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Wellington,
11th August, 1943.

Dear Mr. Bruelisauer,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 30th July, in which you inform me:

1. That on the 5th July, the Secretary of your Committee resigned on the grounds of lack of time.
2. That consequently your Committee has considered it advisable to resign as a body at the end of the present business year - 30th September, 1943 - seeing that there are not enough compatriots in Wellington in a position to form a complete committee.
3. That your Committee suggests the transfer of the headquarters of the Swiss Benevolent Society back to Auckland.
4. That, finally, your Committee requests me to act as intermediary in the setting up of a new Committee at Auckland.

In answer to your letter, I wish to express my regret that circumstances are compelling your Committee to tender its resignation, but I fully realise the difficulties with which you would be confronted for carrying on with the affairs of the Swiss Benevolent Society. I am, however, pleased to have this opportunity of thanking all the members of your Committee for the work done for the Swiss Benevolent Society during the past 2 years.

When in Auckland a few days ago, I approached - in compliance with your request - some members of the local Swiss group in this matter, and they agreed to take charge of the Committee again with the following proviso:

1. That all members of the Swiss Benevolent Society be given an opportunity to express their opinion as to the proposed removal of the Committee from Wellington to Auckland.
2. That if the transfer of the Committee from Wellington to Auckland is approved by the members of the Swiss Benevolent Society, the local Auckland Swiss group be given the opportunity to make the necessary recommendations for the setting up of the new Committee in Auckland from among members of that local group. Such a proposal would then be voted on by members of the Society in the usual way.

Yours faithfully,
SCHMID
CONSUL OF SWITZERLAND. "

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WEDDING BELLS. This time of the year there is generally a lull in the farming industry, and it is for this reason that the farmer not only puts off his holidays until such time, but also the most happy event of his lifetime, wedding.

We had already the pleasure to report of two weddings in the July number of the "Helvetia" and here are two more. We take great pleasure in extending to all those happy people our heartiest congratulations and best wishes.

DAVIES - STEINER:

A pretty wedding was recently celebrated in St. Joseph's Church, Te Aroha, when Lena Theresa Steiner, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. Steiner, of Springdale, was married to Roy Eric Davies, son of Mrs. R. B. Hines and the late Mr. S. Davies.

The bride entered the church on the arm of her father, wearing a charming frock of heavy white satin. In attendance as bridesmaids were Miss Martha Steiner, sister of the bride, and Miss Edna Davies, sister of the bridegroom. Mr. Stan Davies, brother of the bridegroom, was best man, and Mr. Charles Steiner, brother of the bride, groomsman.

A reception was later held in the Masonic Hall, where the bride's mother, assisted by Mrs. Hines, received the guests.

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FARRELLY - STEINER.

On 27th May Lina Steiner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Steiner, of Putaruru, was married to Gordon Farrelly of Te Puke. Father McDonald tied the nuptial knot. Miss Frieda Steiner, sister of the bride, acted as bridesmaid while Mr. Farrelly, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. The home of this newly wed couple is now at Te Puke.

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1ST AUGUST CELEBRATION IN WELLINGTON.

We are glad to be able to state that the 1st of August celebration in Wellington turned out a very successful affair.

The room in the Evening Post Building, where we had once before celebrated our National Day, was gaily decorated with the Swiss flag, coats-of-arms of the different cantons, paper-lanterns and many nice posters of Swiss scenery, so that a friendly and festive atmosphere was created to start with.

About 50 members and their friends turned up and Mr. E. Cattin opened the evening with a short address which was very much appreciated, and after singing our national anthem, Miss Beck, Miss Browning and Mr. Bruelisauer entertained us with some musical items, piano, violin and 'cello, which everybody enjoyed very much. Dr. Walter Schmid, the Swiss Consul, accompanied by Mrs. Schmid, was also present, and in his address, he drew our attention again to the precarious position Switzerland was still in, however, at the same time assuring us that our Government and our people at home are as prepared as ever to meet any emergency which may arise and that we may look into the future with confidence. Mr. Castello, Mr. Watts and Mrs. Easte, being our guests, showed their gratitude in entertaining us with a few songs.

It really did not take us long to establish a very cheerful atmosphere and when Mr. Th. Steffen got going with his accordion, accompanied by Mr. A. Mueller at the piano, Swiss and English songs poured forth and dancing was going very strong up to three o'clock in the morning. Our President was about the first one who lost his voice, in spite of being also the first to make the suggestion of "having a beer". If the caretaker of the building had not felt "very tired" and wanted to go to bed, I believe the happy evening would have lasted for yet a few more hours, as nobody made an attempt to move.

We would not have been able to keep going for such a long time, had it not been for the marvellous supper put on by the ladies and I can tell you, if you ever want to see and taste something extra special in this direction, the only way will be to ask the ladies of the Swiss Benevolent Society in Wellington to provide it for you. Our heartiest thanks to them!

We wish to thank here all those who made the arrangements and helped to make our celebration of the 652nd Anniversary such a success.

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