

News from Switzerland

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Obituary

PETER GUBLER

From America comes the sad news of the passing away of Peter Gubler, who was on his way to Los Angeles when he died suddenly of a brain hemorrhage.

For all of us this is one of those happenings which we find difficult to reconcile ourself with, especially as we knew Peter as a healthy, vigorous young man. It is also difficult to write within the space of an obituary all what one would like to about a person who earned for himself a special place in the hearts of his compatriots and the respect and confidence of his employers. Was it that Peter had a friendly smile for everybody and never indulged in gossip that made him our friend and the trusted employee of the South Auckland Herd Improvement Association, for whom he worked for the last two years? In any case, when he did a job he did it well, according to good old Swiss custom, and if he couldn't do some good for everybody he wouldn't do or wish them otherwise.

Peter was a member of the Auckland and Hamilton Swiss Clubs. He was treasurer for the Auckland Club while he lived there. He was a regular attendant of our Club functions and we will miss him now, more so as we still hoped that he would some day return to this fair country.

To his relatives in Switzerland and Los Angeles I wish to convey the deepest sympathies of the members of both Clubs, who are mourning the passing of a friend.

—W.R.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

The next evening will be held on **Monday, 4th September**, in the Riverlea, at 8 p.m. The Dutch Orchestra will be here as usual. Bring your partners.

Photos, taken at the August Celebrations in the Riverlea can be viewed and ordered at this evening or later from the photo studio, 40 Ward Street, Hamilton.

● RECIPE

TESSINER BROTH

1 cup milk, 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, 1 pinch salt, junice and grated rind of one lemon, 1 cup currants, 1 cup sultanas, 1 cup mixed peel (finely chopped) 1cup hazel nut kernels or peanuts, 1 tablespoon baking powder, sufficient flour to make a stiff dough.

Mix all ingredients, shape two loaves on floured board and place on tray, brush over with water and bake for 1 of an hour in medium oven. Leave for one week before using. Cut into as thin slices as possible and butter them slightly when serving.

This loaf keeps for about two months. —R.B.

NEWS FROM THE CONSULATE

A Letter from the Wellington Technical College to the Swiss Consulate in Wellington

Dear Sir,

As you know this College has for many years conducted classes in English for new settlers. The expectation was that this work would dwindle but in actual fact we have almost as many classes today as we did soon after World War II. Nevertheless there must be many immigrants from your country who are having language difficulties and finding that the day to day contact with New Zealanders is not sufficient to make them proficient in written or spoken English.

Would you, therefore, on our behalf, let any such people know that on Monday evenings from 7.25 to 9.25 p.m. we have graded classes in written English especially for them, and that on Wednesday evenings at the same time trained teachers, all of whom have now had long experience with new settlers' problems, to take the classes in oral English. Some of them use the tape recorder and others have simpler techniques, but all can claim to have given a great deal of assistance to new settlers. Many of those who came to us could speak very little English but now are able to tackle N.Z. examinations in many fields of knowledge because their communication English was improved by their attendance and work in class.

This educational service is practically free, the only charge being 11/- registration fee for any particular year.

I would be very glad to give you more information about these classes if you wish to have it.

Yours faithfully,

Sig.) DONALD PRIESTLEY,
Director.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

SKYSCRAPING CITY IN THE LAKE?

An artificial island of some 800,000 square yards is to be made in Zurich, a city lying at the same time on and in a lake, according to a fantastic project of the Swiss architect, Andre E. Bosshard. The new centre of the city where offices for some 50,000 people and parking lots for 17,000 cars would be available, is to consist of three sections, namely a cultural centre with theatres, entertainment places and spacious public gardens facing the historic "Old Town" on both banks of the Limmat River, a business and shopping district with two rows of slender skyscrapers and shop-lined plazas, and a hotel town for 5000 guests which would be occupying the scenic southern part of the island affording a panoramic view of the lake and distant mountain ranges. A four-mile lakeside promenade

would girdle the island on which pedestrians are to move freely and without any perils from street traffic. The transportation problem, in fact, would be solved by confining all road and rail traffic to two underground levels which would be linked to the expressway and inter-city road network in the Zurich area.

GROWTH OF GENEVA-COINTRIN AIRPORT

A new 2½ mile long runway for modern jet liners has just been inaugurated at Geneva-Cointrin airport. In this connection it is interesting to remember that Geneva-Cointrin airport was opened in the autumn of 1920, at which time it boasted only one grass landing strip. In 1937, a 1300 foot runway was added; in 1946, a 6500 foot runway allowed the biggest planes of the day to land. A new airport building was opened in 1949, but the density of the traffic at this international airport made it necessary to plan another new building, work on which will start this autumn.

SWITZERLAND'S ROAD SYSTEM

The network of strategic roads constructed by the Romans fell into decay in the Middle Ages. Only in the last century and during the first decades of the present one, Switzerland acquired a system of main and secondary roads adequate to the density of population and the intensive agriculture. But with a few exceptions, modern motor roads connecting the main population centres were lacking. Still, it has to be said that Switzerland's secondary and connecting roads were developed to a degree often envied by her neighbours. The central arteries, however, which so far have been missing, can only be created by the construction of federal highways. This new network of roads is to include, by 1980, a total of 1045 miles of federal highways of the first, second and third class (about one third each, according to present estimates) and about 38 miles of urban motorways, requiring 5928 acres of cultivated land, 740 acres of forest country and 740 acres of unproductive land. The costs of this project, which is to be realised by two main steps, are estimated today at 4 billion Swiss francs, most of which will be covered by federal revenue from customs duties on gasoline imports.

The planned network of federal highways, in some spots already under construction, is to consist of twelve single routes; most important are the connections Geneva-Lausanne-Chur-San Bernardino, Zurich-Cucerne, Lausanne-Valais and the "Jurafusslinie" following the foot of the Jura mountains. At Geneva, Vallorbe, Basel, Schaffhausen, St. Margrethen, Chiasso and Sempione these routes join the European network of super-highways, thus securing the direct connection with Switzerland's neighbours and her position as an important transit country.

SWISS MINIATURE CAMERA

Everbody nowadays has his camera, but how often does he have it with him when he really needs it? Just when he has the opportunity of taking that sensational photograph? In order to make good this deficiency, the Swiss precision industry has just launched a miniature camera of an entirely new conception. It is a reflex type camera, the size of an ordinary packet of cigarettes. It has two lenses, one for photographing, the other for sighting on the ground glass screen, and uses ordinary 35 mm. film, widthwise, that is to say measuring 12 by 21 mm. Owing to its small size, the "Tessina" camera can easily be carried with one wherever one goes, in a pocket or handbag so that it is always handy for that unexpected shot, especially as the film moves forward automatically under the effect of a spring, which has to be wound only once for every five photographs. Among the interesting accessories available with this new camera, which takes 23 black and white photographs on a reel or 18 colour photographs, let us just mention a strap for attaching the camera to the wrist, like a watch, an advantage particularly appreciated by climbers, skiers, riders, etc.

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