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of years, and only recently he assumed the post of Rifle Master of the Swiss Society. I extend my very best wishes to him in his new function.

Max Corti,
Ambassador.

Forthcoming Events

Auckland Swiss Club

Swiss Evening: to be held at Sheraton Lodge, 33 Mt. Eden Rd., Auckland, on Saturday, 2nd May, 1970, at 8 p.m. Fabulous Supper, Folklore Show, Liquid Refreshment (incl. Champagne). Price, \$12 Double. Dress informal. Tickets can be obtained from Mr H. Fitzi, 12 Darwin Lane, Remuera, Auckland 5, and Mr E. Fluhler, Swiss Chalet, Hamilton. —E.G.

Annual General Meeting — Auckland Swiss Club — will be held on 4th April at 8 p.m. at the Blockhouse Bay Improvement Hall.

Hamilton Swiss Club

The Club's **Annual General Meeting** will be held on Saturday, 11th April at 9 p.m. at the Swiss Chalet. Free supper. All members are welcome.

Christchurch Swiss Club

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Club will be held in the Hard of Hearing Hall, Victoria Street, on Wednesday, 8th April, 1970 at 8 p.m. **sharp.** Do make an effort to come as without **your** support the Club will not develop. —J.F.

HEDY'S CORNER:

Lucerne, 10th February 1970 (UPI).—Sixty-two per cent of all Swiss women between the ages of 15 and 54 desire franchise and voting rights. Only 31% are against it and the remaining 7% have not yet voiced an opinion.

This is the result of a representative enquiry of the Lucerne Institute of Commerce (Marktforschungsinstitut) Scope AG, which was published last Tuesday (10th February). Altogether 1039 women and girls were interrogated.

The Commerce Institute is of the opinion that its scientifically-set up questionnaire corresponded exactly with the social structure

of the Swiss population, namely of the concerned sex and age group.

In German Switzerland the majority for franchise and voting rights was 54%, relatively marginal only. In comparison the French Swiss women were for their political rights with an overwhelming majority of 83%, against 9%.

The situation at the end of January 1970 was as follows: Seven cantons have accepted women's Cantonal and Communal voting rights, namely: Waadt and Neuenburg (1959), Geneva (1960), Basel - City (1966), Basel - Country (only cantonal, 1968), Tessin (1969) and Freiburg (1969).

—Tagesanzeiger.

News from Switzerland

NUMISMATIC RARITIES AT FRIBOURG

Visitors to the beautiful old city of Fribourg who also pay a visit to its Museum of Art and History will find a most impressive collection of works of art and antiquities in the more than twenty exhibition rooms of the three main floors of the old patrician home "Hotel Ratze" dating back to the 16th century.

The newly rebuilt coin room is on the building's highest floor. Numismatic fans can admire coins struck in Fribourg in an unusual collection of great artistic beauty. In addition to coins of the historic state there are also remarkable cantonal coins of the first half of the 19th century issued prior to the federal mint (after 1850). Further groups in the collection consist of excavated coins dating back to ancient times and the middle ages (first of all from Pontalban, Sevaz, Aumont, Ueberstorf), of ancient Roman coins of all kinds as well as of cantonal and federal coins and foreign ones.

A NEW HINGED HOSPITAL BED

Specialising in the production of furniture for hospitals, a Swiss inventor has produced a new anatomic bed for patients. Hinged at four points, it ensures maximum comfort and allows the patient, by means of a special easily operated electrical control cable, to find the most comfortable position for himself. The patient can thus easily put himself to bed or get up, which greatly simplifies the work of the nursing staff.

Presented at the 18th International Inventors Exhibition in Brussels, this invention won a gold medal, as well as a special medal, awarded by the Burgomaster of the town. Specialists, meeting at the 3rd National Congress of Public Hospitalisation in Paris, called attention to the interest of this novelty. (osec)