



Swiss American Historical Society Review

Volume 30 | Number 2

Article 2

6-1994

Prefatory Note

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Recommended Citation

Schelbert, Leo (1994) "Prefatory Note," *Swiss American Historical Society Review*. Vol. 30 : No. 2 , Article 2.

Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/sahs_review/vol30/iss2/2

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In this issue, Agathe Burckhardt-Sandreuter offers some reminiscences of her and her husband's years in Washington, D.C. She shows that numerous tasks await a diplomat's spouse and soon involve the family in networks of international dimensions. Dr. Lukas F. Burckhardt's work as cultural counselor of the Embassy of Switzerland, especially his revitalizing of the SAHS, became for me a source of inspiration. His brief report reveals one of his basic and enduring concerns: Justice for all beyond the boundaries of nationality, a goal he and his spouse have continued to pursue right to the present day.

At the annual SAHS meeting in Philadelphia, Dr. Barbara Villiger, a journalist with the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, offers an incisive view of a neglected dimension of Swiss literary endeavors. Professor Frederick W. Vogler, Professor of French literature at the University of North Carolina and a friend of the late Augustin Maissen, sketches the return of the Voglers to the birthplace of their ancestors, and Terry Johnson, a fourth generation Swiss-American, presents data on Swiss-Americans from the 1990 census, to which I added two appendices. Some "Book News" intend to make readers aware of some pertinent recent titles.

Leo Schelbert, Editor