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A Remarkable Swiss Tamping Machine for Railways

The network of the Swiss Federal Railways is one of the most dense in the world, and, what is more, one of the most modern and well kept in order. It is therefore not surprising that a number of Swiss firms specialise in the development, the maintenance and the renewal of the railways. In this connection, it is interesting to note that in this particular domain the propagation on a large scale of the most modern methods is due to a firm in Lausanne. Already a great many years ago, this firm perfected an automatic tamping machine for tamping the ballast-bed of the railway lines. Not only the output achieved with this machine, but also the quality of work obtained from its use were such that very soon it was adopted for use on more than a hundred railways, in fifty different countries. Up to the present, this machine is unique of its kind and the hundreds of these machines in service throughout the world testify to the role played by Swiss industry abroad.

Will Switzerland Have Her Model City?

A group of young Swiss has launched the very original idea that the next National Exhibition, which is planned to be held in 1964, should be replaced by the erection of a Model City. This city, inspired by similar ideas already realised in India by the famous Swiss architect known as Le Corbusier, as well as in Great Britain and in the United States, would be created right in the Swiss countryside. The city would extend over an area measuring from four to five square kilometres, and could house from 10 to 15,000 inhabitants; it would be furnished with all the most modern improvements, chief among them a thermic central station which would provide heating for the whole town. Each trade and profession would be represented by model installations, so that the city would constitute a kind of permanent National Exhibition. For the present, all this is merely a project, but it has already aroused great interest in all quarters.

NOTICES

A real good "Schweizer-Tanz" and gathering with "Jassen," etc., will be held on JUNE 21st, in the Manaia Town Hall, Manaia, Taranaki, by the Swiss Club of Taranaki. All members of the Swiss Colony are welcome.

Notes from the Secretary

I should like to thank Mr. T. Riedi, Hikutaia, Thames Valley, Mr. T. Ruegg, Kati Kati, and

Mr. and Mrs. John Meier, Matangi, for the very kind hospitality which they extended to me during my trip at Easter.

On Saturday, April 30th, 1955, I was invited to the lovely wedding of Miss Anna Marie Meier to Mr. Otto Fitzi, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Hamilton East. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Meier, Matangi. There were about 150 people at the reception, which was held at their residence in Matangi. The wedding cake was a masterpiece of art by Mr. A. Haltmeier, of Auckland. Everybody was as happy as they could be, and I really enjoyed myself very much. I wish the young couple all the best.

There are still subscriptions of 22/6d. arriving without name or address. One from Wellington, and one from Kaponga, according to the postal marks. I regret that it is not possible to forward receipts for these subscriptions unless I receive advice as to who the senders are.

E. GILGEN,
Hon. Secretary.

Notice to Every Member

Our next Annual General Meeting of the S.B.S. will be held on Saturday, July 2nd, at 1 p.m., at the home of our Vice-President, Mr. W. Risi, in Ngaruawahia.

The farm of Mr. Risi is opposite the Hopuhopu Military Camp on the main highway between Hunly and Ngaruawahia.

Would anyone who is intending to come please write to the Secretary? We would like to see as many members as possible.

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