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"In Berne, I just missed our late Consul, Mr. A. C. Blau. I was informed at the Bundespalast, that he had just been transferred to Zagreb in Yugoslavia.

"L'exposition du Monde, Paris. Yes, it was worth while to see, but it would take a long time to give all my impressions. My previous visit to Paris happened in 1900, and this time I had my second trip up to the Eiffel tower. What a grand view of all Paris and beyond. Chateau Versailles is another spot worthy of impression.

"I spent one week in Germany and a Rheinfahrt from Mainz to Cologne was most enjoyable. I have studied conditions in Germany a good deal, but do not intend to mix politics with my impressions of a pleasure trip.

"In conclusion, I must say I could not live at home again; after 34 years of absence you feel like a stranger. It may be quite alright for people with means. In my opinion New Zealand is the best place. Canada and America I have visited, but nowhere have I seen such pastures as here in New Zealand. Throughout America and Canada I have seen not more than half a dozen nice farmhouses. There, farmers seem to live in huts without garden or shelter, but over-run with pigs and poultry; rather disorderly.

"Yes, I also went over the Bay Bridge in San Francisco, a great structure. But nevertheless, as a wonderful engineering monument I vote for the Sydney bridge. - Some particulars of the Golden Gate Bridge suspension cable: It consists of 61 strands; each strand averages 472 wires, total 27,572 wires; length of wires 80,000 miles. Diameter of cable,  $36\frac{1}{4}$  inches. Weight of cable, 3,000 lbs per foot, or a total of 23,250 tons. The Bay Bridge suspension cable consists of 37 strands, 472 wires each, total 17,464 wires. Length of wires 70,000 miles; diameter of cable  $28\frac{5}{8}$  inches, weight of cable per foot 1,750 lbs; total weight 18,700 tons. "

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M E M B E R S :     Contribute articles and news of general interest to this publication.

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The much dreaded scourge, the Foot and Mouth disease, seems to creep gradually into our Homeland. In Mulhausen, Alsace, this disease broke out in the stables of the Abattoirs. In Rodersdorf, Solothurn, a case occurred, necessitating the killing of 10 animals to prevent it spreading further. In France 3,000 farms are affected. Other reports of Foot and Mouth disease have come to hand from Holland, Belgium and Denmark.

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#### THE SWISS MACHINE-BUILDING TRADE.

The exhibition poster issued by the Swiss Association of Machinery Manufacturers contains a symbolic representation of the three forms of power - steam, electricity and water. A more suitable illustration could scarcely have been found to show that steam and oil engines, steam and water turbines, electric generators, blowers and compressors of first-class quality are made in Switzerland. Machinery of this kind has exercised the most powerful influence on civilization, as the logical development of prime movers expands and promotes production in every other branch. We are able to supply the necessary machinery not only for power stations and railways, ships and other means of transport, but, also, to a very great extent, for textile industries and other factories producing goods necessary for every-day requirements. Machine-building is one of the oldest Swiss industries and stands in the foremost rank in social economy on account of the high-class quality of the products. The output during the past year

attained a value of approximately 18½ million pounds, machinery and vehicles representing a total value of 10½ million pounds having been exported to all parts of the world. The Swiss Association of Machinery Manufacturers represent firms employing about 53,000 workmen and having an annual wages bill amounting to 6 million pounds.

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# ANNUAL REPORT.

We take great pleasure in presenting to you the Second Annual Report and Balance Sheet of the Swiss Benevolent Society of New Zealand. It has been a year of progress and our prospects for the ensuing year are very promising. Our membership has reached 95, and we are hoping for a considerable increase. Our newly elected Committee consists of members well known in their respective districts and their energetic assistance will greatly enhance our progress for the coming year. The personnel of the committee is as follows : E.Merz, c/o Exclusive Textiles Ltd., Box 85, Auckland.

W.Ungemuth, Clarence Rd., Northcote, Auckland.  
F.Steyer, 12, Nugent St., Grafton, Auckland.  
John Steiner, Eastport Rd., Waihou, representing Waikato, Thames Valley & King Country.  
R. Meier, Landings Rd., Whakatane, for Bay of Plenty.  
John Steiner, Mahoe, for Taranaki.  
E.Cattin, Willis St., Wellington, for Wellington.

During the past year we have been admitted as Group New Zealand into the membership of the N.H.G., the mother-society of the large number of groups all over the world. In our recent July issue we published a letter from our Ausland-schweizer Sekretariat, confirming our admission as member of the N.H.G. (Neue Helvetische Gesellschaft).

A complete list of our members is appended, and should you know any countrymen not shown on the list, please do your best to enroll him as a member.

## BALANCE SHEET ENDING SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1937.

	<u>Dr.</u>	<u>Cr.</u>
<u>Oct. 1st, 1936:</u>		
Balance brought forward		34. 5. 2
<u>Sep. 30th, 1937:</u>		
Total subscriptions:		
54 members @ 10/-	£27. 0. 0	
7 " " 20/-	7. 0. 0	
1 " " 10/6	10. 6	
1 " " 12/-	12. 0	
1 " " 20/4	1. 0. 4	
		36. 2. 10
Interest on bank deposits ..		13. 3
2 Deposits on Library books ..		5. 0
<u>Expenses:</u>		
Printing of "Helvetia" 12 months	15. 0. 6	
Postage of " " "	3. 13. 11	
Cartage Library books from Whangarei	4. 6	
" freight " " Kati Kati	14. 6	
Library stamp pad	5. 0	
	19. 18. 5	71. 6. 3
Balance at Bank .. ..	48. 0. 5	
Cash on hand .. ..	3. 7. 5	
	£71. 6. 3	£71. 6. 3
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