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SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

President's Report, 1958

Dear Compatriots,

On the end of every year one is looking back and is having a review of the successes and failures of the past year. On the success ledger we can record two outstanding events: The formation of a Swiss Club in Wellington as a branch of our Society and of equal importance is the joining of the Auckland Club as a branch also. I must not miss expressing, in this place, my highest admiration and sincerest thanks to all those who helped to bring about this important step forward. On the bad side of the ledger, however, we have lost some valued members who have passed away, amongst them a worthy foundation member, Mr. John Steiner from Auckland. As far as helping needy cases of Swiss people we were very lucky, we had to assist an old friend to a minor extent only.

Referring to the improved financial position of the Society, this is no doubt to be credited to our retiring Treasurer, Mr. A. Loetscher. It was he who tackled the situation in a business-like manner and achieved very worthwhile results. To the Secretary, Mr. A. Biland, must go the credit for the successful re-organisation of the Helvetia. I must bow to his outstanding abilities. To the rest of the committee I wish to express my thanks for the willing co-operation and help whenever I wanted it.

Looking into the future I sincerely hope that in due time every Swiss in New Zealand belongs to our Society: "A United Folk of Brethren," using Schillers words. For the future tasks of the Society I have given it a lot of thought during the last few months and I came to the conclusion that, provided we can raise the money, that our own old people's home, coupled perhaps with a home for short periods for new arrivals would be a fitting monument to our aims.

—Walter Risi, President Swiss Society.

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Obituary

MR. EMIL SATTLER.—Died in Morrinsville on the 30th April last. He came to New Zealand in 1912, originating from Baar Ct. Zug. Mr. Sattler is the 4th of 5 emigrating brothers who passed away, survived only by brother Hans. He also is the third Baarer who died within the last six months. Mrs. Sattler, nee Miss Rosa Schmiediger came to New Zealand in July 1914 and they married in the following September. The marriage was a very happy one, blessed with 2 sons and 3 daughters.

—W.R.

MR. FRANZ AUGUST WYSS.—Died (aged 82) at Hawera on May 6th last. Mr. Wyss arrived in New Zealand from the Ct. Zug in 1903. He took

up farming in Manaia and went home for a holiday trip to Switzerland in 1914 where he then married and arrived back in New Zealand in 1922. From the marriage there were two sons, Mr. Charles Wyss (Inaha) and Mr. August Wyss (Ngaere). Mrs. Wyss died 8 years ago.

—J.St.

NOTICE FROM THE CONSULATE

The Consulate has been asked, in connection with the winding up of two estates in Switzerland, to endeavour to ascertain the present whereabouts or to supply some details as to what has become of the following persons, both of whom could be beneficiaries in the estates in question. The Consulate would be most grateful if among our compatriots someone is in a position to give information which may be of help in tracing:—

MR. JOSEF ALOIS KELLER,
born on June 30th., 1879, originating from
Feusisberg, who came to New Zealand approximately forty years ago,
and

MR. ANTON ZBERG,
who, it is understood, worked at one time in
the Port Waikato, and later in South Head,
Hellensville.

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SWISS CALENDARS FOR 1959

To enable our compatriots to procure a pictorial calendar from Switzerland for 1959, the Consulate is prepared to pass a collective order. Any persons interested should write to the Consulate, G.P.O. Box 386, Wellington, and at the same time remit the amount in question.

The following calendars are offered:—

"THE ALPINE CALENDAR," 1959 (Stehli),
price 10/-.

"SWITZERLAND," 1959 (Novos), price 10/-

Orders for these calendars will be accepted UP
TO JULY 1st.

News of the Colony

PUBLICATION ITEMS

All "NEWS" for publication in the HELVETIA must be in the hands of the Secretary 2 days before the end of the month (i.e., for the July issue on the 28th of June). Also please make sure that all contributions are PROPERLY SIGNED. If so desired initials only will be printed, but the press-committee must be informed of the proper name of the sender.

—A.B.

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Corrections . . .

In last month's issue we forgot to mention the name of the writer who sent the report of the annual meeting of the Auckland Swiss Club. It was Charley Ding.