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It is stated that amongst our farmers there are no less than twelve millionaires whose total net assessment is about 22 million francs; if all were rightfully declaring their wealth the number is likely to show a pleasing increase. Appenzell A./Rh. seems to be the poorest canton as well over 90% of the farmers have to pay interest in land mortgages; in the Ticino the proportion is 22% only, believed to be the lowest.

Some surprise will be occasioned by the announcement that the well-known BIRO pen will be produced in Switzerland. The parent company, the Compagnia Sudamericana Biro, intends to establish a factory and distribution centre capable of supplying the Swiss and European markets. The principle of this pen was originated by a young Hungarian who shortly before the outbreak of war emigrated to South America where after many frustrated hopes, he succeeded to perfect the invention.

In Lucerne a proposal to increase the members of the inner town council (Engerer Stadtrat) from five to seven was negatived by a large majority; this extension was contested by the liberal and conservative parties the other four recommending acceptance.

#### GEN. GUISAN FUND.

An excellent response has been given to the Consul's appeal for the Gen. Guisan Fund in the Auckland and Waikato districts. Special thanks are given to Mr. E. Merz, Auckland, and Mr. J. C. Steiner of Waikato, who made enormous efforts to accomplish such good results. Thanks are expressed for all the donations which have been so liberally given; the highest of which is £15. 15. 0 - the total to date being over £150. 0. 0. Arrangements are made for collection in the Taranaki and Wellington districts and no doubt our compatriots in these districts do not want to lag behind.

#### HOW SWITZERLAND IS GOVERNED.

An interesting brochure with the above title has been published, which in a very clear way gives a survey on the sphere of the legal bodies of the Swiss Confederation. Orders can be given to Mr. E. Merz, Auckland, or to the Consulate of Switzerland, Wellington. The price for New Zealand being 6/-.

#### DUPLICATING OFFICE FOR HELVETIA.

We regret having to advise that Miss C. M. Trevor, in whose office the Helvetia has been duplicated in a very satisfactory way for many years, closed her office in April.

#### NEW MEMBER.

We are very pleased to announce the enrolment of:

Mr. J. Dettling, P.O. Box 91, KAPONGA, Taranaki.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

Mr. L. Leuthard, Visit his "Hygienic Dining Rooms."  
NEW PLYMOUTH.

Mr. L. Zurcher, 1946 Apple cider, 5/- per gallon, in two gallon  
212 Pattison Road, HASTINGS. lots, plus freight; samples free of charge. In  
ordering state Dry or Sweet. Jars to lend.  
"Moscht Müends aim gha."

CORRESPONDENCE: Please address to the Secretary:-

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