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100 Swiss Officers participating in an instruction course recently ascended the Great Aletschhorn (4195m.). Starting from the Jungfrauoch they descended to Oberaletsch and thence to Brig. This is the first time that the Aletschhorn has been climbed by a big military formation.

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After a rainy summer, August brought rather better weather for climbing expeditions in the Swiss Alps. Appenzell especially, was a favourite with excursionists at the beginning of this month. On one Sunday alone as many as 2,500 people travelled by funicular railway or on foot. The Hohenkasten had 1,000 visitors on the same Sunday and the Schaefer 500. Over the week-end August 3rd and 4th, the Appenzeller railway transported 6-7,000 passengers; St. Gallen Gais Appenzell the same number, whilst one electric line from Appenzell to Weissbad Wasserauen carried between 5-6,000 visitors. Apart from these, at least 3,000 cyclists toured the canton and all the innkeepers agreed that they had not seen such an influx for many years.

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#### OBITUARY.

Once again it falls to our lot to record the death of a prominent and highly respected compatriot, Mr. JOSEPH ARNET of Springdale, Waitoa. The deceased was born at Inglewood in 1890. At the age of 7 he was taken to Switzerland, from whence he returned 12 years later. For the first two years he took up contracting work in the Taranaki district, where he married Miss Marie Meier, a new arrival from Switzerland. After several years of farming in the Taranaki province he moved to the Waikato where he settled on a block 119 acres of unimproved land on Alexander Rd., Hungahunga. This land he turned into a highly productive farm. Even a less inviting prospect greeted him when he took up 270 acres at Springdale, the greatest part of this block being swamp land. With sheer hard work, perseverance and foresight, he turned this rather dismal swamp land into a first class dairy farm.

A man of exceptional energy and integrity, Mr. Arnet found time to interest himself in the advancement of the district, as well as in the welfare of the Springdale Sports Club.

Having lost his first wife  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years ago, he married Mrs. L. Steiner last April. Besides his wife and daughter (Mrs. C. Nicholson), two sons, Joseph and John, two sisters (Mesdames Benziger and Huber of Taranaki) and a brother in Australia mourn the loss.

On behalf of the Society we wish to extend to his family and relatives our expressions of deepest sympathy and regret.

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#### NEWS IN BRIEF.

Amongst the recipients of home nursing certificates, which were presented by Mrs. A.R. Bates at a social and dance organised by the Kaponga branch of the Red Cross Society, was our member, Miss Ida Bernold of Kaponga. In presenting the certificates, Mrs. Bates referred to the fact that Miss Bernold was of Swiss nationality and therefore a compatriot of the founder of the International Red Cross Society.

Miss H. Schicker of Maungatoki has also obtained certificates for home nursing and hygiene.

We congratulate the recipients most heartily on their success.

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Christmas cheers have once more been forwarded to two unfortunate compatriots who are inmates of Mental Hospitals.

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#### SWISS SOLDIERS FUND.

We are pleased to publish further contributions recently received from: Messrs. F. Gisler, Turua, and W. B. Frank, Normanby. The generosity of these friends is greatly appreciated.

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