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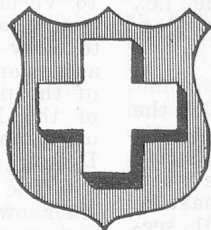
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HELVETIA

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SWISS BENEVOLENT
SOCIETY IN
NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

GROUP NEW ZEALAND OF THE NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

16th YEAR.

APRIL, 1951.

AUCKLAND.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

We are pleased to announce that in the first three months of this year 19 newcomers from Switzerland have arrived in New Zealand. With the exception of two married couples with two children they are all single. They all seem to prefer the North Island, and most of them are working in the country on farms. There are, however, also some in other professions as for instance a baker and pastrycook, a machine designer, and a goldsmith. One Swiss girl arrived to be trained as a nurse in a Wellington Public Hospital. She will be the first Swiss nurse to get her training in New Zealand.

In Wellington, the Swiss men are still meeting every Tuesday at 5.30 p.m. in the bar of the St. George Hotel. Attendance is good; generally about a dozen Swiss come together for a short chat and a beer.

During the last twelve months the ladies residing in Wellington have also been meeting regularly on the last Thursday of the month for afternoon tea. These gatherings have been organized by Mrs. Oesch, wife of the Chancellor of the Swiss Consulate, and are attended on an average by 10 ladies. These reunions have been very much appreciated, especially by the newcomers who find it a help to discuss their various problems of shopping and housekeeping arising in a strange country with whose language they are not yet familiar, and whose customs are rather different from home.

The Swiss colony of Wellington was sorry to lose two of its young members, Mr. Weilenmann and Mr. Brunner, who came to New Zealand a year ago. They both left for Australia, where the prospects for architects and technicians seem to be better—or salaries more lucrative—than in New Zealand.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

Professor Fischer, of the Research Laboratories at the Polytechnical School in Zurich, invented before his death in 1947, a projecting camera for television films to be used on cine screens. An expert from a big American film company came to Switzerland to study this system and declared that this new solution is astonishing; they will use it for colour television. The 20th Century Fox Films will equip all their theatres in the U.S.A. with Professor Fischer's television projectors.

The conductor, Ernest Ansermet, returned to Geneva after a series of concerts which he has given in Philadelphia, New York, Havana, Washington, Montreal, and Chicago, with very great success.

The donations for the victims of the avalanches in Switzerland have already reached Sfr9,000,000.

The University of Strasbourg has given the Chair of Radio and Atomic Chemistry to a lady of the Canton of Vaud, Dr. Marguerite Perey.

In 1950 there was a very high activity in the construction of houses. In spite of the fact that the Government has suppressed the subsidies, the total number of apartments constructed in the various cities amounted to 13,000.

Basle is the harbour where labour is comparatively the most intensive one in the world. Three million tons have been handled during the last year.

The specialist of military matters of the important Italian newspaper "Gazzetta del Popolo" estimates that Switzerland possesses the most powerful army in the world.

The number of immigrants from Switzerland to overseas countries last year amounted to 2,672.

The authorities of the town of Lugano are studying the project of opening an American University in the castle of Treveno, near Lugano. This University would be run with American money, on American lines for American students in Europe. There would be about 200 of them to begin with and this number could be trebled in the future.

The twenty-first International Automobile Show, with more than 600 exhibitors, took place in Geneva on March 8th. Eleven countries displayed their various makes of automobiles. Great Britain had 24 makes, U.S.A. 19, France 11, Germany 10 and Italy 5.

A new institute for physics will shortly be opened in Geneva. The close collaboration of various scientific and industrial organizations have made this possible. This institute will be comprised of two parts: one reserved for university teaching and the other for research work. About thirty laboratories will be at the disposal of the latter, as well as mechanical workshops,