

# Future Today

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The foreigner was impressed at what he had heard but still had his doubts: "How could all this have been realised without political support and an industrial network?" The man with the top hat replied proudly "I do agree with you my friend. That's why Alfred Escher served as a member of our newly established parliament for 34 years from its inception in 1848 and was President of the Assembly four times!". "All he did was for the benefit of Swiss society" one man said and all the crowd standing around the foreigner nodded to agree. The foreigner had no idea how to reply but the schedule of events rescued him: at that very moment the ceremony started and the monument was unveiled...

The monument of Alfred Escher still stands at Zurich central station, though it has been repositioned slightly over the years. Visitors can see him standing at the beginning of the famous Bahnhofstrasse in the city.

His work also lives on: Today trains still run on Escher's rail guide and the Companies he founded are amongst the industry leaders worldwide though they have changed their names to better address their international client base: Kreditanstalt was renamed to **Credit Suisse**, Rentenanstalt is now named **Swiss Life**, Schweizerische Rückversicherung is now **Swiss Re** and the Polytechnikum is the well-known **ETH Zurich**.

Alfred Escher, whose 200th birthday was celebrated on 20 February 2019, built the structure on which Swiss Wealth was founded 150 years ago. With these structures, the then agricultural country of Switzerland was able to develop into one of the most developed, economically successfully and politically stable countries in today's world.

And when do you want to tackle your private structure?



Beat H. Haering  
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