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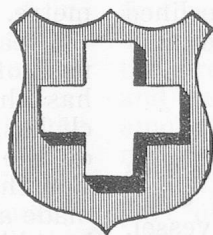
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HELVETIA

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GROUP NEW ZEALAND OF THE NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

19th YEAR.

JULY, 1955.

AUCKLAND.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

WEDDING BELLS

Fleming—Kalin

A charming wedding took place at Okato, when Margaret Victoria, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Kalin, was married to Bernard Daniel, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Fleming. A very large number of guests attended a delightful reception at the Kaweroa Park Bungalow. Items, which included some very original Swiss music, proved very popular.

Kuchler—Jones

Recently at Hawera, Mary Noeline Kate, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Jones, of Taupo, was married to Joseph Robert, younger son of Mrs. M. Kuchler and the late John Kuchler. A unique feature of the lovely reception was the international variety of items, finishing with dancing to the strains of Swiss harmonicas.

Swiss Club

With the long winter evenings approaching, the Swiss Social Club has again become very active and is holding its fortnightly "Yass" evenings, which are being very well attended and the new set-up in registering wins have been favourably commented on. Winners at the opening night were:—

Second Evening:—

Ladies: Mrs. M. Steiner 1st, C. Riddick 2nd, J. Kaiser and J. Schmid (equal) 3rd.

Men: D. Luond 1st, F. Gwerder 2nd, L. Roemer 3rd.

—A.S.

OBITUARY NOTICES

Readers will be sad to learn that Miss Germaine Kropf, a young Swiss architect from Zurich, who, during a world working tour, stayed in New Zealand during 1950-51, died on April 9th, 1955, as a result of a fatal accident in the mountains in Switzerland.

It is with very much regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. Frederick Schlup, one of the older members of the Colony. Mr. Schlup passed away on June 14th, 1955, at his residence, Glenbrook, Waiuku. We extend our sincere sympathy to his widow and family.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

New Customs Agreement between Switzerland and the U.S.A.

Following upon the increase in Customs duties on watches imported into the United States, negotiations took place in Geneva, from the 28th April to the 8th June, 1955, between Swiss and American delegations. These resulted in a Customs agreement being signed, in accordance with which Switzerland will be granted compensation for the increase in the duty on watches, through reductions in the duties of a number of Swiss export products, such as auxiliary products for textiles, photogrammetric instruments, horal interrupters, cotton underwear, braids for hat-making, embroideries, embroidered handkerchiefs and surveying apparatuses. This agreement, which represents only a partial compensation for the losses incurred by Swiss exporters of watches to the United States, has been accepted provisionally by Switzerland, who has in no way renounced from her intention of obtaining a lowering of the Customs levied on Swiss watches.

Cattle-breeding in Switzerland

Cattle-breeding plays a capital role in Swiss agriculture. Nearly 70 per cent. of the gross yield from agriculture comes from cattle and poultry farming. In 1954, there were more than 200,000 owners of cattle and about 100,000 households that went in for poultry-farming or bee-keeping.

The proportion of cattle owners is very high in certain parts of the country, especially in the Valais, where one family out of two possesses domestic animals. This widespread repartition of domestic animals is due principally to the efforts made in that direction, in accordance