

A minister of the crown

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PERSONAL

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Carlo Bolla, of 74 Carleton Road, N.7. Mr. Bolla had been in this country since his teens and was 63 when he died on 17th October. He had been in the catering trade and was on the point of retiring. He was a loyal member of the Unione Ticinese and when his wife was President of the "Ruetli Ladies' Club" he always staunchly supported her in her work. We extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Bolla in her bereavement.

PLEASE COME!

The announcement that Dr. E. Froelich, the President of the Solidarity Fund of the Swiss Abroad, is coming to London in November coincides with the report from Berne that the guarantee the Confederation has so generously granted to the Fund will have come into effect from 20th October. This decree could be made valid only after no use had been made of the referendum within the legally prescribed period ending on 26th September. This is a tremendous step forward.

During the last two years we have all heard plenty about the fund — or so we think. But recently many important changes have been made and new questions arise. Who would be in a better position to answer them than one of the chief architects of the Solidarity Fund, an expert on insurance and a loyal friend of us Swiss abroad — Dr. Ernst Froelich himself?

Please come to the Open Meeting of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique on Tuesday, 13th November (see advertisement). He will be speaking *in English* on the progress made.

We have been on the brink of war — we were lucky this time but shall we be spared a next time? This should make us think twice and compel us to join the Solidarity Fund to help others at the same time as ensuring help for ourselves in an emergency.

Mariann Meier,
*Delegate of the Swiss Colony in
G.B. to the Solidarity Fund.*

A MINISTER OF THE CROWN, A KNIGHT OF HONOUR AND YET — AMBITION FRUSTRATED

An English youth of 17 spent a holiday in France many years ago. As he was short of money he worked in the vineyards. He fell under their spell and his greatest ambition soon was one day to have a vineyard of his own. When after the War he could afford to acquire one, exchange regulations did not allow it. It has taken him thirty years to get near his goal. In the meantime he has become a successful politician, a Minister in H.M. Government. And now, at last, when he could savour his greatest triumph, that of having his own wine with his own label, etiquette prevents him from realising it to the full, for as Minister of the Crown he is not allowed to have his own label on the bottle.

The Editor met him last month when he was created a *Chevalier d'Honneur* of the *Chaîne des Rôtisseurs*, friendly, intelligent, conscientious; unspoilt by success and happiest riding his bicycle; a great friend of Switzerland. Sad and disappointed, he told her this story and gave her permission to pass it on. And the man? None other than The Rt. Hon. Ernest Marples, M.P., H.M. Minister of Transport.

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OUR NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will be published on Friday, 23rd November. We should appreciate it if readers could let us have any manuscripts or news items for publication by Wednesday, 14th November.

SWISS OBSERVER

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