loin de lui on apprend à se souvenir, alors que tant oublient.

"Se souvenir! Pour nous Suisses d'Angleterre c'est évoquer — ces jours — avec ce courageux et hospitalier peuple britannique, la Bataille de Grande Bretagne de la R.A.F., il y a 20 ans, au cours de laquelle des milliers d'hommes, à la fleur de l'âge, donnerent leur vie pour la LIBERTE, celle du monde, la nôtre. Respectueusement nous nous inclinons en disant: Merci.

"Il y a 20 ans aussi, le Général Henri Guisan convoquait au Rapport historique du Grutli, des Chefs inquiets. L'horizon était chargé de nuages, mais la voix de ce grand soldat devint celle de l'homme d'état, respecté autant qu'aimé, qui rendit à tout un peuple troublé, à des magistrats hésitants, la Confiance et la Volonté de défendre le territoire, quoiqu'il en coûte.

"Honneur à la mémoire de ce grand homme, gratitude dans nos coeurs,

Oui, mon Général, nous nous souvenons."

"Partout dans le monde — le Congo en est le dernier exemple — déchirement, revanche: des millions d'hommes qui ont connu faim et oppression, qui savent que des millions d'autres êtres dans le monde subissent la Même horreur, souffrent, ou se revoltent. Dans ce brouhaha, les fruits d'un dur labeur d'une vie entière sont balayés: nombreux sont nos compatriotes qui ont tout perdu.

"En ce jour de fête, souviens-toi, peuple suisse, de ceux qui ont faim, toi qui vis dans l'abondance. Souviens-toi aussi que ce franc suisse que tu vénères tant, qui te donne confort et bonne chaire, ne vaudrait... oh! rien, si des millions de Jeunes d'autres nations n'avaient payé de leur vie pour qu'il reste un monde libre.

"Oui, en ce 1er août 1960, souviens-toi, humilie toi aussi, et comme nos ancêtres au Grutli pris... et dis merci à Dieu.

"Dis-lui merci d'être libre en mesurant toute la responsabilité de cette liberté qui doit non pas paraître simplement sur des pancartes, mais pénétrer dans les

consciences, les volontés, quoiqu'il en coûte et surtout si cela signifie refuser d'abdiquer devant ce qui est faux, injuste ou lâche.

"Quand les cloches sonneront, vous au Pays, nous loin de la Patrie, mais unis avec vous dans un même amour de notre Terre, redisons ensemble, humblement
Tu m'as dit d'aimer, et j'obéis
Mon Dieu protège mon Pays."

A QUOI EST DESTINE L'APPEL DU 1er AOUT 1960

Il existe en Suisse environ 1400 sources de distribution, officielles ou privées, de bourses d'apprentissage: fonds en capital, subventions annuelles, ou collectes — comme celle de la Fête nationale. Cela représente au total quelque 4 millions de francs qui sont ainsi à disposition chaque année. Est-ce suffisant?

On estime qu'aujourd'hui 15 à 20% des jeunes gens qui sont en apprentissage bénéficient de telles bourses. Le nombre des bénéficiaires se situait ces dernières années entre 10 et 12 mille par an. Ensuite de l'augmentation de la population, de l'entrée dans les professions de fortes classes d'âge, du besoin accru de spécialistes dans toutes les branches et à tous les degrés, de la hausse du coût de la vie, et de l'indispensable élévation des prestations individuelles, le montant des subsides nécessaires va s'élever aussi. De plus, ces contributions pour la formation professionnelle, simple aide sociale à l'origine, entrent toujours davantage dans le cadre de la politique générale de la main-d'œuvre.

On travaille actuellement à une profonde réforme du régime des bourses (modification de prescriptions désuètes, trop restrictives ou imprécises, simplification des formalités, etc.), de même qu'à une information poussée et une meilleure orientation professionnelle, ce qui facilitera une évolution plus conforme aux besoins. Ces modernisations permettront en particulier aux caisses privées — comme celle de la Fête nationale — de gagner en souplesse et en efficacité.

L'Appel de la Fête nationale a 50 ans — voilà, si l'on se réfère au but social de l'institution, un réjouissant jubilé! A cette occasion, le timbre de 50 centimes sort cette année sous deux formes: la première est un timbre réunissant, en or sur fond d'azur, le marteau de l'ouvrier, l'instrument du technicien et la chouette, symbole de la science. La seconde est un bloc de quatre timbres semblables, mais aux couleurs inversées. Le produit de la surtaxe de tous les timbres de la Fête nationale sera principalement consacré à la formation professionnelle de la jeunesse, et subsidiairement à des tâches culturelles: ces magnifiques timbres, et en particulier ce bloc très original, n'auront donc pas seulement la faveur des philatélistes, mais celle de tout le peuple suisse.

Echo.

SWISSAIR TAKES PART IN CONGO AIRLIFT

Although Swissair had been taking part in the airlift between Europe and the Congo for some time, following a later request by the United Nations the company made its DC-6B "HB-IBA" available for food transports within the Congo from 2nd to 8th August,

The aircraft and two Swissair crews plus ground

staff were due to be stationed at Leopoldville. All flights within the Congo were to be made under the orders of local United Nations representatives.

Originally, at the request of the United Nations and commissioned by the Swiss Government, Swissair started to take part in the Congo airlift on 18th July, when its DC-6B "HB-IBE" flew several tons of powdered milk from Pisa to Leopoldville. On the following day Swissair added a DC-6A all-cargo aircraft to the relief operations. On its first return flight from the Congo the DC-6B carried 57 refugees to Brussels and Zurich.

Originally planned were five return trips between Europe and the Congo. On 22nd July the DC-6A was returned to normal scheduled service because the supply depot at Pisa had been cleared. At that time the DC-6B was still due to carry about 50 tons of food-stuffs from Zurich to the Congo; they were supplies arriving in Zurich from Scandinavia.

On 24th July the DC-6B again flew to Pisa to take on board twenty Yugoslav United Nations troops together with 1,800 lbs. of equipment. They were flown to Leopoldville the same day.

SWISS POSE PUZZLER: WHO SETS WATCH STYLES — BUYERS OR MAKERS?

The perennial question in watchmaking is very much like the well-worn theological puzzler: Which came first — the chicken or the egg? Horologists often wonder: Who sets watch styles — the buyers or the makers?

There are legitimate arguments to support both sides. There is no doubt that advertising by individual watch firms greatly influences consumer tastes, and there is equally little doubt that manufacturers do their utmost through market studies and agents or retailer reports to fulfil the wishes of their customers.

Perhaps the fairest answer to this question is a compromise: both buyers and manufacturers set watch styles and establish tastes.

A case in point is the present world-wide trend towards stylish, smart ultra-thin wrist-watches. This trend is no sudden change that has recently appeared. It has been apparent and gaining momentum for many years, and manufacturers have recognized it and attempted to capitalise on it.

So at the start, we may say, the primary impetus for this trend came from the buyer.

Since form must remain secondary to function, the thinness of watches was dependent entirely upon the ability of Swiss watchmakers to create watch movements thin enough to meet consumer demands.

At first, the very thin watches were predominantly pocket watches designed for dress or formal wear. All of them had to be wound by hand, since the additional thickness of a self-winding rotor would remove any timepiece from the ultra-thin class. For the same reason the watches did nothing but tell time. There were no calendar, alarm or universal-time attachments.

However, the same watchmakers who noted the consumer appeal inherent in very thin stylings, also knew that the public was following another trend — self-winding watches. This made the problem obvious: to fulfil the public's twin desires with a very thin,