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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

For its October social evening the Auckland Swiss Club plans an informal dance evening. A modern band has been hired for the occasion, and we hope this will be a bumper evening, so come along, one and all, and enjoy yourselves.

By the way ladies a competition has also been arranged. For the best baked Chaeskueche, and Oepfelkueche, a substantial money prize is being offered for first and second places, and in addition for all those ladies contributing a reduced entrance fee will be made.

Sorry! Nearly forgot to mention the date, time and place. This will be October 1st, Saturday evening at 8 p.m., and as usual at the Professional Hall, 12 Kitchener Street, City. (Further details later).

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

A full length Swiss film will be shown on Sunday the 18th September, in the Tauwhare Hall, at 8 p.m. Everybody welcome. Ladies please bring a plate.

Our next monthly evening will be held as usual on the first Sunday in October in the Riverlea.

A married Swiss farmer, no children, wishes to emigrate to New Zealand. He would be most grateful for temporary accommodation and would accept any sort of employment. Please contact secretary. —A.B.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

"Chilbi-Evening" — Our next Social Evening will be held at the Brooklyn Community Hall on October 1st at 6 p.m. Come along and have a lot of fun! A buffet-bar will serve hot and cold specialties all evening and if you want a rest from shooting, there will be music for dancing.

ENGADINER SCHNITZEL

Per person, 2 sliced pieces of veal, add one slice of ham and one thin slice of cheese. Season lightly the veal. Stack all four pieces (leave the veal on the outside) and pin with toothpicks. Dip in milk, turn in flour, egg and bread crumbs. Fry in medium heat on both sides. —L.O.

Check your Address!

IF your address, as it appears on the Helvetia, is not correct, please fill in this form below and send to the Secretary, Mr. A. Biland, R.D.8, Frankton.

Mrs., Miss, Mr.

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.....

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

A NEW HOTEL IN BERNE

After two years of building the new structure of the hotel "Baren" facing the Federal Palace in Berne has been completed. The name of the hotel is derived from Berne's heraldic symbol, the Bear. The proprietors, the Marbach family, went into business when the Baren was a small inn. Now the generation has moved into the new 8½ storey city hotel which can accommodate some 100 guests. The rooms are very modern, all with bath or shower, as well as radio and partly television. The original frescoes dating from 1888 have been incorporated in the wall decorations of the "Barenstube" specialty restaurant.

LABOUR SHORTAGE CONTINUES IN SWITZERLAND

The generalised and considerable penury of labour continues to affect the Swiss Labour market. The offer of labour, already very inconsiderable, has grown still smaller, whereas the demand for manpower continues to be very big, in spite of the advanced season. At the end of July the Labour Exchanges had only 297 fully unemployed entered in their books, as against 400 at the end of June, and 760 in July, 1959.

INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL FIRMS

The number of Swiss business undertakings which come under the Federal Law on Factories attained of 12,607, at the end of June, 1960; this represents an increase of 188 factories within the space of twelve months. The biggest increases are in respect of the branches specialising in machinery, apparatuses and instrument, clothing, wood-working, printing, watch-making and jewellery.

SWISS CHEESE PRODUCTION REACHES NEW HIGH

During the course of the summer of 1959, the production of Swiss cheese attained a record figure, namely 3595 trucks of ten metrical tons each, that is to say 110 more trucks than in the summer of 1958, and 27 more than in the summer of 1957. Such results had no longer been obtained for twenty years. Emmenthal cheese headed the list with 2462 trucks, followed by Gruyere cheese (725 trucks), Tilsit (274 trucks) and Sbrinz (131 trucks).

SWISS CHOCOLATE

A Swiss constructor has just perfected a rational method by which the manufacture of milk chocolate can be accelerated by the use of ultrasonics. The apparatus in question—which renders superfluous the use of rolling-mills and grinding couches — makes it possible to carry out in about three hours' time, the work, which was performed in accordance with classical methods, takes several days. The hourly output can attain one-and-a-half metric tons.

FOREIGN CAPITAL POURS INTO SWITZERLAND

A conference was held recently by the General Direction of the Swiss Bank, the principal banks and banking associations, on the subject of the evolution that has taken place in Switzerland in the monetary situation, and in that of the Money and Capital Markets, as a result of the big influx of currency from abroad which has occurred during these last few weeks. Considering the dangers which these new forces of expansion of a monetary origin might have on the future development of the prevailing prosperity in Switzerland, the Swiss National Bank suggested to the banking establishments that an agreement should be concluded immediately which would tend to check the influx of foreign funds and to reduce the sum total of these assets. The banks and the banking associations represented at this conference declared their readiness to adhere to such an agreement. The agreement in question will be abrogated as soon as circumstances permit.

THE "OLMA" EXHIBITION 1960

The Swiss Fair for Agriculture and Dairy Produce, known as the "Olma," is to be held, as usual, in St. Gall, from the 13th to the 23rd October next. In order to celebrate the total elimination of bovine tuberculosis in Switzerland, 160 animals belonging to all the various breeds of cattle in Switzerland, will be on show at the "Olma," next autumn.

125 YEARS STEAMSHIP TRAFFIC ON LAKE THUN

On the last day of the month of July, 1835, a pinewood-heated paddle-steamer baptised "Bellvue"—a very popular name in the Swiss hotel industry—undertook its maiden voyage from Thun to Neuhaus near Interlaken. During the summer of that and the next few years it made the voyage three times a day; the running-time for the 13 mile trip was then 75 minutes. Peculiarities of the olden-time voyages included free passages for the poor depending on the captain's humane mood and musical entertainment like waltzes and marches provided by a ship-organ. Today the Lake Thun fleet consists of 11 units with a passenger capacity of 6115 people. Only three steamboats, of which the oldest, the "Beatus," dates back to 1871, remain.

SWISS COUTURIER AT IRANIAN COURT

In 1950, the proprietress of the Nino Fashion House, in Teheran, went to Paris in order to seek for a first-class colleague, in view of all the preparations for the marriage of the Shah of Iran. It was there that she met the Swiss couturier Mr Pierre Krattiger, whom she engaged for a period of several months. However, 10 years have now elapsed since then, and Mr Krattiger is still in Teheran, which he has made into the centre of fashion for the Middle East, and, at the same time, has become the official court couturier, in Iran. Monsieur Pierre, as he is generally called, has a staff of 30 persons working under his direction. It goes without saying that he had an enormous amount of work on the occasion of the new marriage of the Shah of Iran. In short, Mr Pierre is a great credit to Switzerland, whose textile and clothing industry enjoys a world reputation for high quality.

PARADOX OF SWISS NATIONAL ECONOMY

In spite of the fact that she is deprived of all direct access to the sea, Switzerland possesses an important plant which specialises in the manufacture of marine Diesel engines. A large number of ships now sailing the high seas are equipped with engines that were built in Switzerland, or—this under licence—in other countries. Thus, for example, the 12 ships ordered by the Philippine Government to be built in the Japanese shipyards, will be equipped with Swiss diesel engines of 11,700 h.p.

CORRESPONDENCE !

Please address to the Secretary:

MR. A. BILAND,

R.D. 8

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