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As representative of a Swiss firm, Mr. A. Furrer from Zürich, spent some six months in this country, travelling through the north and the south islands. He was amazed at the scenic beauties offered by this country. He also greatly appreciated the hospitality he enjoyed here.

Mr. W. Haensli was here as a ski instructor at the invitation of the New Zealand Government. Although the snow conditions were not too favourable this winter, comments heard indicate that the undertaking proved a great success.

Some Swiss people living in New Zealand also take a long awaited opportunity to pay a visit to the old homeland; among them is Jack Fischbacher, who proposes to leave for Switzerland on December 13th.

#### CHANGES AT THE CONSULATE OF SWITZERLAND IN WELLINGTON

The newly appointed Swiss Consul to New Zealand, Mr. Henri Blanchard, is due to arrive in Wellington at the end of January. He will be accompanied by his wife and a daughter aged four years. Mr. E. Fretz, chancellor of the Consulate, has received advice of his appointment to the Swiss Legation in Washington. He will, presumably, leave New Zealand in April, 1950. He will be succeeded by Mr. Oscar G. Oesch, who, accompanied by Mrs. Oesch and their two children aged 10yrs. and 12yrs., is travelling with Mr. Blanchard.

#### WEDDING BELLS

A very pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Matthews Church, Auckland, when Miss Luriel Kew was married to our compatriot Mr. Beda Bücheler. Congratulations from the Swiss throughout New Zealand, and especially those resident in Auckland are extended to this happy couple.

#### SUNDRY NEWS

##### INAUGURATION OF MUSICAL CONSERVATORY IN SION:

On the 21st of October, Professor Georges Haenni opened the "Conservatoire de musique de Sion". Two hundred and fifty students were enrolled.

##### BERNESE ARTIST ABROAD:

The Bernese violinist Theo Hug, recently gave performances in radio transmissions abroad, including Vienna, Hambourg and Copenhagen. Mr. Hug also gave concerts in various cities of Denmark.

##### RETIREMENT OF MEMBER OF GOVERNMENT IN LUCERNE:

Mr. Joseph Frey, who since 1920, has been at the head of the Department of Economy in the Canton of Lucerne, has announced his retirement, which will take place at the end of this year. During his activity he has given great services to the agricultural industry, as well as to tradesmen and artisans.

##### 75th BIRTHDAY OF M. EDOUARD CHAPUISAT:

M. Edouard Chapuisat, a former Director of the "Journal de Genève" and a member of the International Committee of the Red Cross since 1938, celebrated his 75th birthday on October 24th.

##### INSTALLATION OF NEW ORGAN AT VICTORIA HALL IN GENEVA:

On October 22nd, a gala concert organized by the City of Geneva, was given to celebrate the installation of the new organ.