

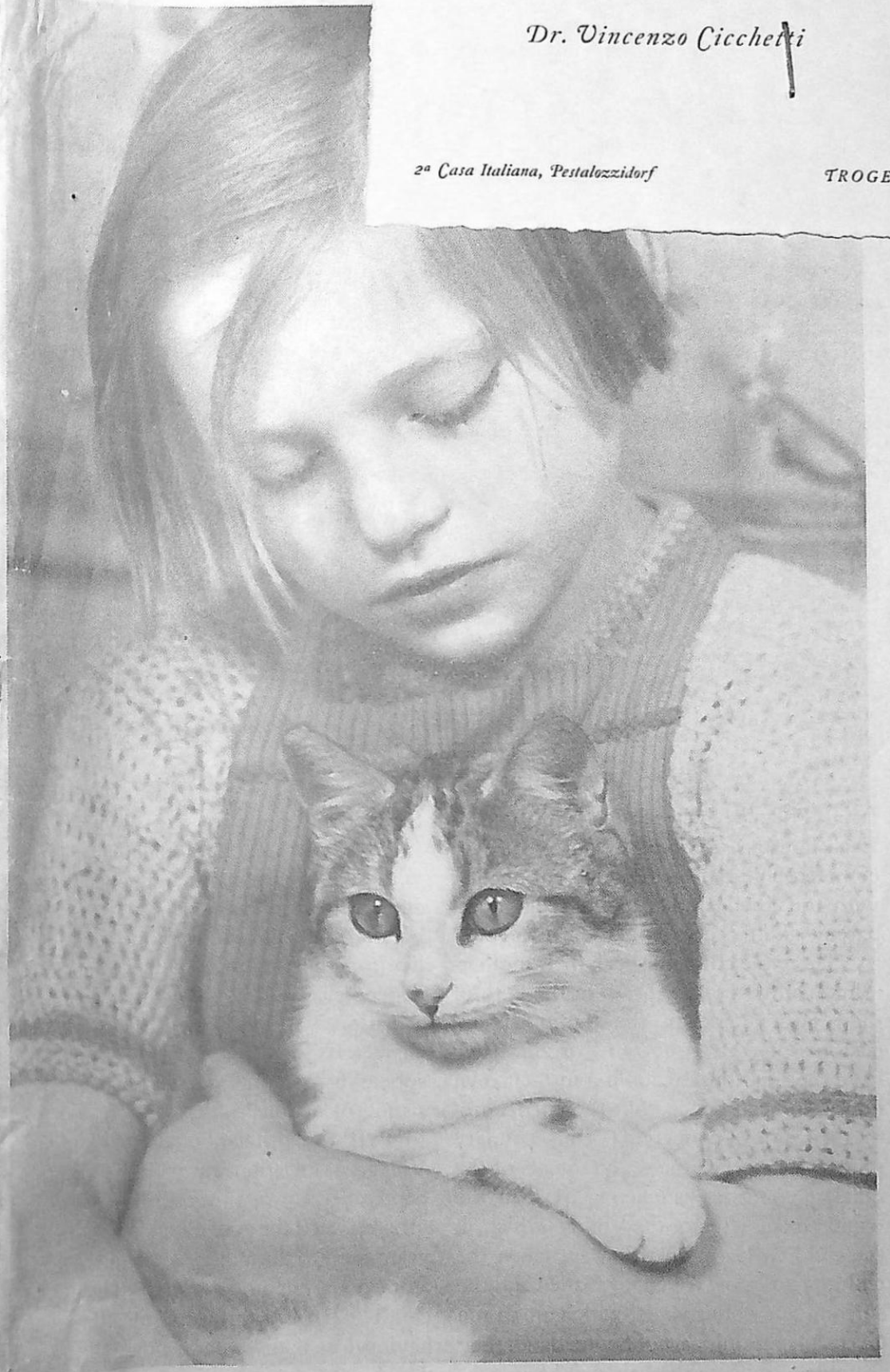
A VILLAGE WHERE THE WORLD IS ONE

*International
Pestalozzi Children's Village,
Trogen (Switzerland)*

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TROGEN





Inge with the pet cat of the Austrian house.

Serge and Charles of the Alsatian house are fascinated by their house-fathers history lesson.



The idea of building an international children's village in Switzerland was born of an ardent desire to alleviate the distress of the children of all nationalities whom the war had left orphaned and homeless. The originator of the idea was Walter Robert Corti, a Swiss author, who placed it before the public for the first time in 1944 in the magazine "DU." The response to his appeal was immediate and impressive. From all over Switzerland, by municipalities and industrial undertakings, by school-children and students, and from many other parts of the world people sent gifts of money and in kind to help him realise his unique idea.

The village was named after Heinrich Pestalozzi, the great Swiss educationist and humanitarian who took under his care Swiss children who were orphaned at the time of the Napoleonic invasion of Switzerland.

Land was made available in the Canton of Appenzell, close to the village of Trogen, 65 miles east of Zurich. Hans Fischli, the Zurich architect, gave plans for the Village and designed the houses. Volunteers from seventeen nations, including a large British contingent, gave their time and labour to build them. The Swiss child welfare organisation "Pro Juventute" helped to procure funds and to organize the Village. Today a neat and charming village of honey-coloured timber houses stands on the green slopes above Trogen and some two hundred children are living there from Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Greece,