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"do not belong to our Society, and your appeal to the present members to help us to increase the membership, I am sure, will have a favourable echo. Let us hope that from now on during the next 12 months we may be able to increase the membership by another 50. I feel sure that every Swiss in New Zealand is in sympathy with the humanitarian purposes of our Society as well as with its further aims, namely to gather together our fellow-countrymen in New Zealand for the sake of friendship and mutual enlightenment regarding everything that concerns Switzerland. It is the privilege of the Swiss people in almost every land abroad, thanks to the friendly mission which Switzerland carries out in the world since centuries, to remain true at heart to the old country and at the same time to be loyal to the country, which is offering them hospitality and a livelihood. The Swiss Benevolent Society certainly is imbued by that spirit and although we are passing through critical times, we are much gratified that the New Zealand Government so far has allowed the Swiss Benevolent Society, under condition of censorship, to continue with the monthly publication of our bulletin "HELVETIA", which constitutes the great link among our members.

In conclusion I would thank you for the privilege of having this letter published in the December issue of the "HELVETIA", which also gives me the opportunity to tender to you and all my fellow-countrymen in New Zealand my best wishes for the coming New Year, in which my whole family joins.

Yours faithfully,  
(sgd) W. SCHMID. "

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#### COLLECTION FOR SWISS SOLDIERS.

Since we have given our last account on the collection for the Swiss Soldiers' Relief Fund, the following countrymen have made substantial contributions to this worthy cause:

J. Sax	Whakatane
J. Butler	Tariki
R. Buchmann	Auckland
J. Fischbacher	Putaruru

Many thanks again for your wholehearted support. The total amount collected now stands at £264.3.4, indeed a splendid result, of which the Swiss communities in New Zealand will be justly proud for ever. Arrangements have been made for the transfer of this amount to the Swiss Soldiers' Relief Fund in Switzerland through the Swiss Foreign Office in four instalments, namely:

£220. 9. 3	on May 31, 1940
£ 31.12.11	on September 25, 1940
£ 7. 1. 2	on November 29, 1940
£ 5. 0. 0	on December 2, 1940

£264. 3. 4  
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As yet only an acknowledgment of receipt of the first amount of £220.9.3 has been received from the Swiss Soldiers' Relief Fund, which was published in the October issue of the "HELVETIA". No doubt the three other transfers will be acknowledged in due course.

Walter Schmid.

Wellington, 2nd December, 1940.

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#### SALE OF SWISS NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY BADGES AND CARDS.

We have pleasure to advise our members that in 1940 a total of 94 badges and 46 cards have been sold, which has enabled us to remit to the Committee of the Swiss National Independence Day £ N.Z. 10.11.4. There are still a number of badges and