

Switzerland as an industrial and exporting country [continued]

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silk fabrics, hosiery, clothing, as also footwear and instruments.

Switzerland's purchases from South Africa comprised raw wool (1,0 million francs), copper (0,4), maize (0,3), extracts of tanning substances and fruit. Mention should be made of the fact that many South African products are bought direct from London and are not, therefore, included in statistics of trade exchanges between the two countries.

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A Swiss Ball was held at Te Aroha in the Catholic Hall on September 5th, 1939, which was hailed as one of the outstanding events of the season. There was a very large attendance of dancers, many of whom came long distances.

The hall, and not to forget the supper tables, were beautifully decorated, the supper being served by a ladies' committee under the guidance of Mrs. W. Revell.

A considerable number of dancers wore Swiss costumes, which made the gay scene very picturesque. The orchestra played Swiss airs as well as modern numbers.

Among the Swiss present were - Mesdames O. Werder, A. Elmiger, R. Steiner, Schicker (Putaruru); Misses R. Giesler, W. Steiner (Paterangi) J. Steiner (Matamata) Freda Steiner (Putaruru) Hilda Steiner (Matumacho) Hilda Steiner (Putaruru) Rita Schicker (Putaruru) Ludwig, K. Camenzind, F. Steiner, Rita Steiner, Zita Steiner, P. Steiner, L. Steiner, Ethel Steiner (Ohaupo) F. Steiner, Lena Steiner (Putaruru) Tessie Schumacher, M. Schumacher, F. Widmer, A. Mathis, B. Schumacher, I. Widmer, G. Cattin (Te Kauwhata), B. Werder, G. Mathis.

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A Swiss illustrated calender, "DIE HEIMAT" for 1940, which is published in French, German and English, can be ordered from the Swiss Consulate in Wellington. If you desire one, do not delay in sending 6/- to the Swiss Consulate, P.O. Box 386, Wellington. The price, of course, includes packing and postage to New Zealand. 6/- is at the present time the equivalent of 4.- Swiss francs. The Consulate will be pleased to forward such orders to the Auslandschweizer Secretariat of the N.H.G. Bundesgasse 36, Berne.

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Nominations for Committee members which have come to hand, do not alter the personnel of the Executive, with the exception of Bay of Plenty, where a new member must be elected in place of Mr. R. Meyer, who has resigned. The following members have been nominated for this position :-

Mr. Carl Gebert, Opotiki,
Mr. Robert Fischer, Whakatane,
Mr. J. J. Sax, Kutarere, Whakatane.

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SWITZERLAND AS AN INDUSTRIAL AND EXPORTING COUNTRY (continued)

FOOD PRODUCTS: This is a very flourishing branch. The chocolate industry, which had its origin in the years 1810-1820, can now boast of thirty factories. Swiss chocolate enjoys a world-wide reputation, but ever-increasing restrictions on the free movement of goods have seriously affected exports. After 1865, for a long period of years, the manufacture of condensed and powdered milk achieved great importance as a Swiss export. The cheese exported by the Swiss Cheese Trade Union and marked "Made in Switzerland" - which guarantees its origin and its quality - deserves special mention. The meat, vegetable and fruit preserving industry has greatly developed and its products enjoy a high reputation.

(To be continued)

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