

The Swiss little red book

Autor(en): **Savoie, Pierre**

Objektyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): - **(1970)**

Heft 1603

PDF erstellt am: **08.08.2024**

Persistenter Link: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-691559>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Inhalten der Zeitschriften. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern.

Die auf der Plattform e-periodica veröffentlichten Dokumente stehen für nicht-kommerzielle Zwecke in Lehre und Forschung sowie für die private Nutzung frei zur Verfügung. Einzelne Dateien oder Ausdrucke aus diesem Angebot können zusammen mit diesen Nutzungsbedingungen und den korrekten Herkunftsbezeichnungen weitergegeben werden.

Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Die systematische Speicherung von Teilen des elektronischen Angebots auf anderen Servern bedarf ebenfalls des schriftlichen Einverständnisses der Rechteinhaber.

Haftungsausschluss

Alle Angaben erfolgen ohne Gewähr für Vollständigkeit oder Richtigkeit. Es wird keine Haftung übernommen für Schäden durch die Verwendung von Informationen aus diesem Online-Angebot oder durch das Fehlen von Informationen. Dies gilt auch für Inhalte Dritter, die über dieses Angebot zugänglich sind.

THE SWISS LITTLE RED BOOK
the views of a reader

Back in London after a three week holiday in Switzerland, I have read the "Défense Civile" booklet given to me by someone who didn't care much for it! As a Swiss who loves the mother country and served in the frontier occupation in 1914-15, and also took part in heavy fighting at Arras and in Flanders with the British Expeditionary Forces for the noble cause of liberty and freedom, I hold a lasting admiration for the Swiss army.

The whole cause of history reveals that the leaders of men have emerged on account of their own outstanding qualities, nobility of character, resourcefulness of mind, and an inborn

desire to serve one's fellow men. The Swiss army has such leaders.

There is a theory that the interests of the individual should be sub-ordinated to the interests of the State. This theory is still in operation as far as our public men are concerned, and especially is it the case when defining the State we think also of the citizens of that State. For the present at any rate, and in spite of huge sums of money spent on armaments, the soldier is a necessity. It is a call to duty, and a rendering of service vital to the life of a nation. The Swiss soldier will act with loyalty to his country, with fidelity to the cause he is serving, and with humanity to those arrayed against him.

The narrative on civil defence gives a plausible account of Switzer-

land's preparedness in time of war, and how well-intentioned its authors might have been, the book lays open to strong criticism. It begins by glorifying the past in a chauvinistic tirade and ends with the country invaded and occupied by a ruthless enemy. What an irresponsible and thoughtless prediction!

The writer of these lines, with six years experience as an Incident Officer and Instructor in civil defence in one of the worst hit boroughs of London during the last war, cannot agree and is strongly against the compulsory storing of food for two months in every household in time of peace, nor at any time; this, to my mind is an unpatriotic and disastrous act of panic-mongering heading to defeatism. To my own and humble judgement, with the exception

EXPORT DEPARTMENT of Company specialising in Aromatics requires Assistant, preferably Swiss National resident in U.K., to Export Manager shortly retiring.

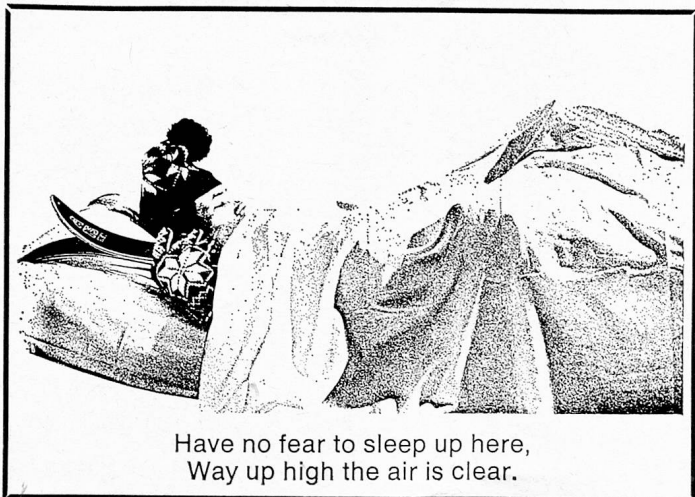
Export Manager shortly retiring.

Salary according to age and experience.

Please contact:

A. T. J. Wuertz-Field,
Field & Co. (Aromatics) Ltd.,
Stonefield Close,
South Ruislip,
Middlesex.

Winter Holidays twice as grand, in Switzerland



Have no fear to sleep up here,
Way up high the air is clear.

Switzerland

Further information from

YOUR TRAVEL AGENT or the
Swiss National Tourist Office,

Swiss Centre, 1 New Coventry Street,
London W1V 3HG. Tel. 01-734 1921



An Omega
does more
for a man than
tell the time

**An incredible
one hundred-millionth
horse power drives
the movement.**

And all the 174 components of the Omega Constellation are subject to equal stringency. They are machined to micrometric tolerances — some to sizes 40 times smaller than the diameter of a hair. On every Omega Constellation there are 1,479 checks. *Nothing is left to chance.* In satin-finished stainless steel, £63.10.0. Other Omegas cost as little as £23.0.0. Write for a catalogue to Omega, 67-74 Saffron Hill, London E.C.1.

**Ω
OMEGA**

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.



SWISS BANK CORPORATION

(a Company limited by shares, incorporated in Switzerland)

Principal London Office
99 GRESHAM STREET,
P.O. Box No. 114,
LONDON EC2P 2BR
Tel. 01-606 4000

West End Branch
SWISS CENTRE,
1 NEW COVENTRY STREET,
LONDON W1V 8BR
Tel. 01-734 0767

(Savings Account facilities available)

SOCIÉTÉ DE BANQUE SUISSE
SCHWEIZERISCHER BANKVEREIN
SOCIETÀ DI BANCA SVIZZERA

Offices throughout Switzerland
in New York and San Francisco