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Prefatory Note

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Prefatory Note:

Although the public denunciations of the American media concerning Switzerland's activities during World War Two and the Swiss banks' settling of dormant accounts in the after-years have nearly ceased, the issues raised deserve careful and impartial scrutiny. At the annual meeting of the SAHS Dr. H. Dwight Page, an American, offered an incisive analysis of the events which he expanded into the first article of this issue. As an American and committed Christian he subjects the events in question to rigorous scrutiny and in conclusion offers an intriguing suggestion resulting from his interpretation. He welcomes reactions from readers, be they positive or negative. A commitment to truth, fairness, rigorous scholarship, and Christian ethics has shaped his grappling with the issues.

Dr. Elizabeth Kübler Ross, while at times controversial, is one of the most influential women who have emigrated in the twentieth century from Switzerland to the United States. Nicole Butz, a young historian engaged in a book-length study of Zurich's main psychiatric institution from its emergence to about 1930, reviews E. Kübler Ross' autobiography titled *The Wheel of Life*. While readers might differ in their appraisal of the book, N. Butz's analysis deserves careful attention. It will, hopefully, encourage readers themselves to study the autobiography of this dedicated and influential Swiss-American physician who has achieved so much through an untiring and radical commitment to her ideals.

This issue of the *SAHS Review* concludes with a review of Dr. Konrad Basler's new book, titled *Dorlikon an der Grenze des Wachstums*. It is a detailed and learned sketch of the later seventeenth century world as it was experienced by *The Dorlikon Emigrants* - the title of Dr. Basler's previous book to be distributed to SAHS members in the not too distant future. This is made possible by the author's generosity which is gratefully acknowledged.

To all a year 1999 filled with peace, health, and courage!

Leo Schelbert
H. Dwight Page
Editors