

Generous work done by the busy knitting bees

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Nous ne voulons pas tarder à vous exprimer nos plus sincères remerciements pour ce témoignage de fidélité et d'attachement à la patrie et à notre armée, qui nous est ainsi donné par la Colonie suisse de votre juridiction, et pouvons vous assurer que grâce à cette grande générosité, nous serons à même de faire beaucoup de bien. Nous sommes très sensibles à cette marque de sympathie qui, venant de nos concitoyens des antipodes, nous est une nouvelle preuve des liens qui unissent les Suisses dans toutes les parties du monde.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Consul, avec l'expression de notre vive reconnaissance, l'assurance de notre considération la plus distinguée.

Mr. Consul,

We have the honour to acknowledge reception of the sum of 2860 Swiss francs the value of £220.9.3 which the Federal Department for Foreign Affairs at Berne has handed to us on your behalf in favour of the Swiss National fund for our Soldiers and their families, a voluntary gift from the Swiss residents of New Zealand.

We hasten to send you our sincere thanks for this sign of fidelity and attachment to our country and our army, that has been shown by the Swiss colony under your jurisdiction.

We can assure you that thanks to this generosity we will be able to do a great deal of good. We are very gratified at this mark of sympathy that comes from our compatriots in the Antipodes. It is a new proof of the ties that unite the Swiss in all parts of the world.

Please accept the assurance of our sincere recognition of your kindness.

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GENEROUS WORK DONE BY THE BUSY KNITTING BEES.

What a generous heap of solidly and beautifully knitted woollen wear we have been able to collect here at Wellington! I am only sorry that the thoughtful donors are scattered all over the country and therefore cannot enjoy with me this mass of good will. How many of our countrymen at home, men, women and children, will rejoice to receive these warm gifts and will gratefully think of the donors in the wide world. In comparison with what has been collected everywhere in this country for the war-refugees in England and where I know every Swiss woman in New Zealand is doing her part too, our collection is only small, and we have the satisfaction of knowing that our efforts for Switzerland cannot in any way hurt what is being done here.

Warm clothing has also been sent to Switzerland from many other countries and these donations surely will be a blessing for those who are in need of it. I wish to express on this occasion to all those who have so generously contributed to this collection my heartfelt thanks. In view of the fact that the economic difficulties confronting Switzerland will tend to aggravate the sufferings of many of our fellow-countrymen and their children at home, I do not have the heart to bring the collection to an end. I shall therefore be as grateful as ever for further gifts of woollen wear, especially children's and women's stockings and women's and men's pullovers.

The following knitwear has been collected: 13 pairs men's socks, 3 pairs children's socks, 9 pairs women's and children's stockings, 3 balaclavas, 3 pairs of gloves, 3 pairs of hospital stockings, 1 pair of bed socks, 6 children's and babies' undies and pants, 3 singlets, 1 baby's jumper suit, 11 children's jumpers, 1 boy's woollen shirt, 1 man's pullover, 2 girls' dresses, 2 underskirts, 1 woman's pullover, 1 shawl, 1 boy's cap, 1 baby wrap, 1 baby girl's dress and panties, 1 boy's pullover, 1 baby slipper, 1 baby cap.

Thanks for the above-mentioned gifts are due to :-

Miss Ida Bernold, Kaponga; Mrs. Max Bruelisauer, Wellington; Miss Olga Cattin, Longburn; Miss Mary Chamberlain, Kaponga; Mrs. K. Cole, Birkenhead; Mrs. Dalgleish, Auckland; Mrs. A. Engelberger & daughters, Kapuni; Mrs. Fisher & daughters, Carterton; Mrs. Els. Giacometti, Okaiawa; Miss Emmi Horlimann, Wellington; Mrs. K. Schicker, Riverlea; Mrs. Helen Schmid, Wellington; Mrs. Schwyter, Stratford; Mrs. W. Ungemuth, Auckland; Mrs. Werder, Mrs. M. Zimmermann.

The goods will now be forwarded to Switzerland with the next American boat and will be addressed to the Swiss Legation at Washington who will take further care of the shipment from there.

Helen Schmid.

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MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION-FEE.

Our Society closed the fifth year of existence on September 30th with an additional 20 new members, and a total of 145. We are proud to begin the 6th year with such a representative and large membership. Since the outbreak of the war our common interests and ties have been much closer, not only among our compatriots in New Zealand, but between our homeland as well. This has been splendidly demonstrated by the large donations made for our Soldiers at home. We trust the same patriotic spirit will prevail in future.

The annual subscription-fee is due on October 1st., and you are requested to forward payment to our Secretary. About 15 members have not yet paid their last year's fee and we must urge these friends to settle as soon as possible, otherwise the monthly supply of our "Helvetia" will be discontinued.

It has been our practice to publish a complete list of our members in the October issue, but due to lack of space, we postpone this publication until November. Likewise, the annual balance-sheet will appear in the next issue.

Anyone knowing the present address of Louis Metan, at one time of Whangarei, please communicate with the Secretary.

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SWISS DANCE AT PUTARURU.

A very successful gathering of Swiss took place at the Civic Theatre, Putaruru, where the Lichfield members of the Swiss Society held a dance in aid of the N.Z. Red Cross. Swiss music was supplied by the Schuler Bros., Messrs. F. Imhof, C. Camenzind and E. Küttel. all expert exponents of the good old Swiss Handörgeli.

During the evening a telegram was received from our esteemed Consul, Dr. Schmid, wishing the gathering every success.

Hakas and Maori songs given by two Maoris of no mean ability, intermingled with the dancing.

An oil painting by Mr. Camenzind was also raffled during the evening, the lucky winner being Mr. A. Schumacher of Te Aroha.

The proceeds of this dance, amounting to £11, were thankfully acknowledged by the Red Cross Society.

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The Consulate in Wellington has received the following letter from Australia :-

"Dear Sir,

On my return trip from Switzerland to Australia, last year, I had the pleasure of meeting a Mr. & Mrs. Steiner and child. These people told me they would like to settle on a farm.

I would be willing to lease my farm on a 50-50 basis. There are 228 acres land, 120 cattle and a number of pigs. The land is 3300 feet above sea level, plenty of fresh water all year around, 4-roomed house, garden, garage, etc. Much of my time is spent in Sydney, and I would let the farm on management; money is not necessary, and I would be willing to sell out later.

Should the Steiner family already be settled in New Zealand, perhaps you would know some other Swiss interested in the proposition. I thank you in anticipation,

Mrs. I. Walker, Tracy Farm,
Evelyn, North Queensland. "

Any communication please send to the Consulate, or direct to Australia.

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