

# The romance of the St. Gotthard [to be continued]

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OBITUARY : We regret to announce the death of our esteemed member of our Society, Mr. Julius Maurer, Watchmaker and Jeweller, of Whangarei. We extend to the bereaved family our expressions of deepest regret and sympathy.

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A friend of our country of many years standing, Sir William Ellis of Sheffield, has created a fund of £4000 sterling (approx. 84,000 Swiss francs) in aid of aged or needy Swiss Mountain Guides. The Ambassador of Switzerland in London, Minister Paraviccini, thanked the Benefactor for his generosity, whereupon Sir William Ellis replied that for nearly 40 years he had been a regular Mountaineer in Switzerland and that he had always held the Swiss Guides in high esteem for their ability and reliability. It was now his desire to brighten to some extent their eve of life.

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NEW MEMBERS: Again it is our pleasant duty to announce the enrolment of the following new members :

Madame A.V. Just, 16, Totara Rd., Riccarton, Christchurch.  
 William Elmiger, Ngarua, Waitoa R.D.  
 Arthur Kuriger, Riverlea, Taranaki.  
 C.J. Litschi, R.D. Hora Hora, Cambridge.

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R A D I O : We have been notified by the Swiss Consulate in Wellington that, to obtain better results, the Schweiz Rundspruch Gesellschaft in Bern has decided to broadcast 3 hours earlier than previously announced, i.e. 5.30 p.m. instead of 8.30 p.m. (N.Z. time). Wave lengths remain the same as before :

H B J 20,64 M. 14535 Kc.  
 H B O 26,31 M. 11402 Kc.

Once more we wish to impress upon the listeners the importance of informing us regarding results of reception.

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#### THE ROMANCE OF THE ST. GOTTHARD.

The evolution of the St. Gotthard route, the great highway across Switzerland linking up north and western Europe with the south and the eastern parts of the Continent, is one of the romances of enterprise; a landmark, in the literal as well as the figurative sense, of modern progress.

As far back as the XIIIth century the St. Gotthard pass was frequented by pilgrims, for whom a hospice on the summit has existed over 500 years. Following them came merchants from Basle Lucerne and Zurich to form trading alliances with the rich cities of Lombardy--Como, Bergamo, Milan and others. A post existed as early as the XVth century over the narrow mountain path, which gradually widened into a mule-track, but it was uncertain and irregular. In 1693 the famous Fischer family, of Berne, organised a postal service. A courier left Zurich every Wednesday and Saturday, arriving at Milan each Sunday and Wednesday. He travelled via Lucerne, then by boat to Fluelen, and onwards on horseback by Urseren, Bellinzona and Lugano. It was left to an Englishman, Greville, the mineralogist, first to use a carriage over the St. Gotthard pass (1775). . . . .

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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#### A D V E R T I S E M E N T S.

MR. JOHN STEINER of Eastport Rd., Waihou, has been requested to find Swiss Sharemilkers for some very fine farms in his district, ranging from 80 to 120 cows, at half shares. Good and genuine families of 3 to 4 milkers with a little cash would be readily financed. Applicants may communicate with Mr. Steiner, or Mr. W. Ungemuth, Secretary.

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MR. P. CATTIN, Te Kauwhata, "Scintilla" Wine, Fruit and Honey.  
 MR. KERLER, 477, Karangahape Rd., Auckland, Prams, Wickerwork, Toys.  
 MR. E. CATTIN, 19, Willis St., Wellington, Jeweller & Watchmaker.

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CORRESPONDENCE: - Please address to the Secretary,

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AUCKLAND.