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of a few useful pages of instruction on rescue work and first-aid, this book is worthless.

The notion of military discipline is of paramount importance in war time and it should be imbued to the nation's conscience as well. There is no security without a severe discipline, the prime duty of very citizen.

The responsibility for the conduct of war rests with the country's statesmen and heads of ministries, the leaders and chiefs of the armed forces and civil defence services, whose heavy task will be enlightened by the nation's whole-hearted support and confidence.

*Pierre Savoie*

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

please see page 9

#### DEATHS

Mr. *George Ronus*, managing director of the Dorchester, died on October 8th of cancer. He was 62. This shattering news for the Swiss colony in London was reported in the national press, including popular dailies like the "Mirror". The "Times" honoured his memory with a two column obituary. We shall do likewise in our next issue.

Hardly a month after having lost Mr. Alfonso Pianca, the Ticinesi of London grieve the loss of Mrs. *Augusta Virginia Berti*, who died at the age of 80. We shall be printing her obituary in the next issue too, but would like, in the meanwhile, to express our most sincere sympathies to Mr. Virgil Berti and his family.

#### CORRECTION

Contrary to our report two issues ago, Mr. F. A. De Maria, President of the Unione Ticinese, has not been named headmaster of the Cardinal Vaughan School, but of the Cardinal Manning Secondary School. We should like to mention another academic success among the Ticinese: a cousin of Mr. De Maria, Emilo De Maria, son of Giovanni, has recently been awarded a London University degree—M.Sc. in Economics—this in addition to a previous degree in Mathematics awarded some years ago.

#### PERSONAL

We have great pleasure in reporting good news from the family of our former Editor, Mrs. Mariann Meier. Firstly, a daughter Barbara Mariann, was born to her second daughter Erika, now Mrs. Max Bucher, in Bienne. This means that Mrs. Meier is now a grandmother! Next, her father, Mr. Ernst Gysin, now great-grandfather for the fourth time, celebrated his 80th birthday on 9th June. We understand that he is in excellent health and spirit and still a thorough reader of the S.O. Finally, Mrs. Meier's son, Peter, a graduate of the ETH in Zurich, has just been awarded a doctorate of science at Amherst University, Mass., USA. He has now taken up a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Karlsruhe in Germany. We extend our best wishes and congratulations to all.

#### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

We send congratulations and best wishes to those of our readers who will be celebrating their birthdays during the next few weeks, as well as to Dr. and Mrs. H. W. Egli whose 34th wedding anniversary will take place on 6th November.

Mr. H. N. Leuzinger will be 73 on 31st October. Mrs. Hartmann will be 82 on 2nd November and Mr. C. Gasser 84 on 4th November. Mr. J. Oertli will celebrate his 74th birthday on 10th and Mr. A. Kunzler on 15th November.

*Ad multos annos!*

#### THE NEW EMBASSY IS NEARING COMPLETION

The brickwork of the new Embassy building at Brianston Square is now completed. The Swiss Embassy now has to be fitted with all the appertunances of an embassy and taken over by the decorators. A non-formal ceremony in which builders mingled with Embassy staff marked this welcome event. Monsieur René Keller, our Ambassador pushed a wheelbarrow filled with mortar across the building's roof and, with the help of a spade, stopped its last remaining gaps. He then secured a branch on the high mast above the building—saplings being unavailable at this time of the year. Despite many delays, it now seems that our new and gleaming embassy will be ready almost on schedule and perhaps in use before 1971 is out.



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