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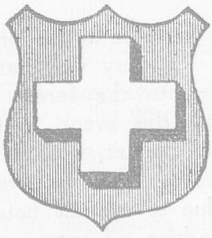
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# HELVETIA

Monthly Publication of the Swiss Society of New Zealand (Inc)

GROUP NEW ZEALAND OF THE NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

23rd Year

JUNE 1960

Hamilton

## Swiss Spotlight

By P. BEGUIN

### THE REPRESSION OF ESPIONAGE IN SWITZERLAND

TWO Soviet spies were arrested in Switzerland, very shortly after an American aircraft—on a reconnaissance flight—was shot down over Russia. Here and there, attempts have been made to build up a connection between these two incidents. It might be useful, therefore, to examine the situation more closely and to define what the attitude of the Swiss Confederation to espionage has always been.

The activities of spies, whatever they may be, are illegal activities. They are condemned by the laws of every country, and by laws which provide for very heavy sanctions. The fact remains, nevertheless, that all the countries of the world have intelligence services. In other words, they claim that they can do what they are determined to prevent others from doing in their own interests. This is one of those cases where reasons of State justify activities which elsewhere are considered illegal.

So long as there are nations attached to their independence possessing an instrument of national defence, these nations—if only in order to be up to date with their indispensable measures of precaution and security—will strive to obtain information on the armies of other countries, their strength, their material means, their technical modernity and the danger which they might represent, today or tomorrow. In order to know how best to defend oneself, one must know how one might be attacked. All this adds up finally to legitimate defence.

In the old days, espionage services were at work mainly during wars and during those periods when peace was in imminent danger. Today, these services are permanent. This is no doubt because today there are regimes where secrecy has been exalted into being the supreme principle of government, where free observation and free movement is impossible and where information, even of the simplest character, cannot be obtained except by surprise and by devious means. If totalitarianism, in all its forms, does not, of itself, explain the

existence of espionage, it nevertheless calls it forth, in the sense that totalitarianism cannot do without espionage.

These elementary truths should be borne in mind when attempting to define Switzerland's attitude to this question. Indeed, Switzerland is rigorously intolerant of all attempts at espionage, whether directed against her own national defence, or against the national defence of another country. In point of fact, Switzerland, which has no offensive military policy, which refuses to form any alliance, which does not threaten anyone, but is ready to defend herself autonomically, believes that there is no justification for any mistrust of her.

Another thing is that Switzerland does not want her territory to become a place where foreign agents can engage in espionage against other States. She wishes to remain free of all suspicion in this respect. And, she wishes this because of the fact that she is independent and neutral.

Such considerations dictate her uncompromising attitude towards espionage. It is such considerations, also, which prompt the authorities to unmask the spies, whatever the international circumstances, without troubling about any false interpretations which might be given to these measures. This attitude may sometimes prove inconvenient at the time, but, in the long run it is always found to have been right.

## NEWS OF THE COLONY

### SWISS SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A most lively Annual General Meeting took place on June 4th in Auckland. The Auckland Club, host of this year's event, had done everything possible to make the visitors welcome. There were delegates from the Wellington Club, Mr Bischof, Messrs John Steiner, Martin Steiner, Charles Schuler and Joe Dettling representing the Taranaki Society members, and Hamilton was represented by Messrs Joe Arnet, Ernst Studer and Jakob Von Holzen.

The most important motions carried were as follows:

- A. The annual subscription for *Helvetia* and Swiss Society membership fee remains the same as last year.
- B. The most debated and no doubt most important request from the Auckland Club for lending of part of the Society's funds for the purpose of a Building Fund was also carried by 50 votes to 43, including proxies. The motion carries the proviso that such funds must be sufficiently secured.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

W. Risi, *President*.  
F. Kaegi, *Vice-president*.  
A. Biland, *Secretary*.  
H. Oettli, *Treasurer*.

Club representatives confirmed are:

*Auckland*: F. Kaegi, Doris Payer, Joe Wildhaber.

*Hamilton*: Joe Arnet, E. Studer, J. Von Holzen.

*Wellington*: K. Bischof, H. Suter, F. Fluhler.

*Taranaki*: John Steiner, Martin Steiner, Charles Schuler,  
Joe Dettling.

*Press Committee*: W. Risi, A. Biland, E. Studer, H. Oettli.

### THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The past year was a year of further consolidation for the Society. Last year's decision to lower the Subscription for the *Helvetia* to 10/- reflected itself in the Balance Sheet, but in spite of this it showed a small surplus, due to an increase in numbers of *Helvetia* subscriptions, thus justifying the decision we took. However, I must continue to appeal for assistance because I feel that the *Helvetia* is the very link that holds us together. I commend the Wellington Club in their recent decision to follow Auckland and Hamilton in incorporating the *Helvetia* in their annual Subscription.

Fortunately the Benevolent Duties of the Society were not required to function, as we had no requests for assistance in the past year. However, at one stage it looked that it might have to, but the black cloud disappeared again.

Nevertheless, we never know and we have to be prepared.

In the Social field Steinstossen was very well patronised and a lot of excellent talent came to the fore. It was obvious that the purpose in staging this event, to develop physical fitness by training, is bearing fruit, because it was remarkable that in lots of cases the smaller man was on equal terms with his bigger opponent, due to exercise before the event. I wish, at this stage, to advise all young men to continue training throughout the year and then come up for the next event. The Society also wishes to arrange a similar contest in another old sport—Shooting. I hope that it will be equally well received and patronised.

During the past year our beloved Consul-General, Mr Aubaret, and Mrs Aubaret, left us to take up higher office in Indonesia. As much as we liked to see them climbing higher on the social ladder, we regretted losing them. To the new Consul-General, Mr Rossetti, and Mrs Rossetti, we extend our most hearty welcome and I am sure that they too will find New Zealand and the New Zealand Swiss a small Switzerland away from home.

Again we have lost some very dear members through death, one of them an honorary life member of the Society. To all relatives I humbly offer the sympathy of members present at this meeting.

To the Secretary and Treasurer, to the Committee and to the Clubs' delegates, I wish to express my sincerest thanks for their loyal support. All have made personal sacrifices for the common good; may this not be in vain, but further the unity amongst the Swiss people and lead to a united folk of Brethren.

WALTER RISI.

### SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

#### Receipts & Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31/3/60

RECEIPTS			EXPENDITURE		
By Subscriptions	160	3 0	To Printing of "Helvetia"	100	19 0
" Donation	15	0 0	" Postage of "Helvetia"	31	11 2
" Advertisements	9	17 0	" Office Expenses:		
" Exchange received	12	6	Addresser, Staples, Cards	£28	19 7
" Interest	24	3 5	Paper, Fees, Exchange	4	3 3
			Stamps	1	15 0
				34	17 10
			" General Expenses:		
			Subscription to "Eche"	1	19 0
			Audit Fee	3	3 0
			Various	2	4 6
			Loan	1	8
				7	8 2
			" Income Tax & Social Security	4	12 6
			Income over Expenditure	30	7 3
	£209	15 11		£209	15 11

#### Balance Sheet as at 31/3/60

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Accumulated Funds	812 4 8	Cash on Hand	3 17 7
		P.O. Savings Bank	95 1 5
		P.O. Investment	600 0 0
		A.N.Z. Bank	50 7 4
		Consulate of Switzerland	21 8 4
		Debtors	41 10 0
	£812 4 8		£812 4 8

April 21st, 1960.

HANS OETTLI,  
Treasurer.



**AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB**

The monthly meeting of the Auckland Swiss Club was held at the Y.W.C.A. on Tuesday, May 3rd. It was with pleasure that those present viewed the very interesting films taken by Mr Louis Mueller on a recent trip to Switzerland.

Our journey on films took us firstly to Sydney, and next to the beautiful tropical scenery of South Sea Island and still later through the Panama Canal on to England. Finally came various scenic views of Switzerland. For many, perhaps, it brought back memories and even a small amount of home sickness.

Many thanks to Mr Mueller for providing a good evening's entertainment; we extend our gratitude also to our ever-able musicians, Messrs Alf Meier and Charly Rickenbach, who once again gave us music of a very high quality.

**HAMILTON SWISS CLUB**

A most enjoyable evening was held in the Riverlea on Sunday, June 5th. The hall was packed—well over 120 members attending. Visitors from Taranaki were John Steiner, Joe Dettling, Martin Steiner and Charly Schuler.

**SWISS RADIO PROGRAMMES**

**Wavelengths:** 21520 kc, 13.94m; 15315 kc, 19.59m; 11865 kc, 25.28m.

**Sundays:** 7.15 G.M.T., Disc of the Day; 7.20 Home News; 7.25, Geneva Observer (Bernard Beguin); 7.30, Sunday Concert; 7.50, Bells of Switzerland: In His Name; 8.00, Swiss Sunday Special.

**Mondays:** 7.15 G.M.T., Disc of the Day; 7.20 Home News; 7.25, Sports Roundup; 7.30, Press Review; 7.35, Polka Time; 7.45, On The Spot: Actuality Programme; 8.00, or the Swiss abroad: Soiree romande.

**Tuesdays:** 7.15 G.M.T., Disc of the Day; 7.20, Home News; 7.25, Press Review; 7.30, The Week at Home; 7.35, Accordeon Airs; 7.45, DX-Corner (Bernhard Leemann); 8.00, On the Lighter Side; 8.25, Topic for Tuesday; 8.30, Swiss Composers and Music.

**Wednesdays:** 7.15 G.M.T., Disc of the Day; 7.20, Home News; 7.25, Foreign Affairs; 7.30, Labour Problems; 7.35, Jazz Panorama; 8.00, For the Swiss abroad: Serata ticinese.

**Thursdays:** 7.15 G.M.T., Disc of the Day; 7.20, Home News; 7.25, Foreign Affairs; 7.30, Press Review; 7.35, Song and Dance; 7.50, Close-up; 8.00, Swiss Concert Hall.

**Fridays:** 7.15 G.M.T., Disc of the Day; 7.20, Home News; 7.25, Foreign Affairs; 7.30, Swiss Spotlight; 7.35, Swiss Musical Sketch Book; 8.00, For the Swiss abroad: Schwizerdutsche Heimatabe.

**Saturdays:** 7.15 G.M.T., Disc of the Day; 7.20, Home News; 7.25, Foreign Survey (Rene Payot); 7.30 Facts and Figures; 7.35, Rendez-vous in Geneva with Louis Rey; 7.50, Youth Magazine (Bernhard Leemann); 8.00, Melody Train (SBC's Request Programme and Hit Parade).

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS****AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB****SINGING & DANCING EVENING**

to be held at

Hall of the Professional Men's Club  
12 Kitchener Street, City

on

Saturday, July 2nd, at 8 p.m.

This is to revive some of our old songs, and to introduce some simple folk dancing. The evening will be very interesting for children as well as for older members of the Club.

**SKIING WEEKEND AT RUAPEHU**

Unfortunately the Skiing Weekend had to be cancelled due to bad snow conditions. We will do our best to organise another Club Skiing Weekend later on in the winter.

**HAMILTON SWISS CLUB**

Our next evening will be held in the Riverlea on the first Sunday in July (3rd). The full Dutch orchestra will again play for you. Please remember the date of our National Day Celebration—1st Sunday in August—in the Riverlea. Full programme in next month's *Helvetia*.

**WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB**

The committee reminds all that their annual membership fee is overdue. It has been decided at our annual General Meeting to raise the fee to 20/- per member and year. The Club on the other hand will see that each member will receive the *Helvetia* (only one copy per couple or household). All members who have not yet paid their fee are looked upon as being non-members. It is therefore important that you pay your fee before or at least at the next meeting.

*There is no difficulty in paying your fee—it is only a question of whether you want to or not!*

*Treasurer is:* Mr H. Suter, 157 Coutts St., Wellington.

Will members please reserve Saturday, July 30th, 1960, as on this day the Club will hold its National Day function. We will have the pleasure to entertain you with a real Maori concert party, giving items which should interest all. Please bring along many friends. The programme will be outstanding—as will be the dinner. Mark it down on your notebook: July 30th.

**NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND****SWITZERLAND'S LONGEST ROAD VIADUCT**

A new by-pass, 7360 feet in length, has just been inaugurated in the Canton of Neuchatel for the purpose of diverting the transit traffic between Yverdon and Neuchatel from the small town of Boudry. This new road comprises a viaduct which is 1340 feet in length and is thus the longest in Switzerland. This work of art is 34.5 feet in width and has cost more than 602,000 U.S.A. dollars.