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SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY in New Zealand

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Groupe New Zealand of the N.H.G.

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WEDDING.

A marriage of interest to the Swiss community of New Zealand has taken place at Berne between Dr. A. C. Blau, late Consul of Switzerland in New Zealand, and Miss Constance Burdett, younger daughter of Lady Burdett and the late Sir Charles Burdett, Bart. of England. They will reside at Zagreb, Yugoslavia, where Dr. Blau is attached to the Swiss Consulate. In the name of our Society we wish to tender to the happy couple our heartiest congratulations and very best wishes.

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A NEW SWISS LAKE.

A new lake, the Sihlsee, has recently made its formal debut near Einsiedeln. It forms part of the huge Etzel power development which the Swiss Federal Railroads have been building in conjunction with the "Nordostschweizerische Kraftwerke," at a cost of 65 million Swiss Francs.

Work on the project, which has furnished employment for hundreds of men, was started in the spring of 1932, and included improvements and changes along the turbulent river Sihl, also the construction of a huge dam, new roads and viaducts.

Way back in the year 1797 Goethe, the famous German poet, spoke in one of his Swiss travel memoirs of the possibility of utilizing the waters of the Sihl, which has its origin on the Drusberg, in the canton of Schwyz, and which, due to mountainous obstructions, has to describe a left turn shortly after Einsiedeln, instead of being able to proceed directly into the lake of Zurich. Engineering skill has now conquered this obstacle. Near the so-called "Schlagen" a tunnel has been bored through the mountain for the high pressure conduits which bring the heavy volume of water to the power station near Pfäffikon on the lake of Zurich.

The new Sihl lake, which incidentally has greatly added to the beauty of the Einsiedeln country, is 928.6 m. a/s; it has a length of 8 km., an average width of 1.4 km., a depth of 20 m., and with an area of 11 km.<sup>2</sup> it assumes 15th rank among Swiss lakes. The Sihl reservoir lake will produce yearly 150 million KW hours of electricity, of which 110 million through the winter months.

Attractive new homesteads have replaced the many farm homes now submerged by the reservoir lake.

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