

Obituary

Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): - **(1973)**

Heft 1663

PDF erstellt am: **21.07.2024**

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are over 700 of them) explained to me that the time had come to break this "insularity". There were no reasons to blush about the British Isles' mountaineering opportunities. Obviously, no mountain in Britain was a match with the Eiger, yet there were plenty of tricky climbs requiring consummate skills. I was told that the highest cliff in the British Isles is almost 800 metres high and is on Ben Nevis. Cliffs in North Wales are at most 300 metres high. There are interesting cliffs and dozens of climbing associations in the Lake District. Even Northern Ireland, with a few rocky hills and a number of sea-side cliffs has eleven club huts.

P.M.B.

33.7 per cent of foreigners in Liechtenstein

A recent census showed that a third of the inhabitants of Liechtenstein were foreign. This is perhaps the highest proportion in any country. Of the 22,500 inhabitants living in the Principality on 31st December last, 7,524 were foreign. The four most important colonies were the Swiss, Austrians, Germans and Italians.

Obituary

We have the sad duty of reporting the death, on May 28th, in hospital of Mr. Ernest Schaerer at the age of 75. Mr. Schaerer came from Geneva. He leaves a widow, Alice, living at 28 Saville Grove, Clifton, York, to whom we should like to extend our deepest sympathy.

BIRTHDAY

With some delay, we have pleasure in announcing the birthday of a faithful reader, Mr. Louis Portman, of 9 Sullivan House, Churchill Gardens, London SW1, who celebrated his 80th birthday on April 13th. Mr. Portman only recently retired from a life-long career in catering. At his retirement, he was probably the oldest employee of Trust House Forte. We should like to extend to him our warmest congratulations.

SENSATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIND – DISCOVERY OF A SWISS GODDESS

An archaeological breakthrough has recently put the archaeological world upside down. It now seems that the mystery surrounding the origins of the world-famous Venus of Milo has been solved. According to the highest authorities, the well-known statue of Aphrodite actually represents the Swiss Goddess of Housekeeping! Excavating at Avenches, a city built on the Roman city of Aventicum, a Swiss team of archaeologists have made a discovery that stunned the world: they unearthed the missing arms of a statue that everyone had hitherto believed to represent a Greco-Roman goddess. Leading archaeologists are formal. The limbs match perfectly with the mutilated statue which one can admire in the Louvre. Every chink and cranny fits in absolutely! This sensational discovery has put back the origins of Swiss cleanliness by several thousand years and shows that the roots of those traditions that have made Swiss women the tidiest and cleanest housewives in the world must be sought much farther back in history than believed until now. It also proves that Helvetic Civilisation has not only given the world the Cuckoo-clock, but also the broom and the feather duster.



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