

85th anniversary HELVETIA LODGE, 85 years AACH

Address by Bernhard Gubler

April 29, 2012

Original plaque at the Helvetia lodge, Kokusai: Arnold Gubler was one of the founders – his son, Bernhard Gubler returns to the site and talks about the Gubler family ...



Arnold Gubler wrote a book called „experiences and thoughts of a traveller to Japan“, which was published in 1944. One chapter is dedicated to the Helvetia lodge

ARNOLD GUBLER

**ERLEBNISSE UND GEDANKEN
EINES JAPANFAHRERS**

MIT 16 BILDТАFELN
UND 3 GEOGRAPHISCHEN KARTEN

After assignments in Kobe and Fukushima he was elected as successor of Mr. Koller, at the Hokkaido University College in 1925: he lived in the „round house“ until 1932.



The Gublers with a guest, in the „round house“ discussing some journals



Helvetia lodge, under construction in 1927.
on the left: Mr. Hinder or Mr. Waser?, on the right Mr. Yamazaki(?)



Helvetia lodge, located in an open birch forest, was reached best from Zenibuko, today from the nearby road



Departure from Helvetia lodge, toward Asari-dake ?



A rest during a strenuous ascent



At the time of the building of the lodge the fashion was quite different



The Gublers in their contemporary skiing gear



The Gublers returned to Switzerland in 1932. Arnold was a teacher at the state teacher training college. Initially he taught history and later mainly geography. Students during a summer excursion.



A winter excursion with students, one week of ski training.



The Gublers lived in their own house: Gartenstrasse 30, Kuesnacht ZH



The Gublers were fond of gardening and grew many different vegetables, flowers and fruits. The three children: Hanna, Bernhard and Arnold jun., who looked after his motorcycle



The Gublers received many visitors from Japan, all former colleagues and pupils of Arnold, or their children (Mrs. and Mr. Kato).



Madeleine and Arnold Gubler guided several groups on visits of the Far East, particularly to Japan and Hokkaido after the second world war.



All family vacations were spent in Switzerland, in the mountains. Often in the remote village Scarl, 1800 meters above sea level.



A rest with friends: Arnold (far left), Madeleine (far right), the Eggenbergers, daughter Hanna in the rear.



Turning to the next generation: Marianne and Bernhard Gubler-Cachin at their engagement surrounded by the two families.



Bernhard inherited his fathers passion for „alpine ski touring“ (ascent by himself, using skins). Until recently one week a year with a professional alpine guide – Haute route .



The next generation continues too: Ueli (left) is now the „alpine ski tourer“, Stefan (right) loves the Alps too, but prefers easier access.



Madeleine and Arnold at their 40th wedding anniversary, with their children and grandchildren and Kalsang, a Tibetan refugee. Marianne taught Tibetan refugees and later headed a home and served many years as president of the Friendship society Switzerland Tibet. As a result we travelled to the Himalayas repeatedly.



In the Himalayas not highest peak is most important – for the Hindus and Buddhists it is Mount Kailash. It is considered to be the mysterious Mount Meru, the centre and origin of our planet.



Marianne and Bernhard during the three day trek around of Mount Kailash.



Mustang, Nepal: Annapurna in the back ground



Nepal, Ama Dablam, 6856 m



Nepal, Kangtega (6685 m) from Kala Patthar



From Kala Patthar (5585 m): Everest 8848 m



Arnold wanted to build his second „Helvetia lodge“ in Switzerland and searched for decades for an appropriate location. He found it in Quinten, on a lake shore and only accessible on foot or by boat. He had the house constructed to his liking.



Arnold and Madeleine Gubler, at the construction site, 1967



In his last years Arnold often retreated to his „Helvetia lodge“ where he liked to receive friends, for example those who had travelled to Japan with him.



The Tschorrueti lodge, sketch by Ayao Ide, 2.9.1969



Quinten Tschorrueti lodge, after renovation, 2012.



Arnold and Madeleine have become older – together with their daughter-in-law Marianne and grand-daughter Regula (Pfaeffikon).



Arnold: one of his last pictures at his beloved Quinten cottage, already marked by diminishing mental capacities.



Addendum 1: Book by Arnold Gubler (1944), topographical map of skiing grounds near Sapporo.

