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- 7. If hospital is necessary, what is better: private or public hospital? For many non-urgent complaints there is a long waiting list at public hospitals; in private hospitals one can choose one's surgeon and have treatment at one's convenience. Assistwith private hospital costs there is a special insurance available.
- 8. What will St. John's Ambulance do for you? If you become a member of this society (\$2 per annum) you get free transport to hospital if required for medical reasons. Non-members pay according to mileage. St. John is New Zealand's equivalent to 'Samariterdienst' at Home, in most aspects.

Who is a Good Patient?

At the surgery: punctuality for appointments. Find out if doctor prefers fee settlement after each consultation or payment after receiving an account. Visit your doctor during surgery hours whenever possible. If you need to speak to your doctor ask receptionist at surgery for convenient time to phone. If urgent home call is required ring doctor before 10 a.m. if at all possible. When calling your doctor at surgery or residence be brief and specific as to the nature of complaint as you see it. It is not customary in New Zealand to greet other patients in waiting room when entering.

Be truthful when asked about symptoms during examination, also speak up about any stresses in the mind as your physical and mental candidness give valuable leads to your doctor for investigation and diagnosis. Unless valid reasons exist do not change your doctor every few weeks. He can assess complaint and treatment better if he gets to know you and your background. A freshly bathed patient is preferred to a heavily scented one. Garments which can be taken off and put on quickly are an advantage. When taking a small child to the surgery explain beforehand: doctor wears white coat, stethoscope, looking into ears, nose, mouth with torch, spatula, respectively, a possible needle prick, etc. Finally: voice appreciation when feeling better, after all the doctor is not only an index of medical knowledge, but a human being as well.

—'Medico'

Special Announcement: Swiss Society of N.Z.

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For last-minute bookings please apply direct to Mrs U. Boeckli.

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—Arnold Biland