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# TRADITION

*Tradition is something which has been handed down to the young over a period of several generations, and it is quite rigidly adhered to.*

*We have to recognise country traditions and family traditions. For a young Swiss, country traditions require him to do things well at all times and give service in the best of his ability to any task he performs, irrespective whether he is paid for it or not.*

*Family tradition is something much closer at home and it can vary in rigidity from family to family. In most families the father gives a good example and leaves it to the mother to tell the youngsters that a son or daughter of that name is required not to do this or that and to live a life that nobody has to be ashamed of. Even in this age of permissiveness these family ties are having a steadying influence on most of our young folk, making them think and, in a lot of cases, the youngsters are better than the elders give them credit for.*

*As it is expected, traditions vary from country to country. The Chinese have the reputation that their family ties are stronger than any of the Western civilisation, revering their elders very much indeed; whereas the Eskimos, perhaps governed by the rigours of the north, lead their elders outside the shelter into the icy winter wind to let them freeze to death. Quite a contrast.*

*Most countries adopt a symbol to put on their manufactured goods. Switzerland, about 60 years ago, adopted the Crossbow as their symbol for the whole world to know that it was Swiss made. New Zealand followed suit some time later, but it now adopts the Kiwi as its symbol. As we have adopted New Zealand as the country we want to live in, let's give the Kiwi the same attention and earnestness as we would give to the Crossbow.*

W.R.