

BULLETIN

"HELVETIA" SOCIETY FOR COLLECTORS OF SWITZERLAND

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

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HONOR ROLL OF HELVETIANS IN SERVICE:

Pfc. Frank J. Zeltman

Lt. Col. A.M. Wilson

Capt. Edward H. Lewandowski, D.C.

Addresses obtainable
from
Secretary

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HELVETIA BANQUET - A Positive Event.

A few days ago, this pleasant news was conveyed to me by our esteemed I. Vice President for inclusion in our Bulletin. Sophie - really makes the head lines now a day and frantically endeavors to keep the members of the society happy.

Re: HELVETIA BANQUET: - The place has been chosen. It is in down-town New York and those who gathered there for dinner prior to going to the Collectors Club Helvetia night in 1943, should remember the place. It is known for their fine cooking and we are assured our privacy. Right you are - It is Millers' and they can accomodate up to 150 people on the top floor. Although the walls are not sound-proof, this room is reserved for those seeking gaiety and wish to unloosen some of their pent up vocal cords and strained muscles.

A dinner INCLUDING TIPS will be approximately \$2.25, consisting of:

- " Hors d'Oevres
- Soup
- Chicken with two vegetables
- Coffee Desert. "

This of course is at present only a tentative figure and we must take into consideration that by February market prices might be changed and carry a slight increase, but even so, at the most, the increase can be only a few cents from to-day's basic prices.

Our anniversary banquet might also have to be held on a Friday night instead of the customary Saturday. - In order to avoid paying an entertainment tax, there will be no paid entertainers. A good piano is at our command and I believe there are a great many home talents available right from the Helvetia crowd to make the evening lively and memorable. A youthful good piano accordion player has already offered his free service.

Talented Helvetians are requested to come forward to furnish some of their

talents, be it either in a musical capacity, or, a singing. comic or novelty act. Let's be congenial and work together to make this affair an outstanding event! The community singing will be lead by our capable, resourceful Ann Elkins, and the yodeling, by the entire Buser family, who during the later part of June, at Cozy Lake, practised harmonizing.

Make reservations way in advance as a capacity crowd is anticipated.

There is no rationing on beer, liquor or fancy drinks, and I understand the original alcoholic content will be maintained and does not undergo a diluting process.

If there are further suggestions as to a different locality, or better terms, lets hear from you at once, so we can look into matter, OTHERWISE, it's Miller's, around the corner from Sophie Buser's office.

The credit for these arrangements go to our untiring 1st. Vice-President, Sophie Buser and her sparing partner Ed.

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VINCENT DOMANSKI, JR. -- PRESIDENT OF S.P.A.
STEPHEN G. RICH -- TREASURER OF S.P.A.

"Helvetia" proudly congratulates Vincent Domanski, Jr., President, and Stephen G. Rich, Treasurur of the Society of Philatelic Americans, wishing both great success and prosperity during their term of administration.

Vincent and Steve, a team hard to beat, possess the required qualifications. Sincere and untiring workers, they are masters at business administrations with lots of foresight for the future. -- Their leadership and moral character is BEYOND reproach, as well as their fairness and open minded liberalism in dealing with problems and human elements.

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The 1944 Confederacy Celebration Stamps.

June 15, 1944, Switzerland issued four Bundesfeiermarken (Swiss Confederacy Celebration stamps) in the values of 5 plus 5, 10 plus 10, 20 plus 10 and 30 plus 10 Rappen, the surtax to be given to the Swiss Red Cross.

Engraved and printed on white granite paper by Courvoisier S.A. of La Chaux de Fonds. Four panes of 25 stamps comprise a sheet.

The 5 + 5Rp stamp in green, buff and red, shows a scenery of Heiden, a noted resort, where Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross spent his last days on earth. -- The design is the artwork of Oscar Ruegg of Lucerne.

The 10 + 10 Rp., in gray, buff and red, commemorates the 500th anniversary of the battle of St. Jacob on the Birs (1444). -- William Koch of St. Gallen is the designer.

The 20 + 10 Rp., in carmine, buff and vermillion, portrays the ancient castle of Mesocco. -- Andreas Juon of Safien being the artist.

The 30 + 10 Rp., in Blue, buff and red, presents a view of Basel, and also issued in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the battle of St. Jacob on the Birs (1444). The designers -- P. and B. Artaria of Basel.

As mentioned before, the surtax from the sale of these stamps will be turned over to the Swiss Red Cross.

These stamps were on sale at all postoffices throughout Switzerland from June 15 to August 15, 1944 and are valid for postage up to November 1944.

GvG.

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War Time Diary of the Swiss Airmail Services
(From earlier and recent announcements
in Switzerland).

by

Dr. Max Kronstein.

1939:

August 29 -- Mobilization order prohibiting civil aviation throughout Switzerland.

Total 1939 airmail tonnage 519.

1940:

March 18 -- Inauguration of airmail service Locarno -- Rome.

1940:

- April 1 - Inauguration of airtservice Locarno-Barcelona, Spain.
- June 10 - Both of these services suspended by Italy's entry in the war.
- July 3 - After the conclusion of the French-German Armistice, special airmail courier carries Swiss mail for the United States from Chiasso to the S.S. Exeter sailing from Lisbon to New York.
- Sept. 30 - Inauguration of daily airtservice Zuerich- Munich, Germany.
- Oct. 14 - Reopening of services Locarno-Milano to Rome and Barcelona announced, but again postponed.
- Dec. 16 and 17 - Airtservice to Germany temporarily halted by a bombing of Basle.

Total number of flights	431
" airmail tonnage	74
" airfreight "	15
" passengers carried ..	1610

1941:

- January 2 - Service Locarno-Rome resumed.
- " 15 - Service to Rome again suspended.
- May 28 - Pro Aero Airmail flight 1941.
- June 22-July 22 - Regular service from Zurich to Germany temporarily halted at start of German-Russian war.
- November 19 - Airtservice from Zurich to Germany extended to route Zurich - Stuttgart - Berlin.

Total number of flights:	661
" airmail tonnage:	36
" airfreight "	45
" passengers carried	3922

1942:

Regular service to Germany on the longer route Zurich - Stuttgart - Berlin maintained throughout the year.

Total number of flights:	1208
" airmail tonnage:	148
" freight " :	125
" passengers carried	16215

Swissair calls 1942 its most successful war year.

1943:

January 29 -- Germany prohibited Swiss flights to Berlin.

Since January 29 -- Service of 200 miles route to Stuttgart only.

July 13 -- Oscar Bider Memorial "Pro Aero Airmail".

Total number of flights:	676
" airmail tonnage:	72
" freight " " :	63
" passengers carried:	4738

"The 1943 route too short for successful operation".
(Swissair)

Total miles flown by Swissair from August 29, 1939 to
December 31, 1943 : 600,000 miles
with about: 26,500 passengers.

1944:

August 18 -- Airline Zurich -- Stuttgart discontinued on German request.

August 24 -- The first American troops arrive from the French Riviera
at the Swiss border.

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ATTENTION:

Kindly advise the Secretary and Editor of change of address, otherwise
your Bulletin will be lost.
Those in arrear with their dues kindly remit at once to the Secretary.
Your courtesy will be appreciated, Thank you.

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