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Auslandschweizerkommission, the Riflemaster of the Society, two delegates representing single members of the Society.

—Moved by A. Tresch; seconded by K. E. Bischof.

#### [Existing Rule 5a. Management

The Committee of the Society consists of five or more members, namely of a President, A Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and one or more District Executive Members as decided by the Annual General Meeting. The official Swiss Representative in New Zealand shall be Patron and adviser of the Society.]

Swiss Ties.

Election of Officers.

General Business.

Venue for next A.G.M.

The Committee hopes that a large number of Members from all corners of New Zealand will attend this meeting of their Society. We wish to point out that the Proxi Voting enables each member to vote if so desired.

## Forthcoming Events

### Hamilton Swiss Club

**Card Evenings:** Eureka Hall, Saturday, 25th April, and Saturday, 9th May — at 8 p.m.

### HEDY'S CORNER . . .

Right now there is a lot of work to do in our "Pflanz plätz". The summer vegetables are nearly all gone and we are getting ready for the winter and also we can plan for the next spring. A vegetable that has an appeal to all Swiss and people from Central Europe is the Käpen, or Kiefelerbsen. Here is some data on this tasty vegetable.—

**Sowing:** Late August-September-November.

**Distance:** 40-50 cm in rows for dwarf varieties and 90-100 cm for the taller ones.

**Manure:** Soil rich in organic matter and add a well-balanced manure, 2 to 3 oz. to the square yard or 30-50 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

**Production:** 80-160 kg/100 m<sup>2</sup>, this after the usual 65-80 days of culture.

**Note:** Half high and high varieties should be cultivated on supports (wires, trellis, etc.).

The following are some of the best varieties available in Switzerland today.—

**Norli:** Very early, 60 cm high, excellent for refrigeration.

**Swiss Dwarf:** Novelty, very early, near 50 cm high, soft pods.

**Nordland:** Another variety, this is the earliest of all; extra big pods and very soft. Height, 150 cm.

**Golden König:** The pods of this variety are approx. 14 cm long and 3½ cm wide; when ripe the pods are golden yellow and sweet as sugar.

**Swiss Giant:** Special hybrid, with big, long and soft fleshy pods. Very prolific on healthy plants, the pods are up to 15-20 cm long and very wide. Height, 180 cm (85 days to maturity).

For further information concerning these varieties and any of the Continental-known vegetables write to: Samen Mauser, Rathausbrücke, Postfach 8022, Zurich, Switzerland.

Seeds can be obtained from friends or relatives in Switzerland as well, and at arrival checked by the Custom authorities. There is only a small duty-free formality to perform when seeds are coming into this country. One should, before making purchases, make inquiries with your local Department of Agriculture. The people in these offices are only too keen to help anyone who is in need of information.

## News from Switzerland

### SPACE AGE MINSTRELS

The Bernese song is an institution comparable to the Föhn, an Alpine wind, or the Kornhauskeller, a traditional restaurant in the basement of the old granary. At its inception some fifteen years ago there was Mani Matter, then a high school student, now a well-to-do-lawyer and family man. His first song dealt with an earthworm. Mani Matter strummed on a guitar while singing his songs. Bernhard Stirnemann, Fritz Wiedmer and Ruedi Krebs were his first disciples. Hugo Ramseyer took them to the "Theater am Zytglogge", the "Theatre at the Clock Tower", Berne's oldest basement theatre where in no time they conquered the heart of the basement audience with song programmes of the Bernese teachers' cabaret "Schifertafele" ("Blackboard"). The press was enthusiastic and at that time coined the name "Bernese Minstrels", today so well known in Switzerland's federal capital.

The original minstrels have it made. The gas metre reader and the streetcar driver whistle their tunes. Each of the minstrels has cut several records. In the meantime — and that is very nice —