

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 19 (1956)
Heft: [2]

Rubrik: Notes from the secretary

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A Convention has been signed between the Swiss and Belgian Governments permitting Swiss citizens who have suffered war-damages in BELGIUM during the last war to receive certain compensations.

Swiss citizens to whom this is applicable are therefore invited to communicate with this Consulate at their earliest convenience. Claims which have not been received by the competent Belgian authorities before 1/7/56 will not be considered.

Consulate of Switzerland,
P.O. Box 386,
WELLINGTON.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

I would like to apologise to our members for the incorporation of the November-December numbers, which was due to heavy pressure of work at the Swiss Consulate, who kindly undertakes the editing of the "Helvetia." We hope that this can be avoided in future.

I happened to be able to go to the wonderful concert of our Swiss Trio Gamma, and the following is an article which appeared in the "N.Z. Herald" on Monday, February 13th, 1956:—

"SWISS FAMILY GAMMA'S MUSIC APPEALS"

"A family trio of young musicians entertained a small audience at the Lewis Eady Hall on Saturday night with a programme whose chief interest lay in its novelty. Hildegard, Richard and Toni Gamma, mostly in their late teens, played and sang their native Swiss music, with additions from the lighter familiar classics.

"All three play the accordion and each has a 'second string.' Hildegard is a musical and well-equipped pianist, Richard a violist and Toni, the youngest, has a tenor voice of promise that he uses well. Ringing the changes on these ensemble possibilities, they achieved variety amid music that ran rather too much to type and style.

Their talent is sound rather than spectacular; their interpretations are well coloured and there is a homely and ingenuous air about their performance that appeals, though it relies too much on a microphone often quite unnecessary. At its best this bright salon type of music, and especially one yodelling number, should earn a welcome for the Swiss Family Gamma.—L.C.M.S."

I am sorry to say that the audience was very, very poor. There are still a number of our compatriots with the nice idea of forming a Swiss Club here in Auckland, and yet if there is something like the Gamma Trio from home, practically none of our Swiss people are interested.

It has just come to my notice that the NIFELER Family, at present living in Dargaville, are looking for a 39 per cent. sharemilking job with a home. (There are five adults and one child in the family.) I know the Nifeler family personally and can thoroughly recommend them.

Anybody knowing of a suitable place in the Waikato or the Taranaki District, please contact me or the Nifeler family, Babilon Road, Dargaville.

E. GILGEN,
Hon. Secretary.

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for the Swiss Benevolent Society in New Zealand (Inc.).