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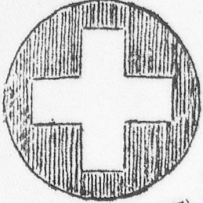
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# HELVETIA

Monthly Publication  
of the Swiss Benevolent Society  
in New Zealand.

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3rd YEAR: Vol. 3.

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## TRAVELLING EXPERIENCES.

Mr. F. Schlup of Glenbrook has kindly given us his permission to publish some of his interesting impressions obtained during a trip to Switzerland and elsewhere.

"After a continuous stay of 34 years in New Zealand I decided to visit the old country, besides seeing the world at large. Yes, Switzerland is a pretty spot. Like here in New Zealand, things have changed a great deal in the long years; even the people seem to be different. For the first few weeks I felt like a stranger, mostly because my Swiss was at low ebb. However, after a little while, when I got into my stride again, I felt more at home.

"I made Zurich my headquarters and from there I first visited the Appenzellerland where I made a stay of 5 days. I can only express my delight in Appenzell in quoting the old, old song : Appenzellerländli, Du bist so tondersch net, hätt i besser Strömpf und Schue, gingi woni wet, sömer of em Gäbris, so gsicht mer Js und Schnee for em Hus und neben üs glänzt der Bodensee. There was not much of the Appenzell that I did not see; as a tourist I think I saw every inch of it. The Säntis was not very kind to me, wearing his cloudy cap all the while. - But the Berner Oberland compensated me fully, when on the Schynige Platte: I had a wonderful view of Jungfrau, Monch and Eiger. The Oberland was full of tourists from all parts of the world, and there were no empty rooms in any hotel. Through the Simmenthal and Saanenthal an alpine railway, a wonderful example of engineering, takes me to Montreux. Then on to Geneva through the vineyards along the blue Lake of Lemman.

"Geneva, which I knew very well in my young days, has not changed a great deal. I visited the Palais des Nations, which I found very interesting. It is a huge building, built mainly of marble. A fairly large crowd of foreigners, desirous of being shown over the Palais, was divided into three lots, - French, English and German. I went with the English speaking lot, which consisted largely of Americans. At the conclusion we were taken to a picture theatre in the same building, where all the principals of the League of Nations were portrayed on the canvas while explaining what the League was standing for. At the end of the performance we were asked for our names and nationality for statistical purposes. There were Englishmen, Canadians, Americans, Africanders, Australians and Indians. I happened to be the only New Zealander. This fact got me quite an ovation from the assembly of about 80 people. Of course it was meant for N.Z., not for myself. However, I was surprised that in a motley crowd like this, New Zealand was so well known.

"In Berne, I just missed our late Consul, Mr.A.C.Blau. I was informed at the Bundespalast, that he had just been transferred to Zagreb in Yugoslavia.

"L'exposition du Monde, Paris. Yes, it was worth while to see, but it would take a long time to give all my impressions. My previous visit to Paris happened in 1900, and this time I had my second trip up to the Eiffel tower. What a grand view of all Paris and beyond. Chateau Versailles is another spot worthy of impression.

"I spent one week in Germany and a Rheinfahrt from Mainz to Cologne was most enjoyable. I have studied conditions in Germany a good deal, but do not intend to mix politics with my impressions of a pleasure trip.

"In conclusion, I must say I could not live at home again; after 34 years of absence you feel like a stranger. It may be quite alright for people with means. In my opinion New Zealand is the best place. Canada and America I have visited, but nowhere have I seen such pastures as here in New Zealand. Throughout America and Canada I have seen not more than half a dozen nice farmhouses. There, farmers seem to live in huts without garden or shelter, but over-run with pigs and poultry; rather disorderly.

" Yes, I also went over the Bay Bridge in San Francisco, a great structure. But nevertheless, as a wonderful engineering monument I vote for the Sydney bridge.- Some particulars of the Golden Gate Bridge suspension cable: It consists of 61 strands; each strand averages 472 wires, total 27,572 wires; length of wires 80,000 miles. Diameter of cable,  $36\frac{1}{4}$  inches. Weight of cable, 3,000 lbs per foot, or a total of 23,250 tons. The Bay Bridge suspension cable consists of 37 strands, 472 wires each, total 17,464 wires. Length of wires 70,000 miles; diameter of cable  $28\frac{5}{8}$  inches, weight of cable per foot 1,750 lbs; total weight 18,700 tons. "

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M E M B E R S !     Contribute articles and news of general interest to this publication.

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The much dreaded scourge, the Foot and Mouth disease, seems to creep gradually into our Homeland. In Mulhausen, Alsace, this disease broke out in the stables of the Abattoirs. In Rodersdorf, Solothurn, a case occurred, necessitating the killing of 10 animals to prevent it spreading further. In France 3,000 farms are affected. Other reports of Foot and Mouth disease have come to hand from Holland, Belgium and Denmark.

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#### THE SWISS MACHINE-BUILDING TRADE.

The exhibition poster issued by the Swiss Association of Machinery Manufacturers contains a symbolic representation of the three forms of power - steam, electricity and water. A more suitable illustration could scarcely have been found to show that steam and oil engines, steam and water turbines, electric generators, blowers and compressors of first-class quality are made in Switzerland. Machinery of this kind has exercised the most powerful influence on civilization, as the logical development of prime movers expands and promotes production in every other branch. We are able to supply the necessary machinery not only for power stations and railways, ships and other means of transport, but, also, to a very great extent, for textile industries and other factories producing goods necessary for every-day requirements. Machine-building is one of the oldest Swiss industries and stands in the foremost rank in social economy on account of the high-class quality of the products. The output during the past year