Evacuation of Swiss women and children from urban centres to Swiss farms, in case of an emergency

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Radio Schwarzenburg announced that as from the 6th November, 1941, fuel supplies for heating water will be fixed for the various consumers; consumers must adapt their needs to the quantities alloted to them. Supplementary allotments cannot be granted. Where an agreement exists to supply warm water obtained by means of solid or liquid fuel the consumer can only claim water one day in every fortnight.

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The Department of War Industries and Labour is issuing the third clothing card, under the order of November 13th,1941, which will be distributed with the food card. This covers the period to 31st December,1942, and has 15 coupons for children born after 1st January,1933, and 20 coupons for other persons. Whether more clothing cars will be distributed during 1942 depends on imports of raw material. The previous cards, which were to be valid until 31st December,1941, will be valid until 30th June 1942, so that both types of cards will be valid during the first six months of 1942.

The annual report of the sugar factory Aarberg in the Canton of Berne, shows that this factory produces about half of Switzerland's present sugar requirements.

Some years ago the viscose factory at Emmenbrucke near Lucerne tested a process to manufacture wool from wood which gave good results. To-day this factory produces 7,000-8,000 kg. of cellular wool per day, or about as much as 7-8000 sheep will produce in a year. The works in Heersbrugg-Widnau belonging to the same company will shortly open with a daily production capacity of 15-20,000 kg., which amount will be increased by another factory to be erected by Feldmuhle Ltd.,near Rorschach. The cellular wool serves to supplement the stocks of sheep wool at present in the country. The daily requirements of wool and cotton by the Swiss Textile Industry in normal times is about 135,000 kg. so that even now we are still far from a textile autacy.

The shortage of fuel has given a great incentive to coal-mining in Switzerland and new openings or increase of production are planned for the near future. At present Anthracite is mined in the Valais, where 3,500 tons were produced in July. An endeavour is made to reduce the ash content of the Valais bituminous coal (stone coal) by a modern treatment in order to increase its use. Lignite (brown coal) is produced in four mines, whereof the pits of Kandergrund in the Bernese Oberland and Sonnenberg near Lucerne produce about 1,000 tons per month. Near Boltigen and Erlenbach in the Simmental, work of sinking pits which are promising excellent coal is now in progress. Lignite is mined in the neighbourhood of Gotthalden on the lake of Zurich. Slate coal up to 9,000 tons a month is produced at Tagbau near Ruswil in the canton of Lucerne. Although the home mines produce only a very small percentage of the requirements, yet it is of the greatest importance to some industries, as it enables them to carry on.

Towards the middle of October the Swiss radio reported that in the Portuguese ship "Corte Real" which has been sunk a valuable cargo of Swiss goods for export has been lost. The Portuguese Government has declared its intention not to transport foreign goods in future and thus the Swiss Government showed foresight when it created a small Swiss merchant fleet for Swiss exports. Referring to the sinking of the "Corte Real" Swiss postal authorities now announce that no Swiss mail was lost with the ship.

Through the torpedoing of the Portuguese steamer "Corte Real" a considerable number of Swiss Watches went to the bottom of the sea. These were consigned to the U.S.A. as well as to other countries of the American Continent. The consignments had a value of several million francs.

EVACUATION OF SWISS WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM URBAN CENTRES TO SWISS FARMS, IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.

The Committee of the Swiss Benevolent Society suggests to Swiss farmers in New Zealand, especially in the vicinity of urban centres, to invite wives and children of fellow-countrymen in cities, to take refuge with them, in case the existence of an emergency is proclaimed by the Government, or even before. If such arrangements between Swiss farmers and fellow-countrymen in cities are

made, the competent local authorities, namely the Town Clerks (City Emergency Scheme) of the cities or towns where prospective evacuees are living, should be informed accordingly, both by the hosts and guests. This is most important for the authorities to know, because in case of an evacuation emergency transport facilities will be arranged by the evacuation authorities.

It would be advisable as well to keep the Secretary of the Swiss Benevolent Society, Mr. Herman Schlatter, 2nd Floor, T. & G. Building, Wellington, C.l., informed of such arrangements; also there may be cases, where the Committee may even be of assistance in concluding such evacuation arrangements between our fellow countrymen in the country and urban centres. It goes without saying that if members of the Society will write to the Committee in this respect, such requests will find prompt attention.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.

Arrangements should be made by all our fellow-countrymen in New Zealand, which would enable them in case of a national emergency to keep in touch with each other, so that at any time a check up can be made as to the well-being of everyone. Instances might arise, where immediate help and assistance, or advice, should be offered to compatriots: (a) by local Swiss groups; (b) by the Committee of the Swiss Benevolent Society at Wellington; and (c) by the Consulate of Switzerland at Wellington.

The Swiss Consulate at Wellington attaches the greatest importance to be informed, during or after any emergency, of the well-being of all our fellow-countrymen throughout New Zealand, and expects that such information would be passed on to it immediately the occasion arises, either by individual Swiss citizens or local Swiss groups.

SUBSCRIPTION AND MEMBERSHIP.

May we remind members that the annual subscription fee of sh.10/- was due on October 1. Please forward payment to the new Secretary, Mr.Herman Schlatter, 2nd Floor, T. & G. Building, Wellington. Mr. Schlatter has asked us to request members not to send any bank notes through the mail, as this is against the law. Such a letter, which he recently received, was opened by the Censor and Mr. Schlatter had to pay a fine. The best way of paying dues is by mailing Postal Notes to the Secretary. We are also very pleased to state, that many of our members are helping our Society along with a little more than just the annual dues of sh.10/-. Remittances of £l indeed are not seldom. This is a good example to follow!

NEW MEMBER: We have pleasure in welcoming the following new member:

Mrs. P. Stratton, 61 Gouldstone, Whakatane.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

<u>WANTED</u> Swiss sharemilker - 80 cows. Last season,1940-1 over $\frac{22,000}{2000}$ pounds of butterfat. Cheese supply. Farm $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Otorohanga. Cottage 4 rooms and bathroom. School bus stops at farm. 1/3 Share. Please write to Secretary.

MR. P. CATTIN, Te Kauwhata: "Scintilla", Wine, Fruit and Honey.
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MR. JOHN STEINER JNR., Tahung Road, Morrinsville: 1st class Clover Honey, MR. JOHN BUTLER, Butcher, Tariki: Varieties of Swiss Sausages.

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118 Courtenay Place, Wellington.

MR.L.LEUTHARD, New Plymouth: visit his "Hygienic Dining Rooms".

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price 6d per cake, at leading dairies and grocers in Auckland.

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MR.G. KERLER, 477 Karangahape Road, Auckland: Prams, Wickerwork, Toys, etc.

CORRESPONDENCE: Please address to the Secretary - Mr. Herman Schlatter, 2nd Floor, T. & G. Building, Wellington, C.1.

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