

# Personal

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the well-known other impediments, the Committee was gratified to see an attendance better than could be expected and everybody was very pleased to see the Community honoured by the presence of His Excellency the new Swiss Minister and Madame Ruegger, accompanied by Monsieur Girardet and Colonel Bon. The Swiss colours adorned the altar and the Swiss flag was displayed around the pulpit. Father Lanfranchi, going up to the altar to officiate intoned the Schweizerpsalm: "Trittst im Morgenrot daher" sung by the choir and congregation, to the accompaniment of a harmonium, replacing the damaged organ (evidently also regarded as a military object). His impressive sermon touched the Christian as well as the patriotic cords of his audience and in spite of the short notice and all other difficulties, the choir gave their best to embellish the hour, and a well qualified soloist, ably accompanied, added a much appreciated contribution to the harmonious atmosphere. The service ended in a note of thanksgiving for the preservation of our dear country with the hymn, well known there and here: "Grosser Gott wir loben Dich".

C.S.

### PERSONAL

A luncheon was offered by our new Minister, M. Paul Ruegger, on Wednesday, August 9th, at the Dorchester, to the Swiss Economic Delegation, on completion of their mission. From the list handed to the press we notice the presence of the American Ambassador, Officials from the Board of Trade engaged in the deliberations, and the colleagues of the Minister at the Legation; also honoured with an invitation had been Dr. G. G. Kullmann, Col. C. E. de Watteville and Dr. P. de Wolff.

\* \* \*

The chief of the London Delegation of the International Red Cross Committee has now entered upon his functions at the Pall Mall offices. He is Col. C. E. de Watteville; one London paper describes him as a genial, witty man and we should like to add that he has the great fortune of being the brother of one of the most accomplished hostesses of the social world, Madame C. R. Paravicini. Of course, a de Watteville requires no introduction in London but the Colonel finds himself in the company of another trusted friend, M. Paul Ruegger, with whom he was serving as Military Attaché when the latter was our Minister at Rome.

\* \* \*

We have recently been shown a letter from an old friend of ours, Mr. B. Bretscher, who in the far gone days took an active part in the London Colony as a committee member of the S.M.S. He is now in New York after a lengthy stay at Bermuda. All his three sons joined the British forces and the youngest one, Eric, aged 23½, has now been called upon to make the supreme sacrifice whilst on R.A.F. operations.

\* \* \*

The Wolverhampton "*Express & Star*, August 14th," reveals that General Eisenhower's chef at his French headquarters is a British born Swiss, Private H. P. Hug, of the Royal Catering Corps. Before the war he was chef at a leading London Hotel and he follows in his father's footsteps, who is well-known in the catering trade and who is in business at Blackpool. The French say "La soupe fait le soldat" and Private Hug's "Spatz" certainly seems to have done the trick.

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### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Unione Chretienne de langue française (French speaking Y.M.C.A.) 9, Soho Square, W.1, Reunion chaque mardi à 5.45 p.m. Invitation cordiale à tous.

Tuesday, September 26th.—London Swiss Philatelic Society.—Monthly Meeting at Swiss House, 35 Fitzroy Square, W.1. Official part at 5.45 p.m. sharp, afterwards "Swopping."

Saturday, September 30th, 1944.—Unione Ticinese.—Seventieth Anniversary, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W. 1. Details later.

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