

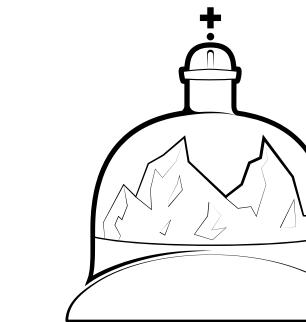


---

THE

# FANTASTIC PARLIAMENT

---



---

---

# THE FANTASTIC PARLIAMENT

---

---

# PROLOGUE



Zephyrine Tinguely doesn't have a third eye in the middle of her forehead, or a moon-shaped birthmark, or telepathic powers to move objects or read people's minds. But she's not like other girls. She likes her unusual name, although people often laugh at it. She wears colourful clothes and big glasses that her grandmother gave her, which give her face a whimsical quality. She has an insatiable curiosity, which comes from her grandfather, a slightly eccentric archaeologist who collected machines, ornaments, tools and other curious contraptions. Since the old man mysteriously disappeared without trace, Zephyrine has been regularly visiting his workshop. And every time she goes there, she discovers something new.

This afternoon she has decided to tackle the desk that has pride of place in the middle of the room. As she clears away the maps and papers spread out all over it, she discovers a yellowed book that has been left in clear view. When she tries to open it, a folded piece of paper falls to the ground.



"My dear Zephyrine,

*I have gone to explore uncharted territories, across land and sea. I'm leaving you my notes, my drawings and my sketches about the origins of our country and our parliament. If these papers spark your curiosity – which I think they will – please feel free to continue my research into this fascinating world. I will miss you lots. Lots of love from your grandfather, the explorer"*

Zephyrine examines the large notebook from all angles. She then takes a deep breath and immerses herself in the black ink of her grandfather's first few lines.



# BREATH OF ORIGIN

In the beginning, the three good giants who watched over the Switzerland of old were awoken by the piercing cries of a people suffering. An army that had descended from the north-east was destroying everything in its path, leaving a trail of destruction and despair in its wake.

Alerted by the clamour of clashing armour, the giants came hurtling down from their mountains. They met up in secret in the middle of a green pasture overlooking a beautiful lake the colour of azure and cobalt. They swore to help each other and took a solemn oath to unite against anyone who tried to attack the country again. The inhabitants of the valleys nestling between the lake and mountains eyed each other, almost alarmed at their own audacity. Freed from the

power of the distant oppressor and the greed of his bailiffs, they were finally able to manage their affairs as they saw fit. The meadows, pastures, fields and surrounding forests were theirs again.

A wave of new aspiration spread across the country. Everyone was filled with hope, from small merchants to vagrants and farmers to craftsmen, because they saw that united, they would be strong.

Other towns joined the good giants and signed their charter: first Lucerne with its great wooden bridge, then Zurich, the trading town, followed by Zug and Glarus, on the frontline for defending the territory to the north of the barrier formed by the snow-capped peaks. Many years passed before Bern's great army of warriors joined the alliance.

The coalition partners were then able to spill over to the west, drawing in Fribourg, Solothurn and Basel, and to the east by winning over Schaffhausen. They were known to the neighbouring powers as the Confederates.

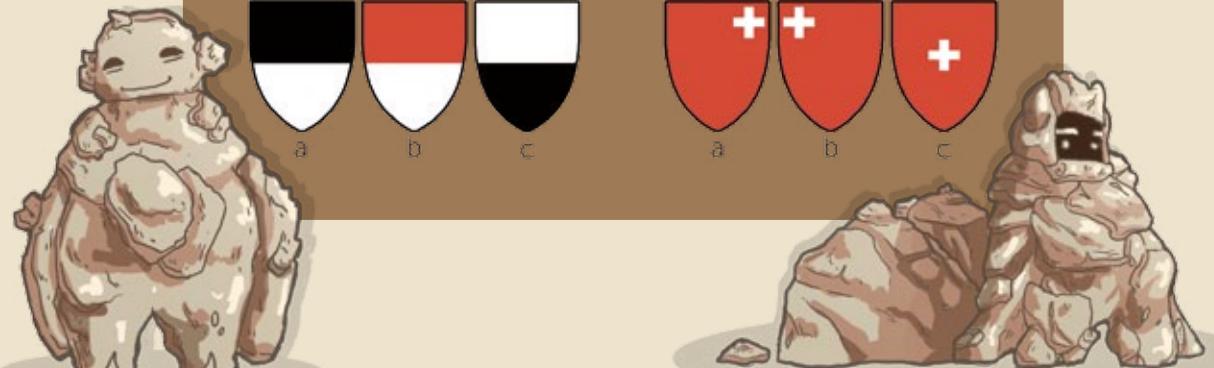
When the state of Appenzell joined the Confederation, expansion of the area was stopped in its tracks with a major clash of beliefs between the two sides. Charismatic reformers spread captivating new ideas across the land which threatened to dethrone the ancestral religion, although this was firmly established. The dark and manipulative Seeds of Discord were sown, colonising the hearts of the righteous and inciting them to intolerance and fanaticism.

War broke out, bringing its trail of misery and devastation. On the battlefield, the men were thirsty and starving. A hermit, dressed in old rags and with his long beard wrapped around him to keep him warm, appeared between the two camps. Strangely, the sight of this man and his repulsive appearance inspired kindness and goodness. He exuded an air of reconciliation.

Determinedly and fearlessly, he placed a cooking pot between the two camps and prepared a large pot of soup that the famished armies shared in the spirit of honest camaraderie. From that moment on, the soldiers refused to take up arms again against these men, whom they now considered brothers. That moment marked the end of the war.

# RUMBLING IN THE MOUNTAINS

You have freed the giants, and Switzerland has been created!  
But the rumbling in the mountains has knocked the cantons' coats of arms about a bit.  
Can you find the right ones?



## DID YOU KNOW?

The three granite giants in the domed hall of the Parliament Building are the first Confederates. Their names were Arnold Melchtal, Walter Fürst and Werner Stauffacher. Nicolas von Flue had such a reputation for piety and wisdom that just one word from him was enough to appease the cantons when Fribourg and Solothurn were admitted to the Swiss Confederation.



Zephyrine looks up.  
The three giants look as if they  
are about to climb out of her  
grandfather's book. They are  
so huge and impressive that  
she is left dumbstruck.

# SWORD OF HONOUR



Switzerland could not escape its destiny. The time came when some began to consider certain precepts from ancient times as archaic and outdated. A new breeze was blowing covertly across the land, like an elusive fairy. Some even said they had seen it: a shadow on the edge of a dark forest or a movement in the distance on a foggy plain or some strange marks left behind in the fields. Many people laughed at these fantasies but the more enlightened would not back down, filled with an intense excitement. The bold dreams that fascinated some were frightening to others. As pipe-dreams and fantasy evolved into revolutionary ideas, two distinct groups formed. Unconditional supporters of the adventures of the future and emancipation from the constraints of tradition were called liberals or even radicals. They believed that a centralised power would promote equality between the country's inhabitants.

They believed in the rights of the individual, universal suffrage and freedom of the press.

Meanwhile, seven rural regions, all supporters of the proven ideas of the past, defended their independence and the rights of the Catholic Church. They formed a military coalition, the Sonderbund.

A foul odour hung in the air in the woods and thickets and the superstitious recognised the signs of an impending civil war.

No country emerges victorious from an internal struggle. The clash between two world views risked reducing the country to ashes. It would take an exceptional being to save the sacred union of the Confederation. A bear's strength needed to combine with a man's intelligence if blood was not to be spilled. The radicals went in search of a peacemaker whom they would appoint

all Swiss people would now exchange Swiss francs and centimes. The times when the cantons issued their own money were over, to the benefit of all. The Confederates were very grateful to the peacemaker and gave him a sword of honour, a symbol of reconciliation and justice. He set off on his way, reappearing whenever resentment was stirred up between cantons or whenever the Confederation was at risk. Following his advice, the Swiss thereafter avoided getting involved in the battles of proud neighbouring powers.

head of the confederate army and assign the title of general. This peacemaker had an incredible talent for strategy and stopped the rebellion in its tracks. Brandishing a scarlet flag, he managed to limit loss of life, both among the centralists and the separatists. Just by being there, he shook up the beliefs of the conservatives and persuaded the fanatics to change their ways and make compromises. The radicals, who had defeated the conservatives, promulgated a federal state with a two-chamber parliament based in Bern. The crimes of all those on Swiss territory would soon be judged according to the same law, and the emission of bank notes was entrusted to the Confederation via the Swiss National Bank. No more batzen, kreuzer, bluzger, soldi or denari –

# TWO WEIGHTS, TWO MEASURES

What are the modern equivalents of the old Swiss units of weight, volume and length?

## UNIT OF LENGTH

Vaud foot: 26.39 cm  
Bernese foot: 29.33 cm  
Basel foot: 28.13 cm  
Zurich foot: 30.38 cm

## UNIT OF VOLUME

Vaud cup: 13.5 l  
Genevan cup: 8.8 l  
St.Gallen pot: 1.2 l  
Vaud tank: 648 l

## UNIT OF WEIGHT

Federal pound: 500 g  
Federal ounce: 31.25 g  
Ticino ounce: 27.23 g  
German denier: 1.24 g



### Barrel

Volume: 20 40 50 (St. Gallen pot)  
2 6 10 (Vaud cup)  
Length: 1 2 3 (Zurich foot)  
2 4 6 (Vaud foot)



### Pitchfork

Weight: 3 6 9 (Federal pound)  
32 64 96 (Federal ounce)  
Length: 1 3 5 (Basel foot)  
5 7 9 (Bernese foot)

### Dagger

Weight: 8 16 24 (Federal ounce)  
24 30 36 (Ticino ounce)  
Length: 1 3 5 (Bernese foot)  
2 4 6 (Basel foot)



### Corn

Weight: 120 240 360 (German denier)  
2 4 6 (Federal ounce)  
Length: 1 2 3 (Vaud foot)  
1 2 3 (Zurich foot)



## DID YOU KNOW?

In order to combat the liberals, the conservatives formed a separate alliance, the Sonderbund, and this led to civil war between the Confederates in 1847. Thanks to the strategic skills of General Guillaume-Henri Dufour, losses on both sides were kept to a minimum.

How long has Zephyrine been sitting here? She doesn't know. She is overcome by a strange feeling of having lived in this workshop for five centuries. She continues to read, in stillness and silence.



Answers  
page 60

# THE LUMINARIES

**S**ince the dawn of time, our ancestors had lived through wars that raged through the regions of the Old World. Our fathers' fathers and our mothers' mothers saw the ancestral dogma become the stakes in merciless battles. They were there when, hanging like a shadow over the crimson land, the Discord was spread, plunging the country into darkness, consuming and silencing the people. It was against this apocalyptic backdrop, when day had been swallowed up by night, that they appeared.

Larger than the strongest men, they shone as white as the most dazzling marble. Their skin, although as soft and supple as delicate silk, seemed as hard as cut diamonds. Two majestic griffins flew around the fantastic trio, pushing away darkness with every flap of their wings.

Everything froze before this magical sight. Not a single human being could ignore the blinding celestial presence. Every man, woman and child came to listen to what these three female figures had to say. When the largest one, Helvetia, opened her mouth, the power of her words shattered the doom brought by the Discord and the people found their voices again. Men and women were instantly filled with a reverent awe and a blazing love. Spellbound, they listened to Helvetia and her companions. The celestial figures spoke with wisdom

and discernment and their instructions were instantly etched into the souls of the Confederates. "All of you, men and women, young and old, are entitled to freely express your thoughts and to live according to your fundamental beliefs. You may conclude contracts as you desire and possess property. And you have an obligation, not just a prerogative or a privilege, to exercise your rights. You must have your say in the decisions of the representatives and leaders that you choose." The words elevated the people, while the griffins continued their dance to bring light back to the country. Every time they passed over the spellbound heads of

the crowd, a powerful force permeated the battered bodies of the Swiss and blessed them with new insight. "Your opinion has as much value as that of your neighbour, and as much weight as that of your leader."

The Swiss took their destiny into their own hands. They entrusted their representatives to draw up rules for living together in harmony and prosperity. But they kept the option of renouncing or modifying the fundamental charter of the Confederation at the ballot box. From that glorious day on, the people could vote on important issues concerning collective life. The trio, flanked by griffins and Iris goddesses, travelled across the land from east to west and north to south, proclaiming a peaceful, free and independent Switzerland.

Later, when the people erected a palace to house their elected representatives, they placed statues of their inspiration, Helvetia, and her two companions, Law and Good Governance, on the top of the building, along with the griffins. They are still there today.

# WHERE IS HELVETIA ?

Can you find Helvetia from among these women using the six clues below?

- Helvetia is not standing between two women holding a weapon.
- She does not have short hair with a braid around her forehead.
- Her complexion does not go with red hair.
- She likes wearing a girdle.
- She doesn't think much of polearms like the halberd.
- She believes a woman should know how to fight, preferably with a crow's beak.



## DID YOU KNOW?

In 1848 the Federal Constitution gave all Swiss citizens the right to express their opinion, live according to their beliefs, possess goods and exercise their rights.



# THE FOUR MERCENARIES



switzerland started to take shape and the regions started to form with increasing precision. The country rose within its borders, like a majestic Tower of Babel, murmuring with a thousand dialects and patois. But it wouldn't take much for Discord to rear its ugly head again, spreading the sour smell of resentment across the land.

Some inhabitants started to hatch dark plots. The cantons with the most widely-spoken dialects wanted to impose their language on others. Such ill-fated schemes threatened federal harmony and recognising the equality of the cantons became a matter of urgency. Four legendary mercenary soldiers were entrusted with enforcing this decree. They were given full powers to bring order to the country.

These dazzlingly handsome soldiers in their shining armour spoke in fiery tones from under their flaming beards. Even the most ruthless warriors would kneel down as they passed by.

The first soldier, a brazen look in his eyes, assembled the German-speaking Swiss cantons and made them into states. The second soldier grouped the French-speaking Swiss cantons around his glistening sword and made them republics. The third stretched his strong, bronze-coloured arms over the Italian-speaking canton, south of the snow-capped peaks, and into four valleys in Graubünden. Meanwhile, the fourth soldier planted his magnificent jet-black spear in the centre of the canton of Graubünden so that the speakers of Romansh – the smallest group among the Confederates – could gather around it.

But Discord cast its powerfully disruptive spell, and the Italian- and Romansh-speaking mercenaries had to force the French-speaking soldier to recognise them as his equals. As if by magic, the ragged old hermit with his long beard appeared

beside the French, Italian and Romansh-speaking warriors. "The law of the strongest is not always the best!" "There is no such thing as a bad language, only bad people!" With his wisdom and humour, the old wise man restored peace and harmony among the three soldiers. However, the German-speaking soldier saw things differently. Emboldened by the support of the majority of the Swiss people, he defended his position. Eventually, however, he had to back down in the face of the determination of the other three. Although his pride was wounded, he agreed to sign the parchment guaranteeing that all Confederates are free to express themselves in their own language. German, French, Italian and Romansh were therefore declared national languages and each linguistic family was granted its own territory. The Swiss turned their diverse cultures into an asset. These days, their curiosity about others and their tendency to seek common ground offset their natural argumentative streak...

# THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE COUNTRY

The mercenaries managed to unite the four language regions of Switzerland.  
Can you draw the borders between them?



FRENCH

GERMAN

ITALIAN

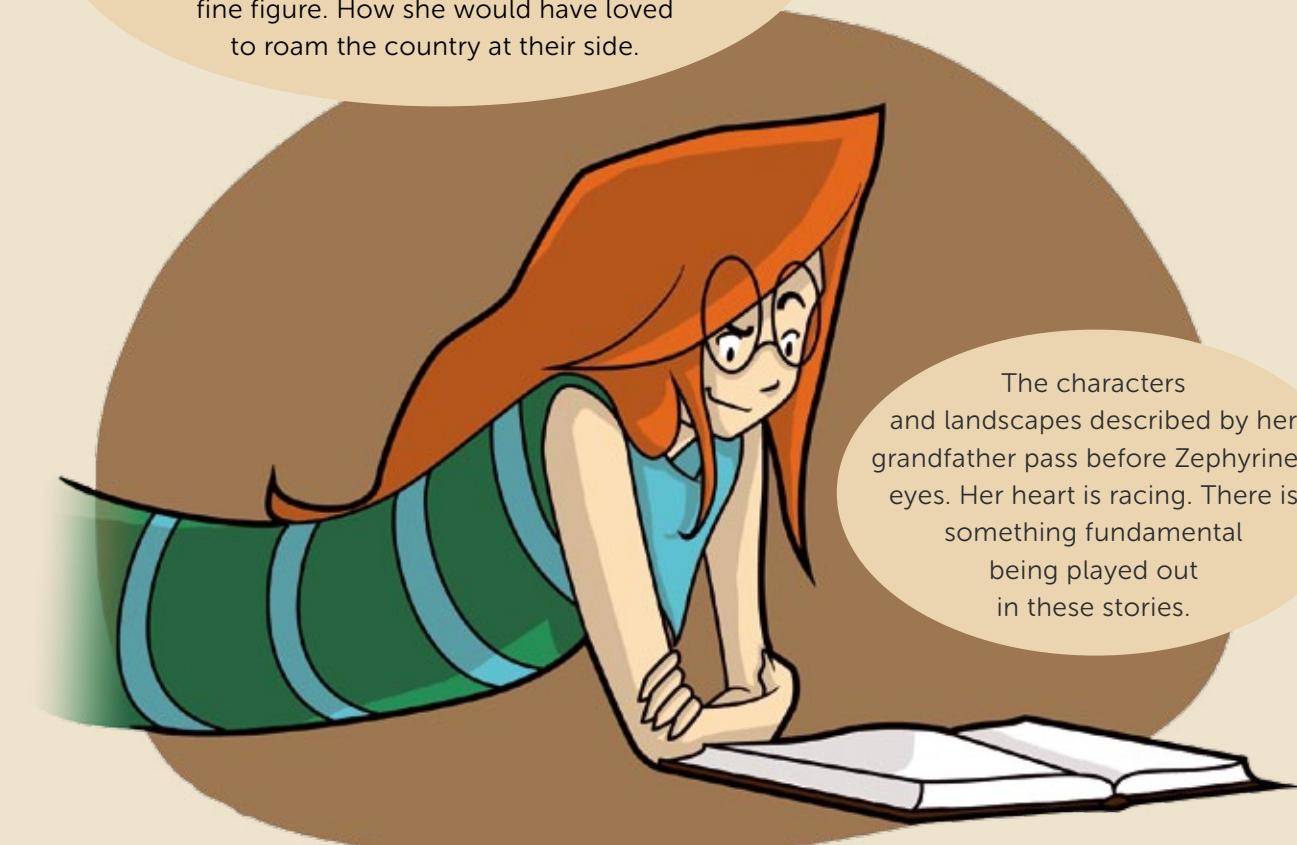
ROMANSH

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Swiss people were given their first fundamental charter in 1848.

Following the failure of the revolutions in neighbouring states in the second half of the nineteenth century, with its Federal Constitution Switzerland was an isolated

The epic tale struck a chord with Zephyrine. Her grandfather must have been thinking of this story when he used to muse "Oh, linguistic peace..." She looks at the mercenaries more closely; they really cut a fine figure. How she would have loved to roam the country at their side.



The characters and landscapes described by her grandfather pass before Zephyrine's eyes. Her heart is racing. There is something fundamental being played out in these stories.

## ANCIENT WISDOM



thick and freezing fog masked the beauty of the flowering meadows, extinguished the brilliance of the shimmering lakes and eclipsed the majesty of the towering peaks. Discussions were being held around long tables in the towns' inns. Even in the most remote loca-

tions, squabbles and skirmishes were disrupting the customary quiet of the taverns. The country was threatening to break up under the battering blows of Discord. The hearts of the Swiss were full of defiance and sparks were flying from the endless and heated debates. The Swiss people were suspicious of the institutions they had created to guarantee their liberty.

In their troubled minds, the Confederation was turning into an ogre with a voracious appetite, authoritarian and power hungry. They feared that the cantons and communes would lose their autonomy within the Confederation.

The old hermit, protector of the Swiss people, left his chilly valley in great haste. The ageless man had to show resolution and courage to put a stop to the theories being concocted throughout the land. A meeting of the representatives of the cantons had to be called. It was up to them to take action.

The delegates took the time to stop and re-read the history of the world's civilisations, to compare the organisations and rules of society and to

satisfied with their work and shook hands. They would now be able to give the country's fundamental charter their full support. At that moment, a bright light lit up the sky. The fog lifted and a multitude of winged creatures burst into a victory song in the languages of the original three giants. Every man, woman and child across the land grasped the meaning of the powerful chorus and started to chant: "Unus pro omnibus, omnes pro uno"\*. The Swiss were captivated and knew right then that the founding principles of their country were right. The Swiss people passed this motto down from one generation to the next. And over the years, the Confederation, the cantons and the communes exercised their rights by trying not to infringe upon the sovereignty of the other levels of power.

\*One for all and all for one.

weigh up their success. They came across an idea dating back to antiquity, which contained within it the seeds of the new world they aspired to. "A community begins where people live, in villages and towns," so the principle went. "It then extends to the sovereign territories, otherwise known as the cantons, and finally embraces the whole country". The solution was right there within their grasp. The units of power that were closest to the people, the communes, had to decide what they were capable of achieving themselves. The tasks that went beyond their competences would be delegated to the cantons and the Confederation would fulfil the obligations that were too large to be dealt with by the cantons and communes, such as national defence. The delegates were

## THE THREE “C”S

What are the different tasks of the commune, the canton and the Confederation?  
Can you match each area of responsibility with the right entity?

CONFEDERATION

COMMUNE

CANTON

- Police
- Fire service
- Social policy
- Social services
- Water supply
- Foreign policy



- Church
- Civil and criminal law
- Schools
- Transport policy
- Civil protection
- Communal affairs



### DID YOU KNOW?

Which tasks should the communes delegate to the cantons and which responsibilities should the cantons entrust to central government?

The constitutional battles of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries mainly revolved around how to apply the principle of subsidiarity.

While continuing to read  
Zephyrine starts singing the haunting chorus:  
“U-nus pro om-ni-bus, om-nes pro u-no”.  
She is bewitched by the tune and starts  
to dream of freedom.

Never before  
has Zephyrine read a book  
like this one. Her grandfather’s writings  
take her on a journey through time and  
space right up to the birth of parliament.  
And what if she can’t find her way back?  
It doesn’t matter, it’s much too  
exciting to just stop here.



# THE CHAOS OF DESIRE



Large black clouds moved across the winter sky and the rays of sunshine could barely reach the frozen ground beneath. The icy embrace savagely slapped the people's ruddy faces but they kept their heads held high. Anticipation was etched on people's faces. Everyone knew, everyone could sense that a new era was nigh, the era of pioneers and builders. The tension and excitement were palpable. Something was about to happen. Everyone breathed a sigh of relief when the inspiring Helvetia finally appeared. The figure of light breathed life back into this country, which was still but a few letters drawn on a piece of parchment. She gave the country the strength to become free and powerful. The task ahead was immense, but it didn't occur to anyone to complain or give up.

The Swiss longed to see the founding principles of their society become reality. They wanted to see the institutions envisaged in their fundamental charter brought to life by men of flesh and blood. They wanted to exercise their rights as citizens by electing the federal parliament. All over, men and women were spreading the word about the upcoming elections. In the towns and villages, from mountain peaks to valley floors, men were standing up for Switzerland.

The feeling of excitement reached fever pitch. Legions of powerful elected representatives moved forward to claim their place in Switzerland's history. There were so many of them that additional rounds of elections had to be held in order to decide between the different candidates. Some citizens were registered in more than one area in order to increase their chances of being elected.

The situation was so chaotic that additional elections had to be organised in some places. Especially as three members of the National Council had joined the inner circle of the Seven Wise Men who would lead the country.

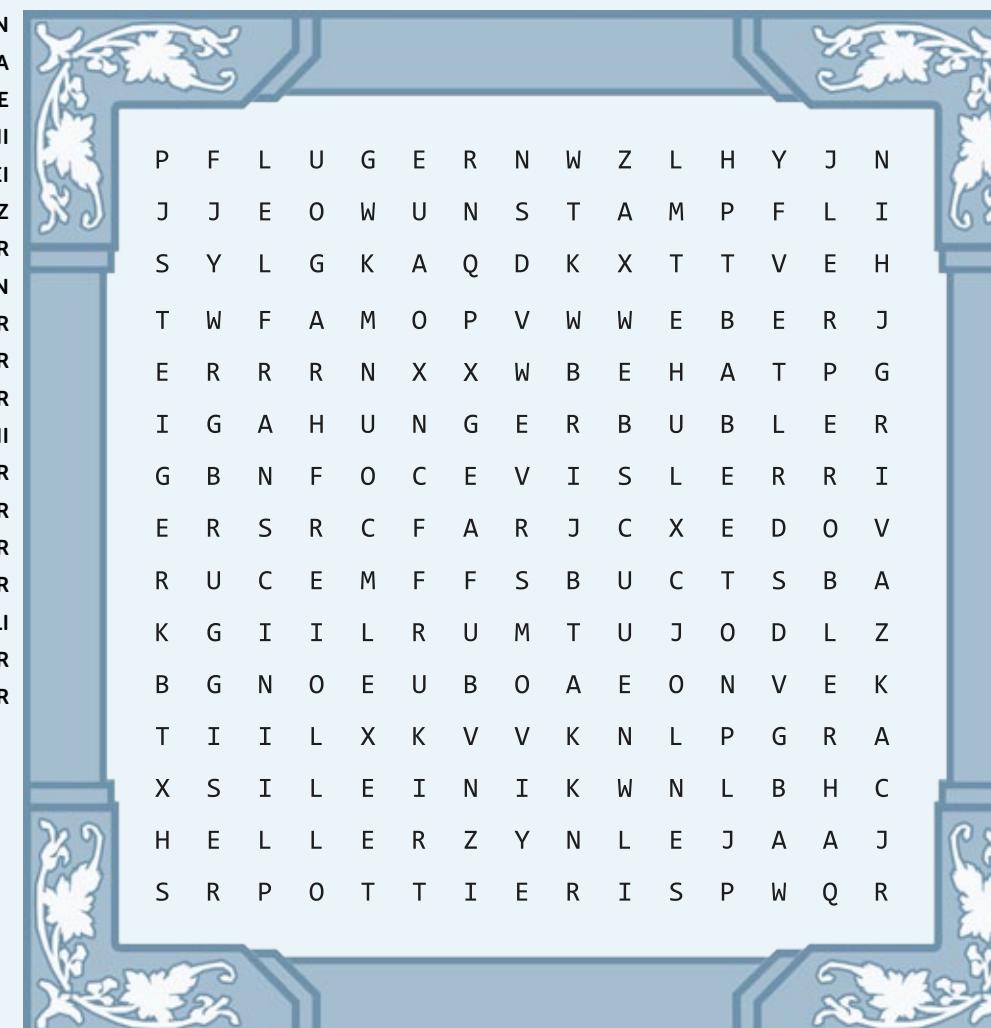
Not everything went according to the rules – indeed, there weren't any rules in the absence of an electoral law. But the enthusiasm of the Swiss for public life and their irrepressible desire to leave an indelible mark on the life of their country was long cited as an example by neighbouring countries. This election was the keystone of the common venture. Helvetia observed her work with a sense of pride tinged with bitterness. Because women had been neglected – not even excluded, simply forgotten – in the first act of the Confederation.



# MANY ARE CALLED BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN

In the first elections, a great many people stood as candidates.  
Can you find some of their names?

BARMAN  
CASTELLA  
FAVRE  
FRANSCINI  
FREI  
GRIVAZ  
HELLER  
HOFFMANN  
HUNGERBUBLER  
ISLER  
LANNER  
LUVINI  
PFLUGER  
POTTIER  
ROBLER  
SEILER  
STAMPFLI  
STEIGER  
WEBER



## DID YOU KNOW?

The first federal parliament, in which 111 members of the National Council and 44 members of the Council of States sat, was elected in October 1848 in a general election that was more improvised than organised. No date had been fixed but the members had to be elected by 6 November 1848, before the meeting to form the councils.

When Zephyrine stops reading, her face is red and she is angry. Women waited 125 years to be allowed to vote. In front of her, a large sword planted in a wooden ballot box is struck by a flash of light.

Zephyrine struggles to continue reading, fearful that her grandfather's writings have more disappointments in store.

# THE DEFEAT OF TREACHERY

The country basked in happy times; the days of war and suffering seemed to be over. The mountains were reflected in the lakes in all their splendour. The ethereal fragrance of insouciance perfumed the air. The days passed quietly and happily. Even night no longer belonged to darkness and every morning brought with it a bright and brilliant light.

But a shadow, hiding in the deepest valleys, bided its time. The conditions were ideal to secretly bring forth an invisible and elusive being: Treachery. As soon as it was born, it found its way into people's homes, soured good feeling and turned them against each other. Nobody noticed its poisoned breath extinguishing the flame of unity. It let Discord reign again, reawakening all the past fears that had lain dormant during the happy times. Having been dazzled by the right of expression and freedom of thought for several decades, some now looked unfavourably upon the parliament. They no longer felt that the two

founding parties of the Confederation represented them. They wanted to make room for new modes of thinking. They proposed that the representatives with the most votes from the largest parties should be elected.

The radicals and conservatives, conscious of their responsibilities, retorted that the new parties would defend their own interests over those of the whole community. However, the resistant members of parliament were finding it harder to sleep at night. During parliamentary sessions, they heard the plinth on which the statue of the Three Confederates stood cracking. And the three granite giants from the domed hall would appear in their dreams, smashing their way out of the Parliament Building. The elected representatives took this as a sign and encouraged the people and the cantons to accept the equality of man and ideas. They decided to put their confidence in those who had a new vision for the state and society.



## ROOM FOR NEW IDEAS

Find the correct pieces to repair the building and reveal the hidden word.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The system of proportional representation opened the doors of the National Council to minorities in 1919. Smaller parties were able to win seats based on the total number of votes they won and not on the results of their candidates. Under the majority election system, the candidates with the most votes win. Most cantons elect representatives to the Council of States by majority vote.



# THE GREAT ARCHITECT'S DESIGN

The three good giants closely followed the turn of events from their mountain tops. The Swiss had managed to overcome their differences, but it is well known that humans have short memories. The Confederates needed a strong symbol to remind them of the battles fought and the pacts sealed in their past.

The giants whispered to the Seven Wise Men who governed the country, telling them to create a book of stone symbolising the original Swiss people's dream of peace. A palace for the people where their elected representatives would hold parliamentary sessions. The three giants enlisted

the help of Hans Wilhelm Auer, a great architect, to realise this monument celebrating the glory of the Swiss and their shared destiny. Straight away, the marble, granite, serpentine and molasse quarries sprang into action, and the best craftsmen were chosen to create and sculpt in stone a striking allegory of modern Switzerland. The titans, with their huge stature and colossal arms, brought the biggest rocks to the site so they could be worked on by the stonemasons.

The architect's inspiration seemed endless. Every statue, every scene, every date engraved on the facades evoked a prominent moment from Switzerland's history. He reserved the pride of place, in the centre of the building beneath the great dome, for

a vast hall in the shape of a cross. The two council chambers located on the north and south side of the building would be the same height, signalling that their powers were equal. The building's structure would illustrate and symbolise how the parliament functioned. Hans Wilhelm Auer gave shape to the idea of an eternal Switzerland. He created a backdrop for new ideas, embellishing the National Council chamber with balconies, tribunes and a box reserved for foreign diplomats. He illustrated the origins of the Parliament on a fresco in the chamber of the Council of States.

The work came to an end when a bolt of lightning struck the three giants. They had just mounted the ribbed dome on its square-based tambour

on top of the building. The spirit of the place turned them to stone just as they renewed the original oath. Ever since, the members of the National Council and the Council of States have had to pass in front of three granite giants on their way to parliamentary sessions, and not without a shudder of reverent awe. In memory of the original bolt of lightning, the builder's successors brought light into the heart of the building, through glass roofs and giant stained-glass windows. Members of parliament can therefore look up to see not only the history of Switzerland but also to recall the myths of its origins.

# WORKS OF ART IN THE FEDERAL PALACE

The Parliament Building is bursting with works of art which say something about Switzerland.

But what?



a. What does "the Cradle of the Confederation" represent?

1. The spirit of Switzerland
2. The place where Switzerland was formed
3. Switzerland's most beautiful scenery



b. What is symbolised by this painting, which can be found in the parliamentary lobby?

1. The butcher's trade
2. Agriculture
3. Abundance



c. What do these four statues represent?

1. The four cardinal points of the compass
2. The four federal councillors
3. The four national languages



d. Who are the three persons in this statue?

1. The founders of the Old Confederation
2. The architects of the Federal Palace
3. Three war heroes



e. What is written on the cupola?

1. One for all, all for one!
2. Come on, Switzerland!
3. We are all equal

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Federal Palace in Bern is the seat of the Federal Council (government) and of the Federal Assembly (parliament) of the Swiss Confederation. Erected in 1852 by Friedrich Studer, the West Wing was the first part of the historic front to be built. Architect Hans Wilhelm Auer added the East Wing and finally the central Parliament Building, which was completed in 1902. More than thirty artists selected from all over the country were involved in decorating the Federal Palace.



Zephyrine unfolds  
the sheets of tracing paper  
placed inside her grandfather's book.  
She admires the plans of the Parliament  
Building. Floor after floor, chamber  
after chamber, the building is  
shown in all its glory.

Zephyrine hadn't known  
that her eccentric grandfather admired  
his country's parliament so much.  
And she thought she knew him!  
A little baffled, she continues reading.



## QUEST FOR BALANCE



Switzerland possessed many virtues when the men and women created it. The pluralist, colourful and varied people of the Confederacy united around a high ideal. But they hadn't completely lost their ancient thirst for conquest and power over others. The hermit protector of the Swiss people was drawn out of his solitude to attend the grand assembly of the cantons, tasked with establishing the rules of parliament. He suggested creating two councils, one to represent the people and the other the sovereignty of the cantons.

The old man, his beard floating around him like a translucent cloud, was sunk deep in thought. All was silence, charged with hope. "The two councils must have the same powers. Neither must be able to prevail over the other," he declared, smiling slightly. He had found a way to obtain rational rules for collective life and to curb the fanatic zeal of the ardent. The People's Chamber became the one of bold thought, while the Chamber of the Cantons would soon be marked by moderation and pragmatism. But the two councils would have to agree on every new text before it could enter into law.

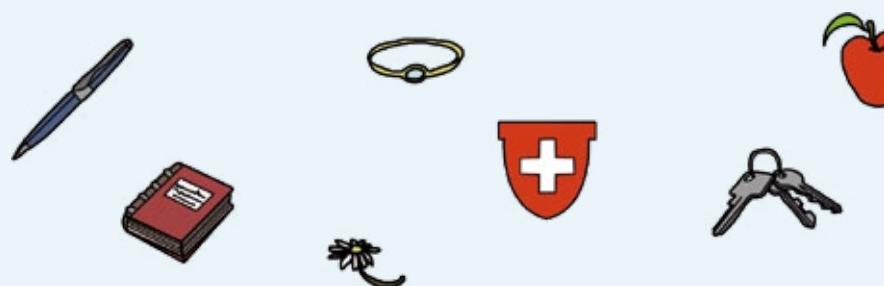
On these two platforms of the Federal Assembly, the legislative powers would therefore sometimes lean this way and then that until a balance could be struck. In the first chamber sessions, the parliamentary debates were like a game of chess. In order to influence the final decisions, the elected representatives developed strategies and alliances. Adversaries therefore formed alliances in order to modify one or other foundation of collective life.

The fundamental charter and the Swiss people's rules of society changed to adapt to new realities. As awareness increased, the values shared by the majority progressed. As the hermit had wanted, the representatives elected by the people no longer sought to impose their ideas using force or violence. They allowed the Swiss people to mature slowly and accepted the temporary victories over their ancestral fears and instincts.



## WHO HAS LOST WHAT ?

Is your eye sharp enough to find all the lost objects?



## DID YOU KNOW?

There was much discussion over how the parliament was to be organised, since some feared that the former diet – or legislative assembly – would not support the new united parliament. Finally it was agreed to form a federal assembly with two chambers: the National Council, elected directly by the people, and the Council of States, elected by the cantons. These two chambers have exactly the same powers and prerogatives. They have to agree on the exact wording of a text of a law before it can be adopted.

Zephyrine remains pensive.  
She too would like to have faith in  
her country and its political institutions.  
But this strange world  
is so distant.



# VOICE OF HOPE



While despots and evil entities continued to impose their every will in the countries living by the precepts of the Old World, Switzerland was solidly taking shape, starting at the bottom. Once reunited, the citizens possessed absolute power in the face of their authorities. They chose their representatives in parliament, who then elected the Seven Wise Men to govern the country. No single man, woman, ogre or Cyclops could claim control of the people or set themselves up as master.

As is the case nowadays, people were first and foremost citizens of their village and canton before being citizens of the Swiss Confederation. The ballot paper allowed people to choose the authorities of the smallest sovereign entities, the communes, then the members of the cantonal parliaments and the cantonal governments. And if one or other of these heralds won a seat under the grand dome of the Swiss Parliament Building, they experienced the intoxicating taste of victory. The extraordinary political power young people were granted when they turned 18 was also an opportunity. Anyone could stand for election and shape the destiny of his or her commune, canton or the Confederation. Every young man and woman was given the opportunity to pursue the dream of Switzerland's original three good giants.

From birth, the people of this country were enveloped in a powerful magic. Like a gentle chant, like a lullaby, it calmed the spirits of the young and gave children a taste for choosing their own destiny. Children would listen carefully to family discussions and their instruction would continue year after year. By the time they were 18, young people knew how to defend their opinions and debate the issues affecting Swiss society. They congregated solemnly around the ballot boxes. A seed of eternal light descended upon them, struck their chests and gave them the power to decide the future of their country. Finally on an equal footing with their fathers, their time had come. It was their turn to write Swiss history. But first of all they would have to learn how to make good use of this brand-new power.

## IN THE SHOES OF A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Imagine that you are a member of parliament and that your class, friends or family are the National Council or the Council of States.

Would you be for or against the following proposals for new laws?

1) Young people should be able to vote when they reach 16.

2) Participation in communal, cantonal and federal elections should be compulsory.

3) Switzerland should join the European Union.

Think of your own suggestion for a new law.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Each of the 200 members of the National Council represents about 38,000 people. Uri and its 35,000 inhabitants has just one elected representative, whilst Zurich has 35. Seats are allocated according to the size of a canton's population.

Zephyrine will turn 18 in September. She will vote in the federal elections for the first time. If only her grandfather was there to see that!

Zephyrine is keen to know more about this fantastic power that is set to make her a citizen, a voter and maybe one day an elected representative. She continues to read excitedly.



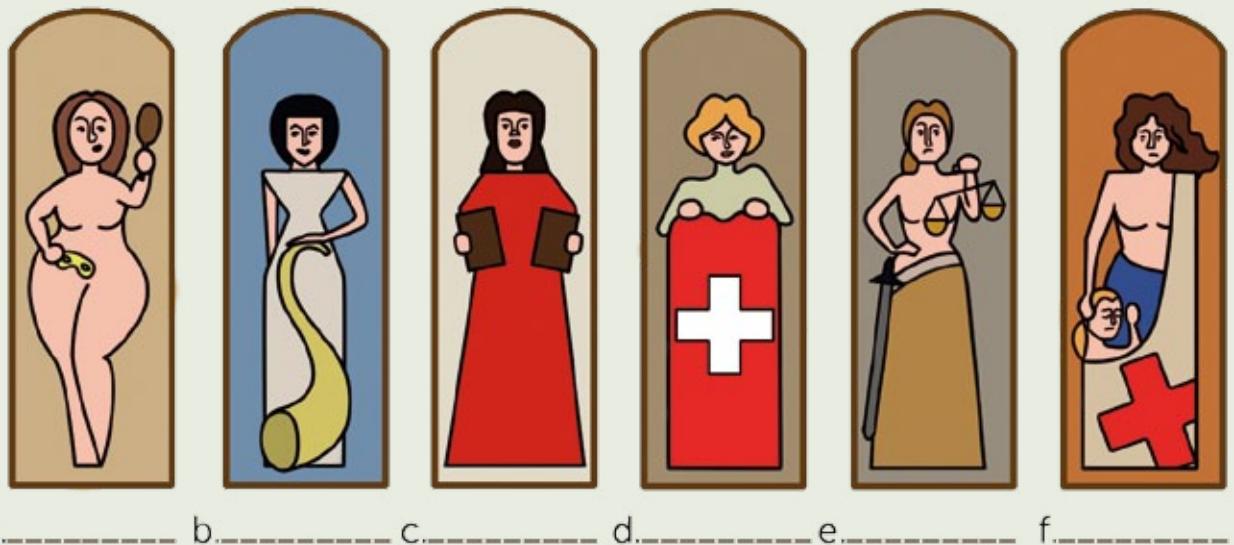
# METAMORPHOSIS

**I**ke everyone else, they worked, raised their children and sorted out their day-to-day problems. But as if by magic, as soon as they were elected to represent their fellow countrymen, they were transformed. Something would light up inside and they were able to see what troubled their fellow citizens with exceptional insight. This extraordinary and incredible metamorphosis of men – and much later – women who entered the federal parliament amazed the neighbouring countries, especially those of the Old World, when they visited the great architect's palace. The candidates, both men and women, who were chosen by their fellow citizens were wholeheartedly committed to embodying the virtues of the nation.

Once they had taken the solemn oath before the presidents of the councils and lifted three fingers of their right hand or placed their hand on their chest right next to their heart, they were bound by a promise to serve their country. The power they had been given in taking the oath helped them resist Discord and combat foul Treachery. These ordinary people became capable of fighting to defend their own ideas without losing sight of the common good. Their imagination produced a host of new ideas to improve the daily lives of their fellow citizens. They would propose, discuss, modify, adopt or reject new bills. They would also keep an eye on the government's accounts and report any corrupt practices. The lives of the elected representatives revolved around the people, and having been elevated to the status of thinkers and philosophers, the only time they would be able to enjoy a simple life as ordinary citizens again was when they returned to their families. But only until the next parliamentary session.

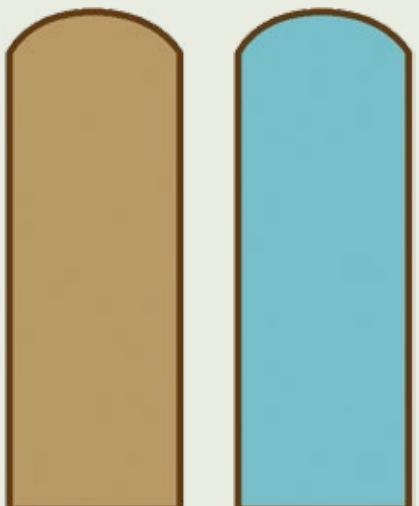
# THE SIX CORNERSTONES OF SWITZERLAND

Artists depicted the six virtues of the new Switzerland in frescoes on the ceiling of the parliamentary lobby in the Federal Palace. Can you identify them?



a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_ c. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_ e. \_\_\_\_\_ f. \_\_\_\_\_

Draw and name two virtues which, in your opinion, characterise modern-day Switzerland.



## DID YOU KNOW?

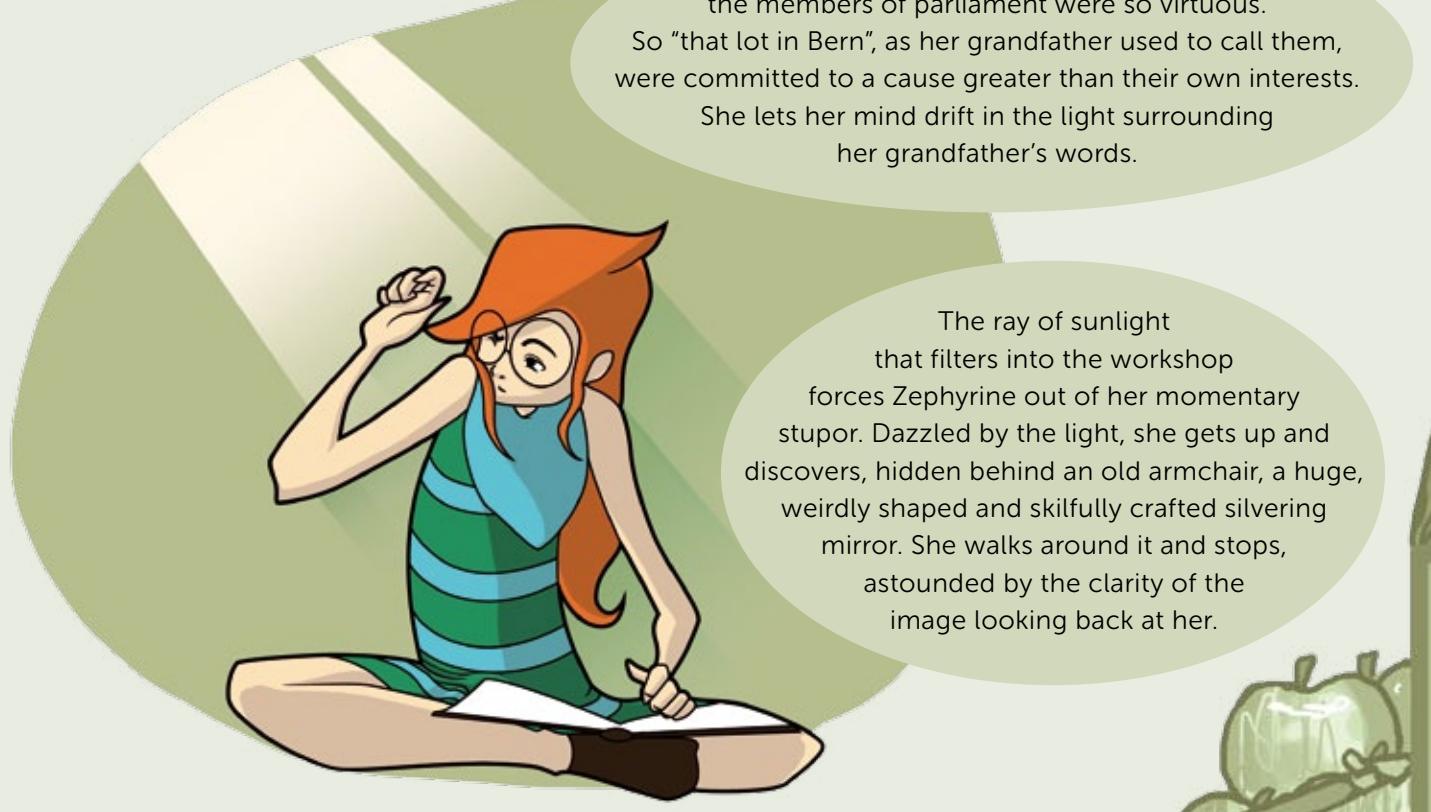
Swiss members of parliament are semi-professionals in politics.

Parliament sits in Bern four times a year for three weeks at a time. The members of parliament otherwise live normal everyday lives. When in session they propose, debate, amend, adopt or reject new bills and the government reports to parliament on its activities. The National Council and the Council of States sit together as the Federal Assembly in order to elect the government, supreme court judges and the commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Zephyrine never realised  
the members of parliament were so virtuous.

So "that lot in Bern", as her grandfather used to call them,  
were committed to a cause greater than their own interests.  
She lets her mind drift in the light surrounding  
her grandfather's words.

The ray of sunlight  
that filters into the workshop  
forces Zephyrine out of her momentary  
stupor. Dazzled by the light, she gets up and  
discovers, hidden behind an old armchair, a huge,  
weirdly shaped and skilfully crafted silvering  
mirror. She walks around it and stops,  
astounded by the clarity of the  
image looking back at her.



Answers  
a-Truth • b-Prosperity • c-Wisdom • d-Patriotism • e-Justice • f-Charity

# BIRTH OF A MASTERPIECE



The alchemists of the law hid themselves away, off the long, labyrinthine corridors of the Parliament Building, tucked away deep within the many rooms, which swarmed with all kinds of activities. In these lairs, protected by towers of old books of wisdom, they meandered among the parchments and writings of the guardians of the Confederation. These magicians would capture the new ideas initiated by the people, the cantons' schemes, the visions of the members of parliament and the ambitions of the country's Seven Wise Men.

Then, in secret, in their laboratory, they would transform these fanciful ideas into the basis of a new life for the Swiss people. Slowly and meticulously created from very fine grains of sand, these ideas were melted down and turned into huge, unpolished mirrors. As for the people, they would only accept a true likeness. The mirrors therefore had to be put to the test. Experts and preparatory committees examined and polished, being careful not to break them. The mirrors would come out of this careful treatment even more honed and shining. Then came the ultimate test and the crucial moment that everyone had been waiting for: the mirrors were scrutinised by the councils.

The magic objects were then shuttled to and fro inside the Parliament Building. Little by little, one layer at a time, many skilful hands would hone and perfect the shiny surface.

Once a mirror was gleaming, illuminated by the spirit of conciliation, it finally projected a perfect image of the law. The satisfaction of seeing something accomplished would fill the hearts of the people and their representatives with pride. But if, by some misfortune, the elected representatives, the councils, the Seven Wise Men or the judges failed to keep their promises, the mirror of the law would shatter into a thousand pieces, as easily as a gust of wind on a crystal glass. But there were already other mirrors waiting to be polished.



## THE FINAL WORD

Since 1848, the Swiss people have voted on hundreds of laws or amendments to the Federal Constitution. Of the six popular initiatives listed below, do you know which were accepted by the People?

1) Against mass immigration  
(9 February 2014)

2) For the repatriation of criminal foreigners (28 November 2012)

3) Stop overpopulation  
Yes to the sustainable conservation of natural resources (30 November 2014)

4) "Fat-cat" initiative  
(3 March 2013)

5) Federal Council to be elected by the People  
(10 June 2013)

6) Yes to the abolition of military service  
(22 September 2013)



### DID YOU KNOW?

Laws are drafted by legislative committees, which are like mini-parliaments in which all political persuasions are represented. They consider the government's proposals or draw up their own draft laws. They present their position to the respective chamber during the parliamentary sessions. In the Swiss bicameral system, one chamber does not have more authority than the other.

Learning about  
how the parliament works  
is making Zephyrine's head spin.

The laws of her country are not utilitarian or pointless.  
They are the work of countless men and women,  
not without fault or weakness, but fervently  
committed to ensuring that their country  
grows wiser and passes through  
the ages with dignity.

What time is it?  
Zephyrine stretches and looks out  
the window to the garden. She then notices that  
there are lots of tiny letters engraved on the  
granite window ledge.



# TABLES OF GRANITE

**T**here was one combat that had tormented Helvetia for so long that it ended up leaving an indelible mark on the country's memory. It was a difficult and bitter struggle, fought far from the battlefields. Not a physical war between people, but a confrontation between the minds of men and women; a fundamental clash that continues to this day. The old granite slabs that had been patiently pounded by previous generations were recovered while digging the deep foundations for the Parliament Building. It was difficult to decipher the mysterious signs, but what a surprise it was when they were finally cracked. The text, which dated back to ancient times, described a civilisation that was harmonious, just and equal, with authority shared between men and women.



Everyone was shocked. The revelation of Switzerland's golden age shook up the emerging nation. Even before Treachery could rear its ugly head, the battle lines had formed. Many men considered women as beings that needed protection. In return, they expected submission and obedience from the opposite sex. The idea of a woman being equal to a man was madness to them and they were prepared to do anything to fight it.

But the age of heresy and being burnt at the stake was over, and angry women were taking a stand. Encouraged by the writings which had come to light, they were determined to fight a ruthless battle for their civic and political rights.

When the first calls for emancipation exploded in the faces of the most ferocious conservatives, the women's fierce will caused them to recoil. Yet it took a century for men to finally recognise women as fully-fledged citizens. When the first women entered Parliament, Helvetia savoured her triumph. But only for a short moment: she knew that the path to equality between men and women would be long. Discord could resurrect the ancestral fears at any time...

# ONE WOMAN, ONE HISTORY

Nowadays women are equal citizens in almost all countries in the world. But they haven't always had the same political rights as men. Do you know in which year women got the vote in Australia, the USA, the UK, Japan, Turkey, Italy, Saudi Arabia, France, Germany, and Switzerland?

1902 • 1918 • 1918 • 1920 • 1934 • 1944 • 1945 • 1947 • 1971 • 2015



## DID YOU KNOW?

Swiss women had to wait more than a century before they were given the right to cast their vote. Christian Democrat Elisabeth Blunschy was the first Swiss woman to appointed President of the National Council and so 'first citizen' of the Confederation, in 1977.



# THE SOVEREIGN'S SCEPTRE



A decorative initial letter 'N' from a medieval manuscript. The letter is stylized with flowing, swirling lines and features intricate floral and foliate patterns filling the interior and surrounding the base.

ever, ever, since time immemorial have we seen the lord of a kingdom, a tribe or a species submit its decisions to its people and accept their verdict. However, this witzerland since the country turned the Old World. Learning its lessons well and uprisings, the little land of Switzerland has sought a way of guarding itself against attempts at subjugation.

The alliance between the first Confederates was already a fundamental expression of the desire to stand up to government and to share power. This desire can be felt even more strongly in the New Nation. Its citizens draw their swords every time they go to the polls. It is they who decide and they who retain the power to make or break not kings, but laws. The hard-won power of the people is the invisible bond holding together the individual regions that decided to unite their destinies so long ago. The souls of the people ring out in unison when the moment comes to go to the polls, from the mountains in the south to the hills in the north. The sceptre of opinion and sovereignty is in the hands of the people, and the Parliament is their servant.



# THE HERALD'S FINAL TEST

So, we have now reached the final chapter.

After all the emotions we have experienced while reading Zéphyrine's grandfather's writings, here is one last quiz.

a. What is required before the Federal Constitution can be amended?

- The agreement of the People and cantons
- The agreement of the Swiss president
- The agreement of the Federal Council

b. How many federal councillors are there?

- 5
- 6
- 7

c. What percentage of the population usually participates in a popular vote?

- 30%
- 45%
- 90%

d. How many federal states (cantons) are there in Switzerland?

- 23
- 26
- 19

e. How many signatures need to be collected within 18 months before a popular initiative can be put to the vote?

- 500'000
- 100'000
- 50'000

f. Who can launch a popular initiative?

- Any Swiss citizen who is entitled to vote
- Anyone resident in Switzerland
- Politicians only



Was it really Zéphyrine who wrote those lines? Maybe. She's not sure. The words spilled out onto the paper so quickly that her hand had trouble keeping up.



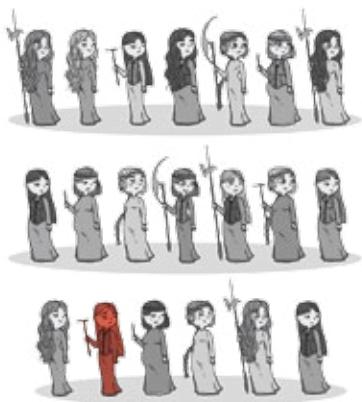
Zéphyrine quietly shuts the door of the workshop. She takes the blunt quill, the ink pot and the old book with her. Because there are still plenty more blank pages in her wonderful grandfather's book of discovery.

# QUIZ ANSWERS

## TWO WEIGHTS, TWO MEASURES:

- Pitchfork: 64 federal ounces / 7 Bernese feet
- Barrel: 50 St. Gallen pots / 2 Waadt feet
- Corn: 120 German deniers / 1 Zurich foot
- Dagger: 24 federal ounces / 1 Bernese foot

## WHERE IS HELVETIA?



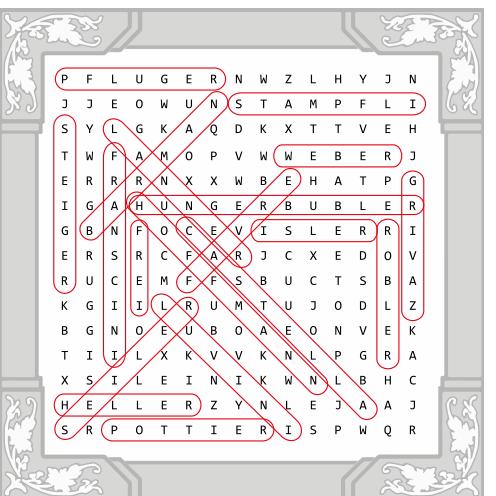
## THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE COUNTRY:



## THE THREE "C"s

<b>CONFEDERATION</b>	Foreign policy Social policy Transport policy Civil and criminal law
<b>COMMUNE</b>	Water supply Schools Fire service Civil protection
<b>CANTON</b>	Police Church Communal affairs Social services

## MANY ARE CALLED BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN:



## WHO HAS LOST WHAT?



## THE HERALD'S FINAL TEST:

1. What is required before the Federal Constitution can be amended?  
 The agreement of the People and cantons  
 The agreement of the President of the Confederation  
 The agreement of the Federal Council

2. How many federal councillors are there?  
 5  
 7  
 10

3. What percentage of the population usually participates in a popular vote?  
 50%  
 65%  
 90%

4. How many signatures need to be collected within 18 months before a popular initiative can be put to the vote?  
 500 000  
 1000 000  
 50 000

5. Who can launch a popular initiative?  
 Any Swiss citizen who is entitled to vote  
 Anyone resident in Switzerland  
 Politicians only

# CREDITS

"The Fantastic Parliament" was published by the Parliamentary Services in 2015 to mark the 200th anniversary of the accession to the Swiss Confederation of the cantons of Valais, Neuchâtel and Geneva.

"The Fantastic Parliament" is also available in German: "Das fantastische Parlament" in French: "Le Parlement fantastique" in Italian: "Il Parlamento fantastico"

## PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

PROJECT MANAGER BLASER Andreas  
IDEA AND MANUSCRIPT PORTMANN Marie-José

## EPAC ACADEMY OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

DIRECTORS ABDERHALDEN Patrizia  
LOW (E.H.) Inn-Yang  
ADMINISTRATOR SIVIERO Stéphane

## ACADEMIC STAFF RESPONSIBLE

DESIGN SCHERRER Camille  
PROGRAMMING ROSSETTI Samuel

## ACADEMIC STAFF

ANIMATION REES Dustin  
GAMES SOLARSKI Chris  
ILLUSTRATION GIOVANNINI Cécile  
TARDY Laurent  
VISUAL COMMUNICATION ZELTNER Patrice

## SCENARIO

TERRAZ Michaël

The illustrated album continues online:  
in English: [www.thefantasticparliament.ch](http://www.thefantasticparliament.ch)  
in French: [www.leparlementfantastique.ch](http://www.leparlementfantastique.ch)  
in German: [www.dasfantastischeparlament.ch](http://www.dasfantastischeparlament.ch)  
in Italian: [www.ilparlamentofantastico.ch](http://www.ilparlamentofantastico.ch)

The Parliamentary Services would like to thank the *Historical Dictionary of Switzerland* for providing links to articles from its e-DHS online edition ([www.dhs.ch](http://www.dhs.ch)).

## ENGLISH TRANSLATION

FEDERAL CHANCELLERY  
English Language Service

## GRAPHIC MODEL

ESPAGNE Jordan

## COLOUR DESIGN

OULEVAY Noémie

## SOUND DESIGN

MUSIC GISANA Lorris  
SOUND DESIGN DESCHEAUX Gwenn

## STUDENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR FINALISING THE PROJECT

ANIMATORS JACCARD Nathanaël LEBAS Loïc
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR PERRUCHOUD Brice CHARACTER DESIGN SCHWAB Sébastien
GAMEPLAY CONCEPT LAMRANI Mariam REYNOLDS Nikita
HEAD OF ANIMATION CHABBÉY Basile ORGANISATION LIETTI Vincent
DESSIMOZ Mathias OLIVEIRA Esther

**STUDENTS**

BEM Estela  
 CARRON Christophe  
 CASAL Laurie  
 CERF Justine  
 CHARRIÈRE Baptiste  
 CHASSOT Clément  
 DE CASTRO Amanda  
 FERNANDES David  
 FINET Jonathan  
 GAUD Alexandra  
 GAUTHIER Anouchka  
 GERMANIER Samuel  
 GERUSSI Louca  
 GIRARDIN Rachel  
 GIROUD Philémon  
 IADAROLA Jonathan  
 JEANNERET Levan  
 KROKOS Aurélie  
 LAMBERTI Maëva  
 LOPEZ José Martin  
 MAURER Luana  
 MOIX Jonathan  
 MORARD Joseph  
 MOULIN Amaury  
 ROBINSON Elijah  
 ROHRBACH Philippe  
 ROSSEL Pauline  
 SABATO Athena  
 SCHINDELHOLZ Caroline  
 SPANOS Nikolaos  
 TRAVELLETTI Nelson  
 UDRESSY Julien  
 ZINAQUI Ilias  
 ZUFFEREY Olivia

**BOOK**

COVER  
 LOGO  
 PROLOGUE  
 PAGES 4-5  
 PAGES 8-9  
 PAGES 12-13  
 PAGES 16-17  
 PAGES 20-21  
 PAGES 24-25  
 PAGES 28-29  
 PAGES 32-33  
 PAGES 36-37  
 PAGES 40-41  
 PAGES 44-45  
 PAGES 48-49  
 PAGES 52-53  
 PAGES 56-57  
 INITIALS  
 ZEPHYRINE  
 FRIEZES  
 DID YOU KNOW?  
 GAMES

CHASSOT Clément  
 LAMRANI Mariam  
 LAMRANI Mariam  
 GIROUD Philémon  
 CHASSOT Clément  
 OLIVEIRA Esther  
 GIROUD Philémon  
 BEM Estela  
 LAMRANI Mariam  
 MOULIN Amaury  
 ROSSEL Pauline  
 UDRESSY Julien  
 DESSIMOZ Mathias  
 LEBAS Loïc  
 LAMBERTI Maëva  
 SCHWAB Sébastien  
 SABATO Athena  
 OLIVEIRA Esther  
 LAMRANI Mariam  
 REYNOLDS Nikita  
 GIROUD Philémon  
 REYNOLDS Nikita  
 CHABBEY Basile  
 LAMRANI Mariam  
 LIETTI Vincent  
 REYNOLDS Nikita  
 SABATO Athena

**ANIMATION**

TITLE  
 ZEPHYRINE  
 SPECTRE  
 NICOLAS VON FLÜE  
 HELVETIA  
 WILLIAM TELL

CARRON Christophe  
 OLIVEIRA Esther  
 DESSIMOZ Mathias  
 FINET Jonathan  
 CARRON Christophe  
 CHASSOT Clément  
 DESSIMOZ Mathias  
 JACCARD Nathanaël  
 KROKOS Aurélie  
 PERRUCHOUD Brice  
 REYNOLDS Nikita  
 DESSIMOZ Mathias  
 LEBAS Loïc  
 LOPEZ José Martin  
 MOULIN Amaury  
 REYNOLDS Nikita  
 DESSIMOZ Mathias  
 GIRARDIN Rachel  
 LAMRANI Mariam  
 LEBAS Loïc  
 OLIVEIRA Esther  
 REYNOLDS Nikita  
 ROHRBACH Philippe  
 CASAL Laurie  
 CHABBEY Basile  
 DESSIMOZ Mathias  
 JACCARD Nathanaël  
 LEBAS Loïc  
 PERRUCHOUD Brice  
 SCHINDELHOLZ Caroline

DESIGN  
 SPECIAL EFFECTS

CARRON Christophe  
 CHASSOT Clément  
 DESSIMOZ Mathias  
 JACCARD Nathanaël  
 JEANNERET Levan  
 LAMRANI Mariam  
 LEBAS Loïc  
 PERRUCHOUD Brice  
 DESSIMOZ Mathias

**WEBSITE AND ONLINE GAMES**

SITE  
 GAMES

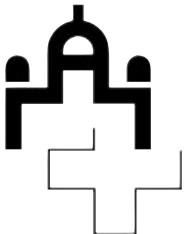
JACCARD Nathanaël  
 ROHRBACH Philippe  
 BEM Estela  
 CARRON Christophe  
 CHABBEY Basile  
 CHASSOT Clément  
 GERMANIER Samuel  
 JACCARD Nathanaël  
 KROKOS Aurélie  
 LAMBERTI Maëva  
 LIETTI Vincent  
 MOIX Jonathan  
 OLIVEIRA Esther  
 SABATO Athena  
 UDRESSY Julien

**Distribution:** SFBL, Distribution of Publications, CH-3003 Bern

[www.bundespublikationen.admin.ch](http://www.bundespublikationen.admin.ch) // No 101.900.E 500 03.05.2015

**Copyright:** Parliamentary services // Academy of Contemporary Arts (EPAC)

**Printing:** CIMS SA, Martigny (VS) // **Book binding:** Schumacher AG, Schmitten (BE)



**epac** Comics  
Game Art  
Animation  
Ecole Professionnelle des Arts Contemporains  
[www.epac.ch](http://www.epac.ch) - [www.facebook.com/epacschweiz](https://www.facebook.com/epacschweiz)



*Historisches Lexikon der Schweiz*  
*Dictionnaire historique de la Suisse*  
*Dizionario storico della Svizzera*

# GLOSSARY

"THE FANTASTIC PARLIAMENT" EXPLAINED IN THE HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF SWITZERLAND  
RESEARCH GUIDE IN THE FRENCH ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE E-DHS: [WWW.DHS.CH](http://WWW.DHS.CH)

## BREATH OF ORIGIN

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Pactes fédéraux / Pacte fédéral / Paix territoriale / Paix nationales / Mythes fondateurs

## SWORD OF HONOUR

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Sonderbund / Ville fédérale / Dufour, Guillaume-Henri / République helvétique

## THE LUMINARIES

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Séparation des pouvoirs / Constitution, chap. 2 Constitutions suisses / Constitution fédérale / Les Lumières

## THE FOUR MERCENARIES

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Constitution fédérale, chap. 1.2 Confédération et cantons / Plurilinguisme / Dialectes / Cantons / Traduction

## ANCIENT WISDOM

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Subsidiarité / Fédéralisme, chap. 4 Fédéralisme et État fédéral / État fédéral / Parlement

## THE CHAOS OF DESIRE

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Élections / Assemblée fédérale, chap. 4 Compétences / Systèmes électoraux

## THE DEFEAT OF TREACHERY

Articles titles in the e-DHS: Systèmes électoraux / Partis / Oligarchisation

## THE GREAT ARCHITECT'S DESIGN

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Palais fédéral / Parlement / Hans Wilhelm Auer

## QUEST FOR BALANCE

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Assemblée fédérale, chap. 1 Bicamérisme / Groupes parlementaires / Démocratie de concorde / Conseil fédéral

## VOICE OF HOPE

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Droit de vote / Formation de la volonté politique / Assemblée fédérale, chap. 1.1 Le Conseil national et chap. 2 Le Conseil des États

## METAMORPHOSIS

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Système de milice / Assemblée fédérale, chap. 6 Statut juridique des parlementaires, indemnités, infrastructure dont les parlementaires disposent / Assemblée fédérale, chap. 2 Représentation et intérêts / Assemblée fédérale, chap. 3 / Le rôle de l'Assemblée fédérale au cours du temps

## BIRTH OF A MASTERPIECE

Titles of e-DHS articles: Assemblée fédérale, chap. 5 Organisation, méthodes de travail / Droit fédéral / Commissions parlementaires

## TABLES OF GRANITE

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Suffrage féminin / Égalité féminine / Égalité

## THE SOVEREIGN'S SCEPTRE

Titles of e-DHS'articles: Droits politiques / Référendum populaire / Initiative populaire / Droit de vote / Abstentionnisme / Démocratie / Votations





[www.thefantasticparliament.ch](http://www.thefantasticparliament.ch)