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Early in November, the chalet manufacturer André Guignard was killed and his wife badly injured when his plane crashed on **Le Mollendruz**. A new reception centre for tourists was opened at **Montreux**. The founder and artistic director of "Septembre Musical", Manuel Roth, is retiring after 21 years.

The agricultural domestic science college "Marcelin" was opened at **Morges** on 24th November.

The monastery church of **Payerne**, in the Broye Valley, has been undergoing careful restoration for more than 40 years. At a recent press conference it was reported that the laborious work was not yet completed. Latest research and scientific developments have even made necessary some corrections on earlier phases of the restoration. But even in its present form the high, long building radiates the serene and solemn warmth typical of all structures belonging to the austere Cistercian Order. A chapel to Maria was built on this spot as early as the sixth century, on the ruins of a Roman villa. Later a larger house of worship took its place, and during the high Middle Ages this in turn was supplanted by a large romanesque building. Since the Reformation it served as a granary, which explains its excellent state of preservation, making it a prime example of the very rare churches of the eleventh century. The Restoration Campaign has now over 1,500 followers.

**Villars-Tiercelin** is due to become the location of a privately-sponsored sports centre modelled on the previously unique centre at Magglingen. Among the planned facilities is a football field with four-lane running track, facilities for all kinds of athletic activities (with emphasis on throwing and jumping), plus a 60-room hotel or dormitory complex, including dining facilities, massage rooms, and a kitchen to handle 1,000 people. An artificial ice rink will extend the centre's usefulness during the winter months.

The Villa Olga at **Villeneuve** is for sale; it is the house in which Romain Rolland lived from 1922 to 1939. Minister Carl Burckhardt and his wife have been elected honorary citizens of **Vinzel**.

(Based on news received by courtesy of Agence Télégraphique Suisse, O.S.E.C. and S.N.T.O.)

#### RECENT DEATHS IN SWITZERLAND

The following deaths have been reported from Switzerland recently:

George A. Fischer (76), Zollikon, dipl. ing. ETH, President of the Board of Maag-Zahnräder A.G., Zurich; educated in Schaffhausen, Oxford, Zurich and Geneva; for one year at Embassy in Washington; member of many important engineering firms; since 1951 member of the Council of the Swiss National Bank; died of a heart attack in Jerusalem.

William Argenton (55), Montreux, since 1934 with the "Journal de Montreux" and other periodicals of Western Switzerland; successful writer and poet.

René Didisheim (78), La Chaux-de-Fonds, industrialist, former member and President of the watch company of Marvin; played an important part in several watch organisations.

Franz Koller (66), Weissbad (Appenzell), *Bezirks- und Kantonsrichter* and member of the Appenzell Government for twenty years; *Landeshauptmann* and later

*Statthalter*; member of many agricultural organisations; keen beekeeper.

Jules Pillet (84), Martigny, master printer and founder of a printing works and of the paper "Le Rhône".

Pierre Devrient (57), Lausanne, born in Russia, but brought up in Switzerland; great pioneer of market research; founder member of the "Groupement Romand pour l'Etude du Marché" (1944) and of "Isopublic S.A." in 1966; only Swiss representative in the Gallup Institute Chain; twice President of the "European Society of Public Opinion" and Council member of the "World Association for Public Opinion and Market Research".

Albert Verly (61), Orbe, well-known writer and dramatist, Manager of "Mois Théâtral".

Jacques Guignard (35), Le Landeron, Manager of the Swiss Federation of Watch Case Manufacturers.

[A.T.S.]

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# Switzerland

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