# A Swiss company builds an hotel in Africa

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## RECENT DEATHS IN SWITZERLAND

The following deaths have been reported from Switzerland recently:

Guelfo Delco (63) and his son Fabio (31), Ticino Frontier Guard Commandant; killed in a motor accident in the Grisons; the father was a well-known alpinist and the son, a lawyer, one of the best swimmers of the Ticino.

Mrs. Elisabeth Kuenzler-Bender (92), Beirut/Lebanon, widow of the well-known "Father of Armenian Orphans" Dr. med. h.c. Jakob Kuenzler from Basle; she was the last of the Federation of Swiss Friends of Armenia; with her husband, she evacuated and saved thousands of Armenian children whom the Turkish Government of the day wanted exterminated; she spent her life in the service of those unfortunate orphans.

Rabbi Isaac Sternbuch Rottenberg (72), Montreux, Honorary President of the Israeli community of Montreux; during the war delegate of the "Vaad Hazalah" of the Orthodox Rabbis of USA; with the help of the former Federal Councillor Musy, he managed to get some 1,500 Jews from the concentration camp of Theresienstadt into Switzerland.

Pater Beda Kaufmann (75), Sarnen, teacher at the Cantonal School of Sarnen since 1923 and its Headmaster from 1925 to 1929; Superior of the *Collegium* Sarnen for 38 years.

Piero Beretta (78), Lugano, Editor of the "Corriere del Ticino" from 1915 to 1960.

Jean Nicollier (74), Lausanne, former Editor of the "Gazette de Lausanne" from 1922 to 1962, though he continued writing for a few more years; Commune Councillor, member of the film censorship committee and the "Prix Veillon" Jury; author, playwright and local historian.

*Diakonissin* Anna Meyer (100), the oldest inhabitant of the Canton of Basle; originally from Schleitheim (SH); in charge of the Lory Hospital in Berne from 1929 to 1946.

Mrs. Hortense Gillioz (100) Martigny, one of the oldest inhabitants of the Valais.

Adolphe Audeoud (102), Geneva, farmer, oldest inhabitant of the Canton of Geneva.

Maurice Ditesheim (51), La Chaux-ed-Fonds, architect and town planner of repute; creator of the "Asi" Centre in La Chaux-de-Fonds with its workshops for invalids.

Charles Besson (71), Pully, Commune President from 1941 to 1961; since 1947 General Secretary of the General Guisan Foundation.

Joseph Migy (77), St. Ursanne, former Commune President (20 years).

Mrs. Susanna Neuenschwander-Wolfer (101), Rheineck/SG.

Hans Sturzenegger (94), Ebnat-Kappel, for decades publisher and editor of "Toggenburger Nachrichten"; one of the ski-ing pioneers in the Obertoggenburg; well-known gymnast and Honorary Member of the Federal Gymnastic Society.

[A.T.S.]

## THE STORY OF THE SWISS MOTOR SHOW

As Geneva is preparing to become the capital of the automobile industry and trade for a few days (14th to 24th March), and as this year's Motor Show becomes organised, takes form, and equips itself, it is interesting to look back upon its development.

This large Swiss and International exhibition was founded in 1905, a period which is both heroic and historic in the automotive world. It was then that the motorcar pioneers, full of determination and enthusiasm, managed to dominate these recalcitrant engines, to drive them on impossible roads, to fight the distrust and hostility which retarded progress of the automobile, and to respect traffic laws foreign to the realities even of stammering motorisation.

This was the moment when Geneva, due to the daring genius of several of her leading citizens, brought a real and original contribution to the evolution of the motor vehicle. The names Pic-Pic, Dufaux, Hispano-Suiza and Sigma bring back a glorious memory of an intoxicating story.

In 1905, from 25th April to 7th May, the first Swiss Motor Show took place. It was an immediate success. There were 59 exhibitors representing all existing types of bicycles, motor bicycles and cars, as well as accessories. Founding a tradition which has been respected ever since, the Federal Government delegated one of its members to open the show. He was Federal Councillor Forrer.

Today, 63 years later, the Geneva Motor Show, which missed a few appearances during the two World Wars, is in its 38th edition. This year will bring together more than 1,300 exhibitors representing 25 countries, and will include, as well as touring cars, various sections reserved for heavy vehicles, accessories, special body designs, contractor's machinery and tractors. .

## A SWISS COMPANY BUILDS AN HOTEL IN

### AFRICA

At present Ruanda has a grand total of 39 acceptable hotel rooms. Thanks to Swiss private enterprise, a first-class hotel will be built at Kigali, the capital, more than doubling this capacity at one go. HIG Co. Ltd., in Locarno, has designed a modern hotel with 200 beds and submitted the plans to the Ruanda government, which has granted permission to introduce the necessary material without duty and has taken a 25% share in the capital of the Ruanda firm which is to run this hotel, by providing the 185,000 sq. ft. of ground needed for its construction. The first stage of the project involves the creation of a modern hotel with 100 beds, a capacity that will be doubled in the second stage.

[O.S.E.C.]