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more warlike structure is seen in the Communist countries who are arming to the teeth. One has to say in the kindest possible way that peace cannot be bought his way. We live in an imperfect world and sometimes it is better to do imperfect things to avoid even worse wickedness.

R. F. Barclay,  
Tide View,  
Whipsiderry Close,  
Porth,  
Newquay,  
Cornwall

Predictably Mr. Bader's letter would arouse different feelings in different people. In thanking Mr. Barclay for his letter I must remind him that letters published in the *Swiss Observer* do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editor. WGS

Sir,

A local women's group has asked me to coordinate a "Swiss Evening". They are a lively-minded group interested in politics, culture, etc.

I am Swiss, married to an Englishman and have been living in England for seven years.

Unfortunately I'm not very well up to date any more in such subjects as politics, etc.

I would therefore be most grateful if you could give me some information as to where I could find some material in the following subjects:

- The role of women in Switzerland
- Culture
- Politics (Swiss)

#### SWISS PRESIDENT SENDS TELEGRAM TO THE QUEEN

"On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Your Majesty's accession I have the honour to offer you, on behalf of myself and of the Federal Council, warmest congratulations and heartfelt wishes for your good health, your personal happiness and that of your family, and a happy and prosperous future for your people".

Signed: Kurt Furgler, President of the Swiss Confederation

Footnote: The original text was in French. The Swiss Embassy very kindly translated it for us for which we thank them. Relations between Britain and Switzerland are traditionally very good and I am sure we all share our President's good wishes to the Queen in this her silver jubilee year. WGS

- A condensed history  
your help would be most appreciated.

K. Beadon, Mrs.,  
Watermead House,  
Gibraltar Lane,  
Winterhill,  
Cookham Dean,  
Berks.

Your public library may well have some useful books on the subjects mentioned in your letter. However some of our readers may like to contact you direct. WGS

#### OBITUARY

##### ALFRED MENGEU

It is with great regret that we have to report the sudden death of Mr. Mengueu on Monday, 31st January, 1977. He was nearly 85 years of age and had been unwell for some time. He was taken into hospital on Sunday, 30th January and passed peacefully away on the following day.

Mr. Mengueu was with the Swiss Bank Corporation as an Attorney, being at the same time a member of the Institute of Bankers, for some 40 years and also a member of the Swiss Mercantile Society for many years. It was through the latter that he met and become a friend of the Founder of the *Swiss Observer*, Mr. P. F. Boehringer. The funeral of Mr. Mengueu took place at Mill Hill on Thursday, 10th February 1977.

We do extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Mengueu and relatives in their sad loss.

#### THREE SWISS DATES TO REMEMBER IN APRIL 1977

On 24th April it will be 145 years since the ETV, the Swiss Federal Gymnastic Society, was founded.

On 26th of the month, the University of Fribourg will celebrate its 85th anniversary.

On 27th April 1832, the Half-Canton of Baselland became independent.

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