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Your Corner...

With the strawberry season upon us once again, here's a yummy dessert to try. It is quick to prepare and will be enjoyed on a warm summer's evening.

Strawberry Liqueur Crunch Sundaes

In tall parfait glasses, layer sliced ripe strawberries, softly whipped cream, strawberry or rich vanilla ice cream, a splash of liqueur (Drambuie, Cointreau or your favourite). Add broken up meringues. Garnish with a perfect strawberry and fresh mint sprigs.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★ ★ CHILDREN'S ★ ★ CHRISTMAS COMPETITION ★

★ Kids, with Christmas not too far ★
★ away, we'd like you to draw and ★
★ decorate your favourite Christ- ★
★ mas scene. Using an **A4 piece** ★
★ of paper, draw a picture about ★
★ Christmas e.g. a Christmas tree ★
★ with lots of decorations, A ★
★ Christmas Nativity Scene, ★
★ Santa and his reindeers or a ★
★ shop window decorated for ★
★ Christmas. ★

★ You may use felts, crayons, ★
★ pencils, glitter etc. to make it ★
★ look colourful and festive. ★

★ - Send in your entries stating ★
★ age and your address by 15th ★
★ November to: ★

★ The Secretary of the Swiss So- ★
★ ciety of New Zealand, ★
★ P O Box 4035, Hamilton East ★

★ We hope to publish photos of ★
★ all entries in the December is- ★
★ sue. ★

★ **Happy creative drawing!** ★
★ Regards from Doris and Trudy ★

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

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Report from the Swiss Abroad Congress in Davos August 2001

(Report by Heinz Leuenberger, our
Delegate for Swiss Abroad.)

This was the second Swiss Abroad Council Session I've attended, which took place in Davos, a holiday resort in Canton Grisons, where earlier this year protestors were demanding an end to globalisation. Mr Joseph Deiss, Minister of Foreign Affairs, said that following much discussion about globalisation then, he was now finding a "globalised Switzerland" in a totally different mood.

The Council had a heavy agenda. Matters concerning the revision of political rights; a new directive in the field of sickness insurance; the introduction of the Euro (currency) and its consequences; the ever present question on how to finance the Swiss schools abroad, which seem to be sliding more and more in the 'red'; the importance of educating foreign students representing a very high export potential; and the still much discussed problem of how to compensate the so-called 'Algeria Swiss' (this relates back to the war of independence in Algeria about 30 years ago, where Swiss nationals lost all their possessions).

Once again, strong emphasis was placed on the importance of exercising our political rights. Mr Deiss, whose job it is to bring about an early entry into the UN, put an impassioned plea to Delegates to encourage their Society members to register and vote to support him in this venture. It is likely that a referendum may be held by mid next year, as both Chambers of Parliament have voted in support, indicating most Parties are in favour of joining. It was noted that other than the special status of the Vatican, Switzerland is now the only European country outside of the Organisation.

I also took quite a bundle of recent *Helvetia* magazines with me to Switzerland, to hand out to Delegates from other English speaking countries. Well, I should have brought a lot more, as there was much interest in the activities of the Clubs and Society, and the presen-

was very much admired for its professionalism. Even a representative of *Radio Switzerland* asked for a copy, and one also went to Ambassador Walter Thurnheer, who will be visiting New Zealand at the end of the year.

In General Business, and American Delegate, a lady from Scotland, and I, voiced our concerns very strongly over the lack of English translation facilities. All business is carried out in high German, and is also translated word for word in French. But many delegates have problems to effectively follow either language. In a later meeting with Dr Wyder, Director of the Secretariat in Berne, I was able to discuss this concern, and the matter will now be looked at at the next Director's Meeting.

Report to be continued next issue.....

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