

# Obituary

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most modern equipped Continental Army of Western Europe.

The leading newspaper of Dublin reporting on the merits of the Swiss Federal Constitution, ended their article in the following terms: "Again and again we ask ourselves whether the Swiss people's good fortune to be in possession of so well a conceived Constitution is due primarily to the fundamental wisdom of the Constitution itself or to their national character."

The "Tages-Zeitung" of Munich, the organ of the international exposition of the Press, is of the opinion that Switzerland is in the lead of European journalism. It says that "In Switzerland there is a wider knowledge of the German problems than anywhere else;" it goes on to say: "Nobody will resent it if we try to go to school in that traditional land of democracy."

The Swiss cook, Gabriel Tschumi, who was the leading chef in the household of King George V, retired after 34 years of service; however, Queen Mary has just called him back to Buckingham Palace.

An Air line between Brazil and Switzerland has been inaugurated by the "Panair do Brazil."

The Danish Government has invited six Swiss geologists to participate in an expedition to Greenland, where it is hoped to discover ores.

The third group of English wounded servicemen have finished their stay of convalescence on the shores of Lake Lucerne; another group, consisting of 62 invalids, has arrived in Switzerland on an aeroplane of the Swissair.

On the occasion of the reconstruction of the hospital in Stuttgart, the electrical appliances could not be installed for lack of raw materials. Swiss industrialists donated the necessary copper wires which were delivered by air to the City of Stuttgart, thus making the electrical installations possible.

A corporation in Switzerland has commenced making a film on the Great St. Bernhard, entitled "Barry" based on the great dog of the same name that saved the lives of 41 people who were on the verge of dying in the snow. It is to be remembered that "Barry," the great St. Bernhard, was unfortunately, shot dead by a traveller, lost in the snow, who mistook the dog for a bear.

The Queen Mother, Wilhelmina, of the Netherlands, is a citizen of Geneva, Switzerland, therefore she is of Swiss nationality. In 1815, citizenship was granted by Geneva to the Duke Frederick Francis of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, who was the grandfather of the Queen's husband.

India has ordered typewriters of Swiss manufacture to be fitted with Indian characters.

This year 462 candidates from 29 different countries, among them 44 Swiss, have registered for their participation in the International Musical Competition to be held at the Conservatorium of Geneva.

The "Don Suisse" (Swiss Gift) has now brought its activity to a close. The Swiss people have supported the said institution to the tune of Sfr.200,000,000, (£12,000,000). In various countries the great work done by this institution has been much appreciated and it has furthermore, been possible to give hospitality in Switzerland to 3,450 tubercular people from 27 different countries. The expression "Switzerland the Healer" has become quite familiar in Europe.

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#### OBITUARY.

With great sorrow, we announce the death of our old friend -

KONRAD ALTHER

who passed away on the 9th of October just a few days prior to his 86th Birthday (October 17th). Mr. Altheer joined our Society right at the beginning (1935) and was one of the most generous Members and took a very keen interest in the progress of the S.B.S.

He was born at Speicher, Ct. Appenzell and as a lad of 21 years, left for New Zealand in 1884. On arrival he started as a farmhand at the now widely known farm of Mr. John Schlaepfer in Pukekohe. In his younger years he also tried his hand at Dairy-farming, contracting and carting business, flax-growing and for many years owned and conducted excursion launches on the lake Rotorua where he was known as "Old Kon" and liked by everybody who came in contact with him.

In latter years, although hardly able to use his legs, he still managed to move about and make himself useful. All through the years he kept up a hearty friendship with the sons of the late Mr. John Schlaepfer in Pukekohe and they did everything they could for him to make his life easier during the past few years whilst he was a helpless cripple.

Dear old Kon was a goodhearted old soul and will be remembered by all who knew him.

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X N O T I C E S. X  
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A GENERAL MEETING for the election of the Committee will be held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Moosberger, 129 Crummer Road, Grey Lynn, Auckland, W.2., on

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30th, 1948 at 8 p.m.

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

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SWISS SOCIAL CLUB.

The ANNUAL MEETING of the Swiss Social Club will be held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Moosberger, 129 Crummer Road, Grey Lynn, Auckland, W.2., on

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30th, 1948

to elect new Members for the Committee for the coming year. All who are interested are invited to attend. Do please come along and help us!

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DER ALTE SCHWEIZERBUND.

Ein interessantes und ausführliches Werk über die Gründungsgeschichte der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft und ihre Entwicklung bis zum Jahre 1648 ist soeben im Eugen Rentsch Verlag, Erlenbach-Zürich, erschienen. Dieses interessante Werk in deutscher Sprache von Anton von Castelmur enthält die Photokopien von wichtigen Dokumenten jener Zeit.

Bestellungen können an den Sekretär der S.B.S. oder an das Schweizerische Konsulat in Wellington eingesandt werden, unter gleichzeitiger Beifügung des Subskriptionspreises von 7/6d.

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When in AUCKLAND patronise Mr. T. Komminoth's "Chalet Tearoom"  
12 Victoria Street West, (near Queen Street).

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Our Secretary has left Auckland for a trip to Switzerland and the Committee appointed Mr. A. Moosberger as Acting-Secretary until the end of our financial year. Please address all correspondence to:

Mr. A. Moosberger,  
129 Crummer Road, AUCKLAND, W.2.