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In our days, in our eyes, the Swiss flag is something still more. It is the dazzling symbol of national unity, a unity realised in spite of the greatest obstacles, in spite of the diversity of races, of languages, of religion, upon the basis of democracy by the conscious will of populations animated by the same ideal.

From this flag of a little nation born of the spontaneous union of twenty-two Republics, there sprang into life the neutralised international flag which extends its protecting folds over the work of the Red Cross. The plenipotentiaries of thirty-five States who gathered on July 6th, 1906, for the revision of the Geneva Convention wished to state it in these terms: "In homage to Switzerland the heraldic sign of the Red Cross upon a white ground, formed by inversion of the Federal colours, is now maintained as a distinctive emblem of sanatory service in armies."

This nation, ancient by reason of its history, is modern in its aspirations.

Its flag is resplendent as the banner of the victors of Morgarten, first victory of liberty in the Middle Ages. One might say that this flag symbolises the whole national life of our people: their thirst for independence, their ideal of justice and Christian brotherhood; their "raison d'être" in Europe. When it passes at the head of our battalions everyone must take off his hat to it. It is six centuries of liberty passing by.



CHEESE SALAD

This is most popular with Swiss males, when served with white wine (dry) or beer.

1lb Guyere cheese. Cut this up into fine slivers. Make a savoury dressing out of the following ingredients: 1 tablespoon mustard (don't use the mustard powder as it is too strong, but either French's or tube mustard), 1 raw egg, finely cut up onions and garlic to taste, salt, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lemons (juice of), a little paprika or cayenne pepper, caraway seed (Kuemmel). Mix these ingredients and blend well. Pour over cheese and let draw for an hour or two before serving.

—H.B.

Are you one of the many Swiss, who often, with a sigh, recall superb cooking, accompanied by the right wine? Would you like to experience again the hospitality towards their guests for which the Swiss hoteliers are famous? Or perhaps you have been born here and would like to find out the difference between a N.Z. and a Swiss run hotel and restaurant? Go to Gisborne to the Chalet Rendezvous or to one of their four motel flats at the back of the Chalet for your next holiday treat. The Chalet takes in a few guests and the motels sleep six each in perfect comfort; every electrical convenience is there for you. You can have your meals in the Chalet, cooked by a Swiss chef. For your enjoyment there is the perfect beach across the road and inside the Chalet a bit of true Switzerland, created for you by the proprietors, Mr and Mrs C. Kankhauser.

—H.B.

HELVETIA

NEWS OF THE COLONY

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

Obituary

MR ROBERT BUCHMANN

It is with deep sorrow that we have to record the passing away of one of Auckland's oldest members of the Swiss community, Mr R. Buchmann. Unfortunately very little is known regarding Mr Buchmann's early life, but it is believed he originally hailed from Thalwill, Canton Zurich, and came to New Zealand about the end of 1913. Later he farmed in the Tahuna, Morrinsville district, but owing to ill health later in life Mr Buchmann had to always walk with the aid of a stick.

Nevertheless this did not deter him, and he was always very plucky and radiated an inner warmth and friendliness to all he knew and came in contact with. *Rest in Peace.* —D.P.

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

Still on hand — A few 1960 ALPINE CALENDARS to clear at reduced price of 7/6.

Contact:

J. Von Holzen, treasurer
or
Arnold Biland, president.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

Our 1st of August celebrations will be held on Saturday evening, August 6th, in the Ellerton Hall, Ellerton Road, Mt. Eden, commencing at approximately 7 p.m.

The club will be very pleased, and honoured on this day, to welcome among us our new Consular General, Dr Rossetti, and Mrs Rossetti. Members and guests and all friends of Swiss are invited to come along and help share in this Swiss National Day. Please bring along the children, as there has been something specially arranged for them also.

A good supper and entertainment are assured.

TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

The 1960 1st August celebration will be held in the Kapuni Memorial Hall on Monday, 1st August, at 8 p.m. Please wear your Swiss costume. Cards and Swiss music.

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

Our National Day celebration will be held in the Riverlea on Sunday, August 7th, at 8 p.m. All Swiss and their descendants are cordially invited. Dr Rossetti, our new Consul General, and Mrs Rossetti, will honour us with their presence.

An extra special supper and Swiss items have been arranged. Please wear your national costume. Come along and make this a real Swiss evening.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

A grand Social will take place on the 30th July, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Community Hall, Brooklin, to celebrate 1st of August.

The committee has spared no effort to make this evening a memorable one. To begin with we will serve a full meal, consisting of a real Bernerplatte and all that goes with it. After this fine start a programme of great interest will follow, showing significant events in Swiss history and the history of Swiss abroad. With a dance to follow this evening will probably finish fairly late.

All Swiss, whether members of the club or not, are cordially invited and will receive a written invitation. On this occasion of our National Day we feel that all the Swiss of Wellington and surrounding districts should be united and spend one evening together.

Entry fee for members is 6/- and non-members 12/-; children under 16 free. Please remember that unless you have paid your annual subscription of £1, or pay it at this function, you will be considered a non-member. —K.B.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

SWISS ACHIEVEMENT IN THE HIMALAYAS

A Swiss expedition has just conquered the summit, inviolate until now, of the Dhaulagiri, the second highest peak in the world (27,000ft). On this occasion, it is only right to mention the services rendered to the expedition by the Swiss aircraft "Pilatus Porter," which, prior to the accident which made it useless, carried out all the transport for the expedition in a remarkable manner. In effect, this aircraft, which had been christened "Yeti," succeeded in accomplishing 25 landings at an altitude of 15,800 feet, on the Tambush Col, and 18 landings on the North-East Col, at an altitude of 17,400 feet, thus, not only establishing a record for landings at high altitude, but also rendering appreciable services as a means of transport, of liaison and of reconnaissance.

FIRST JET OF THE SWISS AIR FLEET

The Swiss national airline company, "Swissair," has just taken delivery, in California, of a Douglas DC-8 aircraft, which will be the first jet plane to be put into service in the Swiss commercial air fleet. The new jet aircraft arrived at Kloten-Zurich after having accomplished the flight between New York and Zurich in 7 hours and 26 minutes.

100,000TH TELEVISION LISTENER

The one hundred thousandth television licence holder has just been registered in Switzerland! This is an advance of 21 months on the estimates made three years ago in respect of the development of television. The first licence for TV was issued in September, 1952; in December, 1958, there were 50,000 licence holders, a figure which has now doubled in less than a year and a half.

Have You joined the Solidarity Fund?

If not . . .

please contact the Secretary or Swiss Consulate in Wellington for details.

CORRESPONDENCE!

Please address to the Secretary:

MR. A. BILAND,

R.D. 8

—::—

Frankton Junction

All Subscriptions to the Treasurer:

Mr. Hans Oettli, P.O., Whatawhata

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