

Swiss dairy specialists visit Hamilton

Autor(en): **W.R.**

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the Common Market. Monsieur Iselin thinks that Switzerland may apply for special relationship at a definite stage of the negotiations with England.

Britain's chances of entry are now considered to be favourable. The position of France has now markedly changed and the Six are now readier to invite Britain. The strongest opposition to entry may yet prove to come from within this country. As the recent white paper on the "cost of entry" has shown, this cost could vary from £100m to £1100m. Great Britain will have an exceptional burden of import levies on agricultural products. She will moreover have to adapt her fiscal system and introduce value added tax, all things which will be exceedingly costly. Switzerland, quite apart from the problems of labour and neutrality, would have quite a job in adapting her agriculture and her particular defence to the conditions of entry in the EEC. She too would have to pay an initial heavy cost.

—The Swiss Observer.

Swiss Dairy Specialists Visit Hamilton

The Swiss delegation of Dairy Specialists recently paid a stop-over visit to Hamilton on their way to the International Dairy Conference in Sydney. The Editing Committee of the 'Helvetia' had the pleasure to meet these people at the Hamilton Hotel on the evening of October 7th. It was quite a thrill to listen to all the different Swiss dialects, especially the "Wärschaft Bernerdütsch" with a sprinkling of French, and thus the time passed much too quickly.

Amongst the information we gleaned from them was the fact that the "Butterberg" (mountain of butter) in Switzerland and Europe is not near as high as it used to be. As so many of our compatriots and readers out here are depending on the dairy industry, this is welcome news for us.

The party had arrived from Auckland the day before and inspected the Te Rapa Milkpowder Plant and was due to visit Newstead A.I. Centre, a dairy farm and a cheese factory on its way via Rotorua to Wellington. No doubt a daylight trip through New Zealand at this time of the year will illustrate the country's potential as an agricultural producer, not only of dairy products but of beef and lamb as well. We hope they have enjoyed their short stay in this fair country.

The delegation consisted of: Dr B. Blanc, Director of the Swiss Dairy Research Institute, Liebefeld, Bern; Mr Peter Hofer, Editor Schweiz Milchzeitung, Bern; Mr and Mrs Moritz Koch, Berner Molkerei, Bern; Mr and Mrs Pierre Reynaud, Director De Cremo S.A., Fribourg; Mr Arnold Amacher, Director Nord-west Schweizer, Milchverbandes, Basel; Mr Heinz Keller, Vice-Director, Nestle A.G., Vevey; Mr Guido Burkhalter, Schweizerische Käseunion A.G., Bern.

—W.R.