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This and That Corner



Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross.

The Red Cross

International Geneva, familiar as the backdrop to so many peace conferences and summit meetings, is practically a state within a city. It is the address for scores of international organisations and even has its own postmark for their outgoing mail. It is no coincidence that the famous Red Cross which has fluttered above ambulances in countless wars is actually the Swiss flag with its colours reversed, nor that the Red Cross headquarters should be in Geneva. The two are closely linked, but the origin of that association is a largely forgotten story worth recounting.

Henri Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross, was born in Geneva in 1828 and made his fortune in Algeria as a grain speculator.

Dunant returned to Geneva after the Battle of Solferino (1859) and wrote a moving account of the horrors he had seen. A Souvenir of Solferino was a powerful plea for the creation of a neutral organisation which would care for the casualties of war. M Gustave Moynier, president of the Society for Public Usefulness of Geneva, read it and thought the idea good. Dunant toured Europe drumming up support; the result was the signing of the first Geneva

Convention in 1864. Three years after the foundation of the Red Cross, however, Dunant left Geneva, bankrupt.

In 1887 Dunant returned to a semi-incognito existence in Switzerland, living like a hermit in the village of Heiden in Appenzell. A journalist discovered the fate of the founder of the Red Cross, and his scoop was quickly followed up by other newspapers. In 1901 the white-bearded hermit of Heiden jointly won the very first Nobel Peace Prize, seized on by his creditors as an opportunity to renew their claims. Embarrassed by the financial failure of one of its own, Geneva questioned his claim to have founded the Red Cross.

Dunant had the last word. When he died in 1910, he left the Nobel Prize money he had saved to charitable institutions in Norway and Switzerland. His remaining creditors got nothing.

Winter recipes

With winter just about here, I will try to find a few recipes to warm you up on those cold days. Canton Uri is the first.

Urner Kasesuppe

(Cheese soup from Canton Uri)

Fry 70gr flour in 35gr butter until light brown. Add 1 litre of water and spices (nutmeg, pepper, caraway seed and garlic) and let boil on slow heat for 40 minutes. In soup dish grate 100gr of tasty cheese and mix with 20mls of milk. Add to the soup.

Urner Kaut mit Reis

(Savoy "curly" cabbage with rice)

Fry one onion in 50gr butter until golden, add rice and fry well. Add 70mls of bouillon (water and beef stock). Cook until rice is ready. Cut cabbage in thick pieces and boil until tender. Mix cabbage with 50gr cheese and add to the rice. Fry one onion in butter and sprinkle on rice dish. The same dish can be made using leaks.

Bon Appetit

Lisette

Take Time
Take time to THINK ... it is the source of power.

Take time to PLAY ... it is the secret of perpetual youth.

Take time to READ ... it is the fountain of wisdom.

Take time to PRAY ... it is the greatest power on Earth.

Take time to LOVE AND BE LOVED ... it is a God-given privilege.

Take time to be FRIENDLY ... it is the road to happiness.

Take time to LAUGH ... it is the music of the soul.

Take time to GIVE ... it is too short a day to be selfish.

Take time to WORK ... it is the price of success ...

AND BE PROUD OF WHAT YOU ARE DOING.

Das Leben hat so viele Sonnenseiten. Sonne die warmt, die Energie spendet, die Herzen erfreut und manchmal sogar blendet.

Five Tips for a Woman

1. It is important that a man helps you around the house and has a job.
2. It is important that a man makes you laugh.
3. It is important to find a man you can count on and doesn't lie to you.
4. It is important that a man loves you and spoils you.
5. It is important that these four men don't know each other!!!

Why do women have smaller feet than men? It's one of those "evolutionary things" that allows them to stand closer to the kitchen sink!!!

While attending a marriage seminar on communication, Colin and his wife listened to the instructor declare, "It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other. He addressed the man, "Can you describe your wife's favourite flower?" Colin leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, "self-raising isn't it?" Colin's ribs will heal in a few weeks!!!

A perfect parent is a person with excellent child-rearing theories and no actual children.

How much easier is it to be critical than to be correct?

If you don't have enemies, you don't have character.

Take integrity over popularity and you'll always be cool.

When they said to you at graduation, "Follow your Dream", did anybody say you have to wake up first?

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