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without considerable expenditure, since this enterprise had to pay to other transport agencies, a sum in excess of Sfr.20,000,000 in 1946.

A NEW MOTOR-COACH FOR THE SWISS FEDERAL RAILROADS.

Soon the Swiss Federal Railroads will use on the Swiss network a new type of motor-coach for light express trains. The new vehicle differs little from the ordinary coaches; at one extreme end it has a pilot similar to that on a locomotive. A multiple conduct system runs through the entire length of the train right to the locomotive, and the conductor in the pilot coach at the rear of the train is really controlling the locomotive at the opposite end; thus, the locomotive will push the train and time wasted on shunting will no longer be necessary. Upon arrival at its destination the train is ready to take off again without delay.

AUTOMOBILE TRAFFIC INTO SWITZERLAND.

504,100 motor vehicles crossed the Swiss frontier in 1948; this is more than double the figure for 1947, and is 72,000 units above that of 1938, which was a record year before the war. By comparison with the previous year it is estimated that the total number of motor cycles and auto-cars to cross the frontier, has almost trebled and that of automobiles has doubled. Here are some figures:-

France	285,229.	Italy	124,045	Germany	17,622
Belgium and Luxemburg	33,495.	Great Britain	13,922		
Netherlands	8,790.	Austria	7,592.	Africa	1,616.
North and South America	5,361.	Scandinavia	4,300		

There were 29 from Australia.

SWISS RAILROADS.

In an American Guide for Tourists travelling to Europe (Fielding, New York 1948), the Swiss railroads are rated A.1. According to that Guide - "they are running exactly like the watches." The Swiss cuisine is especially mentioned - "One can eat everything and everywhere." Fondue and Schabzieger (sapsago) are specially praised. Fielding has this to say of the Swiss - "The most honourable collection of human beings on the surface of this globe." He ends his observations with the following remark - "If scientists were given fifty trillion dollars, a certain number of atomic bombs and a task to find somewhere a paradise for tourists, they would point their index on Switzerland and say "What for? There you have it already!" (Gosh! - what a reputation to have to live up to! - the Editor).

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS.

Prof. Leo Weber, Director of the Seminary of Solothurn, gave a lecture on educational problems of the present, particularly on "The development of individualism in man" as a counter-movement against the development of the "mass-man." Only in the intimacy of the small personal community can man win his individuality. In this the Swiss pedagogic spirit assumes world importance. He further points out that it is due to the smallness of our community that we have been preserved from sinking into a mere existence of the masses.

Thirty German pedagogues who lost their positions during the Hitler regime, were invited to the "Volksbildungsheim" on the Herzberg, where Fritz Warterweiler acquainted them with the country and the people, as well as with the history, constitution and economy of Switzerland. Excursions were made to put them in touch with Swiss institutions of work, learning and art, and also with public administration. In conclusion, they lived for some time with Swiss families, and thus the German teachers were led out of their isolation and incorporated once more in the community of the peoples.

NEW PRINT OF SWISS CONSTITUTION.

An up-to-date edition of the "Schweizerische Bundesverfassung" has been edited by the Federal authorities. On the request of the N.H.G., the Swiss Government has decided that every Swiss citizen living abroad is entitled to apply for one copy of the Constitution. Application forms may be obtained at:

The Consulate of Switzerland,
Box 386, P.O.,
WELLINGTON. C.I.

The "AUSLANDSCHWEIZERFEST OF THE N.H.G., 1949," will be held from June 30th to July 3rd, in Interlaken. Any compatriot from New Zealand who will be in Switzerland at that time is entitled to attend the meetings. Swiss societies who are desirous of proposing subjects for discussion are invited to present their requests to the "Auslandschweizerwerk der N.H.G." in Bern; the closing date for such applications is April 30th, 1949.

OLD AGE AND INSURANCE SCHEME.

Swiss citizens are reminded that the closing date for applications to the Old Age and Insurance Scheme for compatriots over 30 years of age, is the 31st of March, 1949.

! ! ! ! !
NOTICE TO FARMERS.
! ! ! ! !

The Consulate sometimes receives requests from intending emigrants from Switzerland to supply addresses of farmers who are desirous of engaging farm hands, and at the same time, providing accommodation. The Consulate would like to know who is desirous of engaging new labour and interested farmers are asked to give their names to the Consulate of Switzerland, P.O. Box 386, WELLINGTON. C.I.

ATTENTION: - CALENDARS.

The following Calendars for 1950 in colour, can be ordered through the Consulate of Switzerland:

"Berge und Taler der Heimat" - 7/- ... "Die malerische Schweiz" - 6/-
"Alpenblumen Kalender" - 5/-.

Also Calendars from Novos SA, Switzerland at a cost of 6/-.

PESTALOZZI CALENDARS.

As in previous years, the popular Pestalozzi Calendars can again be ordered. The cost is as follows:-

German for Boys	...	4/3d	German for Girls	...	4/3d.
French for Boys	...	4/-	French for Girls	...	4/-
Italian			...	4/-	

These Calendars can be highly recommended and when ordering, please add Subscription fee and state type of Calendar required.

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE.

We regret having to advise readers of the sudden death of:

Mrs. M. G. Cattin, Wellington.

who was a member of the Swiss Benevolent Society for many years. Mrs. Cattin was a victim of the air tragedy which occurred on March 18th. A tribute will be paid in the next issue of "Helvetia" to the work done for the Swiss in Wellington by our regretted compatriot.

When in AUCKLAND, patronise MR. T. KOMMINOTH'S "CHALET TEAROOM"
12 Victoria Street West, (near Queen Street.).

When thinking of INSURANCE, remember that MR. FRANK IMHOF, 42 Vogel Street, Hawera, is now an Agent of The Southern Cross Assurance Co., Ltd.

Our Secretary, Mr. E. Merz, has returned to New Zealand from his trip to Switzerland. He has taken up his duties again as Secretary and correspondence etc., should now be addressed to him;

P.O. Box 85,
AUCKLAND. C.I.