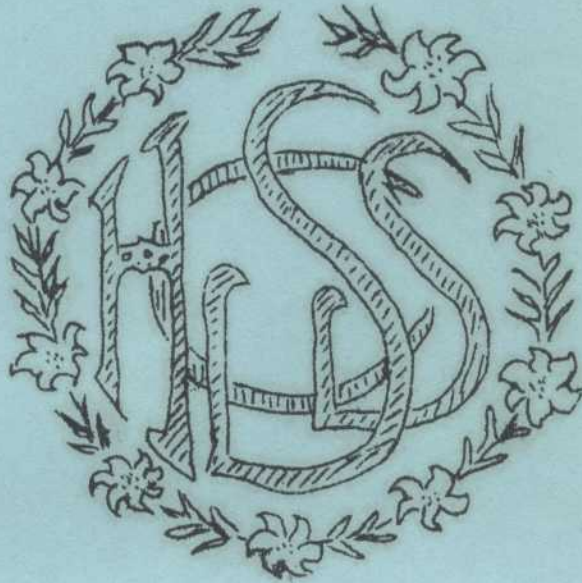




BULLETIN

VOL. VI



NO. 0

“Helvetia”

SOCIETY FOR COLLECTORS OF SWITZERLAND

BULLETIN

"HELVETIA" SOCIETY FOR COLLECTORS OF SWITZERLAND

EDITOR: Gustave A. von Gross
317 So. 15th. Street
PHILADELPHIA, 2, PENNSYLVANIA

VOLUME VI

October 1943

No.10

HONOR-ROLL OF "HELVETIANS" IN SERVICE:

Pfc. Frank J. Zeltman,

Since Government Regulations

Major A.M. Wilson,

prohibit the listing of whereabouts

1st. Lt. Edward H. Lewandowski,

of our members in service, please

direct all letters to them in care

of our Secretary who will forward them promptly.

* * * * *

Helvetia Bulletin - VOL. VI, No.9, page 6. Second sentence in paragraph 3

should read: "-Sincere greetings from an altitude of 500 meters to the Home
Committee.

Paragraph 5, same page should begin "To our grandfather, etc."

* * *

Re: Advertising rates.

The lay-out has been miscalculated. A full page contains only 8 boxes, size
2½" X 3½", the rates henceforth should be:

" Full Page add	\$2.80
Half " "	1.40
Box add 2½" X 3½"35

Box adlets should contain not more than 10 single spaced lines.

* * *

BUY WAR BONDS and write to the boys in the armed forces; they appreciate your
efforts. Don't forget they fight for you and yours!

Office of the President:

RE: HELVETIA BANQUET.

The question arises whether to hold our customary annual banquet or not. The deciding factor remains solely with the membership. Kindly voice your opinion and drop a postal to our Secretary

Thomas F. Harrison
1244 North 56th. Street
Philadelphia, 31, Penna.

If the banquet is desired, state the choice of your city situated either in the State of New York, New Jersey or Pennsylvania.

Furthermore - I would like to hear of someone offering their service as Chairman of this committee and select his own co-workers.

A date in February should be adhered to.

Immediate action is essential as these arrangements involve considerable time and looking around for proper facilities.

Those desiring to attend this affair should express their intention when replying to our Secretary, stating the approximate number of persons included in his or her party.

The decision rest with you and the amount of replies forwarded within now and the 15th of November, and depends on the willingness of a member offering to act in the capacity as Chairman.

Very sincerely yours,
Gustave A. von Gross.

* * *

Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 4, 1943

Minutes of the Meeting
of the
"Helvetia Society"

The regular monthly meeting of the Helvetia Society was held on the above date at 317 South 15th. St., Phila., Pa. with President Mr. Gustave A. von Gross presiding. The meeting was called to order at 9 P.M. with seven members present and answering the roll call after which the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Receipts	Expenditures:
Balance on hand 7/13/43 \$ 263.46	Order #78 Expenses for Exhibition
Dues collected 42.00	Collectors Club, N.Y. \$ 2.00
Total \$ 305.46	Check #1 - Stationary etc. 11.25
Expenses 13.25	Total \$13.25
Balance \$ 293.21	

Balance on hand Oct. 4, 1943 ... \$ 293.21

Vincent Domanski Jr., Treasurer.

Reports of Committees

Research: Progress.

For the good of the Society

There was general discussion on various subjects pertaining to the various early Swiss issues as indeed the greater part of each meeting is devoted to threshing out some point of general interest in Swiss stamps. As the war makes it increasingly difficult to travel or get together with our New York members as we would like to do and has also greatly restricted social gatherings we do not feel that it is wise to try to make plans which perhaps we could not complete. Hence our meetings are more or less devoted to some general topic of discussion of interest to the members present.

In these days the Loetschberg railroad will be completed and two neighbor cities will be brought closer together in distance as well as in common interests. At the same time an historic flight across the great barrier of the Alps is going to open a new and hitherto unknown way to human enterprise, which has now been made possible by the deeds of heroic men. The city of Berne, its authorities and its people take this opportunity of sending in this way their sincere greetings and best wishes to the city of Milan, to its authorities and to its people.

With international cordiality,

(signed) Steiger, City President.

To be transmitted by air route by the conqueror of the air route over the Pyrenees, our fellow citizen, the flyer Oskar Bider from Berne".

Bider returned to Switzerland later in the month, again by plane on a 250 km. flight across the Alps, this time by way of Olivone, the Lukmanier Alpine highway, the Lake of Lucerne, to Liestal and Basel. Again he carried an official message, this time from the Mayor or Sindaco of Milan to the President of the city of Berne.

This letter was dated July 25, 1913, and reads as follows:

"To the President of the city of Berne:

I am happy and proud that the worthy and audacious pioneer of a strong and noble people is going to deliver to the city of Berne, to its authorities and to its people the most sincere greetings from the city of Milan with our thanks and in response to those which you have sent to us. We express our hope, that by the astonishing accomplishments of genius and work and by the marvelous boldness of strong individuals the ancient ideals will become true and that the people will sincerely and closely be connected to each other for common progress and for the achievement of the great aims of the human culture.

The Sindaco of Milan.

(signed) C. Greppi.

This was the first official exchange of letters by air courier between Switzerland and one of its neighbors.

"The country did not forget these events. - On the 30th. anniversary of the Bider Alpine Flight, July 13, 1943, the Swiss Postal Department issued a commemorative Pro Aero Stamp showing the imprint " 1 Fr. - 13. VII.1943 - Pro Aero" on the 20 plus 10 centimes stamp for the Aug. 1. celebration in 1943. Special airmail couriers were flown from Zurich and Berne showing a special cachet: "30" Jahre Alpenflug - Oskar Bider - 13. VII. 1943 (plane over mountains) - Sonderluftpost".

Compare with illustrated postmark in August 1943 issue of AIRPOST JOURNAL page 365. (First of August special complimentary number). A reproduction of the Commemorative Pro Aero stamp appears on same page.

* * * *

WHO'LL PART WITH DUPLICATES?

Need Tete Beche pairs-- Mint-230 Ribbed Paper- Used #195, 230-230 Ribbed Paper. Types with crosses between - Mint # 230 R.P., Used 230 - 230 R.P. pair and block se-tenents perforated between - 168b /160 -176-169- mint or used. Same Ribbed Paper - 161 - 169, 161/169 mint or used. - Also se-tenents with large or small holes between stamps, mint or used. Submit best prices.

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