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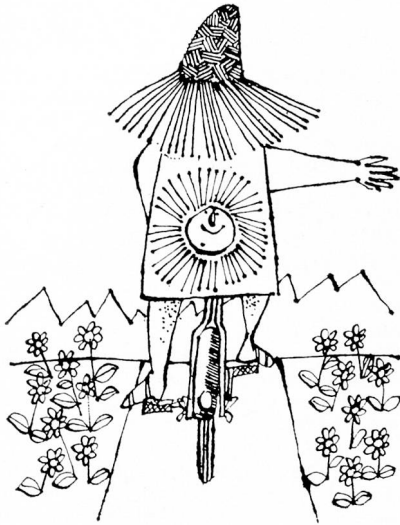
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LAST MINUTE INFORMATION

A group of Arab terrorists attacked a jet plane belonging to the Israel airline El-Al at Kloten Airport near Zurich. Automatic weapons were used as the plane started for take-off. Two passengers and three members of the crew of the Boeing 720 were injured. An Israeli security officer who was on board, jumped out and killed one of the attackers, member of the Arab partisan organisation "People's Front". The other terrorists, including a woman, were arrested. The Israeli, too, was taken in custody, otherwise he would have killed the other terrorists too. The whole of Switzerland, not only the Federal Council and officials condemned the act emphatically.

The famous Swiss Conductor, Ernest Ansermet, has died in Geneva.

30,000 telephone subscribers were cut off when a caretaker set fire to the telephone exchange at Hottingen (Zurich).

The Anglo-Swiss agreement on social insurance has been ratified; it will operate as from 1st April.

(A.T.S. and "Tagesanzeiger.")

"CENTRE LYRIQUE INTERNATIONAL"

In the course of this year a "Centre Lyrique International" (International Lyrical Centre) will start its activities in Geneva. This was brought about by the good offices of Geneva's association "Amis de l'Opéra" and contributions from private donors. It is to be an institute where young singers may study. It is not to be a school in the proper sense but an institution where young professional singers who have completed their studies and found jobs may continue their studies. Herbert Graf, the general manager of the "Grand-Théâtre" in Geneva and Lotfi Mansouri, its second manager and first producer, are to be entrusted with the running of the new centre.

[S.N.T.O.]

SKI-ING IN THE SIMPLON REGION

The Simplon, one of Europe's most beautiful Alpine passes, will in the future be open for traffic already at the beginning of March. Due to a tremendous programme of corrective work (road building, tunnels, detours, etc.), it will in future be possible to keep the Simplon Pass Road open for traffic during most of the year. A remarkable achievement, if one considers that it reaches an altitude of 2,000 m. (about 6,560 feet)! The region of Monte-Leone-Kaltwasser Glacier-Hohmatt Glacier is ideal for ski-ing as one can count on plenty of snow for high Alpine and cross country ski-ing, especially as it can be reached from Brigue within half an hour. At the pass itself, a small ski lift is already in operation, and another one is at Simplon village, 10 km. (about 6 miles) from the Kulm. Plans are afoot for a larger ski-lift.

[S.N.T.O.]

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