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The President wishes to thank Mr. and Mrs. Risi heartily for their generous hospitality, which was highly appreciated by all.

L. BOSSHARD,
President.

**SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF
NEW ZEALAND**

BALANCE SHEET

31st MARCH, 1956.

RECEIPTS		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance Carried Forward at 31/3/55					684	19	3
„ Cash in hand at 31/3/55					8	0	2
„ Subscriptions					102	17	7
„ Sale of Badges					1	0	0
„ Interest on Post Office Savings Bank Account					16	3	3
„ Cash Loan by E. Gilgen					2	12	11
EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Printing of "Helvetia"		97	8	0			
„ Postages of "Helvetia"		15	7	6			
„ Stationery			9	6			
„ Audit Fee		4	4	0			
„ P.O. Box Rental		1	5	0			
„ Income Tax, year 1955		1	17	8			
„ Social Security Charge, 1955		1	3	10			
„ Sundry Postages		2	2	7			
„ Cr. Balance, P.O. Savings Bank at 31/3/56		691	15	1			
		£815	13	2	£815	13	2

**APPEAL BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SWISS
SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND**

Now that the Society has been put on a new basis, which should give it a much wider appeal, I ask all members of the Society to do their utmost that all persons of Swiss origin join the Society. One of the foremost reasons to have the name and the rules of the Society changed was to open up means for the establishing of a society which embraces all Swiss which was not possible under the old rules. The old rules limited the scope of the Society to the support of needy Swiss, which in New Zealand are covered by Social Security benefits, while the social and cultural aspects were not specifically covered by the rules of the old Society. This has now been done without prejudicing the help for needy Swiss. The money saved for assistance to needy Swiss and in account up to the time of the changing of the rules, has been earmarked for this purpose.

From now on the Society will comprise also the social and cultural aspects and for this purpose will encourage the formation of local social circles of all members who belong to the parent Society. The parent Society will give a grant of sh1/-

per member to the local clubs. The exchange of Swiss newspapers and periodicals and books will be encouraged. The parent society as well as the social clubs in each district will welcome new settlers to New Zealand and help them to acclimatize here. One of the main drawbacks, complained of by many Swiss immigrants, has been their lack of contact with fellow citizens in New Zealand, particularly during the first few months after their arrival, which made them feel unhappy and in some cases even caused them to return to Switzerland. This making feel at home of new arrivals from Switzerland will be one of the Society's new tasks, and I appeal to all members to assist the Committee and the local clubs in the matter of offering hospitality to new arrivals.

The kind suggestion has been put forward by the Consul-General of Switzerland to loan out films of Switzerland to local groups which could be shown in conjunction with social functions. All interested should get in touch with the Consulate in Wellington directly.

The committee will always welcome suggestions by members to expand its activities and would thank them for submitting same to the secretary of the Society.

This issue of the Helvetia will be in larger numbers so that intending members of the Society can receive a copy if addresses of same are supplied to the secretary of the Society or the Swiss Consul-General.

L. BOSSHARD.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

COMMITTEE:

Patron: CONSUL-GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND
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