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HELVETIA



Monthly Publication of the
SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY in New Zealand

Groupe New Zealand of the N.H.G.

AUCKLAND,
MARCH, 1941.

+++++ 6th YEAR, Vol. 6.

HIE ISCH D'SCHWYZ.
(This is Switzerland calling).

Due to the atmospheric conditions the reception of the monthly Swiss programme on March 2 was nil. The same was also true for the broadcasts from Daventry and other European stations with the exception of Italy which came in very well. So did New York and Havanna. We therefore regret to be unable to report anything on this month's N.Z. broadcast from Switzerland.

In recent weeks a number of our members, however, have shown a lively interest in testing Swiss broadcasts on other wavelengths such as 48.66 daily, from 6 a.m.- 9.30 a.m., 26.31 every Wednesday from 5.45 a.m.- 7.10 a.m. and on 25.28 every night from 11 p.m.- 0.45 a.m. I would like to especially mention here as radio pioneers our members Hermann Schlatter, Wellington, and Anton Styger, Eltham, who in conjunction with the Consulate have been busy on the job. We are very much obliged to them, because through Mr. Styger's activities we have found out that it has been possible in Taranaki to receive the daily broadcast on wavelength 48.66 since the end of November until January 10. Our tests in Wellington have now also produced results, although the quality of the reception is subject to great changes. Mr. Styger has just informed us that he has again been successful in hearing this daily broadcast in recent days. Mr. Schlatter on the other side is the discoverer among our members of the reception of the daily midnight broadcast on wavelength 25.28. It seems, however, that Switzerland can be heard on this wavelength only after midnight. The reporter himself listened to the Wednesday broadcast on February 26 at 7 a.m. However, he only got the tail end of the whole programme with a story on the history of the Swiss Flag. He had an especially good reception of the broadcast on 48.66 on March 5, Wednesday, from 6.25 a.m. to 7.10 a.m. (it had started at 6 a.m.), but the general report on conditions in Switzerland by that time was over and on the programme then were instructions given to the Swiss people regarding the consumption of domestic fruit. The day before I started to listen in at about the same time. The reception in French was rather poor, but later in German I understood that the negotiations for a trade agreement with Russia had been successfully concluded. Whatever I heard in addition to that unfortunately was not clear enough to be commented upon. On the 9th and 10th of March the Swiss programme on wavelength 48.66 was again well received at Wellington around 7 a.m., but was exclusively musical.

In a letter which was just received at the Swiss Consulate from the Swiss Broadcasting Station at Berne, dated January 14, the opinion is expressed that for the forthcoming autumn and winter the reception of the Swiss radio programme on these wavelengths very probably will improve, and we share this opinion as we now have the proof. We would like to appeal to our members again to join those who whenever possible tune in and report to the Swiss Consulate on their success. Below is a complete list of overseas broadcasts from Switzerland:

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------|---|-----------|------------|--------|
| <u>DAILY:</u> | 11.00 p.m. | - | 0.45 a.m. | Wavelength | 25.28m |
| | | | | and | 48.66m |
| | 6.00 a.m. | - | 9.30 a.m. | " | 48.66m |
| <u>TUESDAYS:</u> | 11.45 a.m. | - | 1.10 p.m. | " | 26.31m |
| | 1.45 p.m. | - | 3.10 p.m. | " | 32.10m |
| | | | | and | 26.31m |
| | 1.45 a.m. | - | 3.10 a.m. | " | 16.23m |
| <u>WEDNESDAYS:</u> | 5.45 a.m. | - | 7.10 a.m. | " | 26.31m |
| <u>THURSDAYS:</u> | 11.45 a.m. | - | 1.10 p.m. | " | 26.31m |
| | 1.45 p.m. | - | 3.10 p.m. | " | 32.10m |
| | | | | and | 26.31m |
| <u>SATURDAYS:</u> | 1.45 a.m. | - | 3.10 a.m. | " | 16.23m |

For Australia and New Zealand:

Every first Sunday of the month: 5.45 p.m. - 7.15 p.m. on 26.31m
and 20.64m+
+(Reception on wavelength 20.64 does not
seem to be possible at the present time).

The daily programme on wavelength 48.66 is as follows:-

From 6 a.m. - 9.30 a.m.

6.a.m. News, German
6.15 a.m. News, French
6.25 a.m. Music or recitals
8.45 a.m. Latest News, Italian, followed by reports on the
most important events at home and abroad in
French and German.
9.15 a.m. Latest News in German and French.
9.30 a.m. End of the broadcast.

From 11 p.m. - 0.45 a.m.

11.00 p.m. Music
11.30 p.m. News, German
11.45 p.m. News, French
12.00 Music
0.45 a.m. End of the programme.

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WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT NEW ZEALAND ?

The "Neue Zuercher Zeitung" of Zuerich brings an amusing story on New Zealand on January 10, 1941, under the heading "What do you know about New Zealand?" After having read this story, we shall be more patient with some of our New Zealand friends here, who occasionally show a splendid ignorance about facts on Switzerland. The writer of this little story had the good idea to interview at random people of different social and professional strata about their knowledge on New Zealand, and this was the catch:

A Gymnastic Teacher: "In the Royal Air Force there are many New Zealand airmen on the side of Britain in the present war; therefore New Zealand is a British Dominion. It is situated in the Pacific Ocean, that is somewhere in the vicinity of the American Continent. The inhabitants very probably are New Zealanders. Am I probably right in saying that they are Canadians? Is New Zealand one of these naval bases which England recently conceded to the United States?" (This gymnastic teacher, by the way, is also a student of geography).

A Typiste: "Gosh, in what ocean is this island to be found? It seems to me it should be in the vicinity of North America." (She must be thinking of New Foundland, like the teacher of gymnastics).