

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: - (1961)
Heft: 1399

Artikel: A reception in honour of Mr. A. Stauffer
Autor: O. F. B.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-693571>

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: 16.05.2025

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

At the Swiss Embassy

A RECEPTION IN HONOUR OF MR. A. STAUFFER

On Saturday, 25th November, the Swiss Ambassador and Madame Daeniker gave a reception at the Embassy. Over three hundred people were invited.

The Ambassador and Madame Daeniker personally greeted the many guests, who were immediately made to feel 'at home' by the characteristic charm and hospitality of our host and hostess. It was, indeed, a very happy gathering, and an impressive tribute to our ever popular friend, Alfred Stauffer.

During the course of the evening, Mr. E. Kuebler, Chairman of the Presidents' Assembly, gave the following address:

Monsieur and Madame Daeniker, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In your name I extend a very special welcome to our friends, Mr. and Mrs. Stauffer. It is a very special occasion which has brought so many of us together tonight, to honour one who has given so many years of his life's work to serve an ideal, to bring us nearer to one another, to keep us closer to events at home, and keep us informed with the doings of our compatriots in this country, which for many of us has become a second home.

For thirty-two years, Alfred Stauffer has been the creator of a link in bringing the many varied functions of our different Societies before our eyes, and to blend these activities into a complete record of the life of the Swiss community.

Not only this, but through his personality, his character and his friendliness, he has become the friend of each of us.

As editor of our "Swiss Observer" he has worked incessantly and untiringly to make the Colony's paper a necessity to all of us who have the interest and the welfare of our Colony at heart, and although it has been a constant struggle, Alfred Stauffer, no doubt, must know in his heart that he could not have done better work than by nursing and caring for his beloved child.

On a visit from Manchester, my home town, in the spring of this year, I heard with great regret of the retirement of Mr. Stauffer from the editorship of the "Swiss Observer". It came as a great shock to me, and on recovering from it I thought that it would be the wish of all of us in expressing — in a tangible way — our grateful thanks and appreciation.

That is how the idea of the "Alfred Stauffer Fund" was born, enabling everyone to partake in a thank-offering to our friend. The response to my Appeal was not only a pleasant, but also a surprising one, a splendid testimonial of appreciation of Alfred Stauffer's work.



A. Stauffer, late Editor of the "Swiss Observer"

May I take this opportunity of thanking most sincerely the many subscribers who so generously contributed to this Fund; and now I have the honour and pleasure of handing over to Mr. Stauffer a cheque for £505, with a most hearty expression of our best wishes for your and Mrs. Stauffer's health and happy retirement. (*Applause.*)

Mr. Stauffer, visibly touched, replied as follows:

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, Madame Daeniker, Mr. Kuebler, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to thank Mr. Kuebler most sincerely for his generous words, and equally generous presentation. I must say it came as a big surprise when His Excellency, some short while ago, mentioned to me that there would be a presentation, and that it was his and Madame Daeniker's intention to combine it with a reception at the Embassy. Surely never has a secret been kept so well as this has been. Had I known beforehand that a Fund was to be started for my benefit — initiated by Mr. Kuebler, in the capacity of Chairman of the Presidents' Assembly — I would have discouraged him, because I consider that I had received enough appreciation on the occasion of my retirement from the editorship of the "Swiss Observer" some few months ago, when I received a great number of letters, a lovely silver salver from the Advisory Council of the "Swiss Observer", the promotion from Honorary Member of the City Swiss Club to Honorary Vice-

THE PERSONAL TOUCH—that's what counts

For all travels—by land sea and air

let A. GANDON make your reservations

Tickets issued at Station Prices - no booking fee

HOWSHIP TRAVEL AGENCY

188, Uxbridge Road - Shepherds Bush - W.12

Telephones: SHE 6268/9 and 1898

President, and the golden pin of the Schweiz. Kaufmännischer Verein. All honours which I greatly appreciated — and now comes this!

I somehow feel that I hardly deserve so much praise. I do not wish to make a long speech, but I would like to render grateful thanks.

First of all, I wish to thank His Excellency and Madame Daeniker for the kind hospitality they have always extended to my wife and myself at the Embassy. For well over forty years the diplomatic representatives of our country have kept me well lubricated with dinners and cocktail parties. Well do I remember, in particular, the cocktail party Monsieur and Madame Daeniker gave me, two years ago, on the occasion of my 70th birthday, presenting me with a wonderful birthday cake, complete with seventy candles.

Sincere thanks I owe to the many collaborators — alas, many of whom have left us, never to return! If I have been able to render some service to the Colony, during almost fifty years, it was due to their always willing help; without it I could have achieved very little. The various Swiss Societies and Institutions have always supported me well. If you will allow me to strike a personal note, I would also like to express thanks to my wife; without her help I could not have carried on.

During, and immediately after, the first World War the Colony lost cohesion, neutrals were then not very popular. It was then that I made up my mind to find some remedies, first in the Swiss Societies, and a few years later as editor of the "Swiss Observer". It was, so to speak, the "Sturm und Drang Periode" of the Colony. With the result that in the second World War, the Colony, in spite of the "Blitz", carried on its work almost as usual. We never lost touch with each other.

Now, on the eventide of a fairly busy life, I look back with sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses I have received, and all I can say is—

Thank you, thank you, very, very much! (*Applause.*)

And thank you, too, Alfred Stauffer, for a task well done and one of which you may justly feel proud. May continued good health and happiness be yours and good fortune attend all your endeavours.

O.F.B.

PERSONAL

Mr. A. Stauffer, of 48A Putney Hill, Putney, London, S.W.15, late editor of the Swiss Observer, wishes to thank most sincerely the many subscribers who so generously made donations to the "Alfred Stauffer Fund". He was greatly touched by this "beau geste".

ZURICH INSURANCE COMPANY

together with its associates

THE BEDFORD GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

and

THE BEDFORD LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY LIMITED

UNDERTAKE ALL CLASSES
OF INSURANCE BUSINESS

The funds of the Zurich group
of companies exceed £200,000,000

FAIRFAX HOUSE, FULWOOD PLACE,
HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.1
Telephone: CHAncery 8833 (20 lines)



for healthy
happy families

OVALTINE

the family drink
of today



M·A·T TRANSPORT LIMITED

FORMERLY MACHINERY & TECHNICAL TRANSPORT LIMITED

INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING & FORWARDING AGENTS

MURRAY HOUSE, BARBICAN, LONDON, E.C.1

Telephone: MONARCH 6040 (20 Lines)
Telex: LONDON 28404 - MACANTECH.

Telegrams: MACANTECH, TELEX, LONDON

ALLIED HOUSES:

BASLE

M·A·T TRANSPORT A.G., Peter Merian Strasse 50
PHONE: 351800. TELEX: BASLE 62216 - MATTRANS

ZURICH

M·A·T TRANSPORT A.G., London House, Bahnhofstrasse
PHONE: 258994 TELEX: ZURICH 52458 - MATTRANS