

Forthcoming events

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS**AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB**

Christmas Evening — 17th December, 7.30 p.m. in the Club Room, Kitchener Street. Don't miss this Evening of the year!

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

Our Christmas Evening, with a Christmas Tree and "Sami-chlaus," will be held on the second Sunday in December in the Riverlea. A special invitation to our children. Will ladies please bring a plate.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

The Wellington Swiss Club will celebrate its Christmas with a big Social gathering on Sunday, December 4th. Will members please keep this afternoon free.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND*SWISS FIRM IS FIFTH BIGGEST CONCERN*

If one is to believe a table published by an American review, "Fortune and Financial Times," and reproduced by the "Revue économique et sociale," then it is a Swiss firm, the Nestle Company, which occupies the fifth place in importance in Europe, as regards its turnover. Indeed, according to this table, the Nestle Company comes first in importance in Continental Europe, and is the only one among the first ten belonging to the food group.

TELEPHONE TO THE RESCUE

The well-known Maggi firm, which manufactures concentrated soups, has installed a new telephonic menu service, in several of the Swiss towns. All that a housewife, who does not know what to prepare for the next meal, has got to do is to compose a telephone number. She will then be able to hear suggestions for menus and practical advice, renewed every day, which will remove all her worries regarding the planning of her meals and relieve her of the necessity of confessing her lack of imagination to a friend.

USEFUL HOBBIES

A great many people like to spend their leisure time in making their home look more lovely. It is for them that the "Smyrna-Presto" apparatus has been devised by a Swiss firm. This consists of a small apparatus worked by hand, which produces the real Smyrna knot for the manufacture of raised pile carpets. This little machine, which is very easy to handle, uses wool that has already been cut to the required length, and inserts it into canvas which is stretched on to a frame, supplied with the "Smyrna-Presto." The work is executed in an absolutely regular manner, without there being any necessity to cut the loops, subsequently, or to close-cut the carpet.

SWISS AGRICULTURAL AND DAIRY FAIR

The 18th Swiss Agricultural and Dairy Fair (OLMA) at St. Gall, was held this year from the 13th to 23rd October. This show, which is becoming more and more the purchasing centre for Eastern Switzerland and the neighbouring regions of Germany and of Austria, once more numbered some one thousand exhibitors, connected principally with agriculture, cattle breeding, dairy activities, wine-growing and husbandry, etc.

NOVELTY USEFUL FOR ELECTRO-TECHNICAL WORK ABOUT THE HOUSE

At the recent Radio and Television Exhibition in Zurich, an interesting Swiss novelty was on show which will doubtless prove very useful to both amateur and professional electricians for the installation of electricity indoors. The gadget in question is a self-sticking cable with two conductors, which can be applied instantly and in a lasting manner to all non-porous surfaces, such as painted wall-paper, wainscoting, ceramic tiles, etc. The surface of the cable which has got to be applied to a wall is flat and is coated with a self-sticking substance, which does not dry, as it is protected by a thin sheet of paper. When applying the cable, all one has to do is to pull off the protective piece of paper and the cable is ready to be affixed. We would like to add that these cables for which both Swiss and foreign patents have been applied for, are to be had in various colours, so that they do not clash with the prevailing colour of the rooms in which they are used. This useful invention, which has been subjected successfully to various tests, will no doubt find an extensive field of application.

REVOLUTION IN SPRAY GUN PAINTING

A Swiss manufacturer has just perfected a new process for electrostatic spray painting which may really be qualified as being quite revolutionary. In this new system the paint is highly charged electrostatically by means of a generator and atomised by the spray gun. The article to be painted is, in its turn, oppositely charged electrostatically and thus attracts the atomised paint proceeding from the spray gun, which ensures the smooth coating of the articles on all sides, without the necessity of it being revolved. The "Nesag Spraytron" process offers various definite advantages over all previous systems, owing to the fact that all the paint particles are utilised, being, as they are, attracted to the article to be painted, as by a magnet. In this manner a noticeable saving in paint is possible which can amount to 60 per cent. Moreover, as a result of the complete lack of overspray, mist and fume spray booths, which were formerly essential, are now superfluous, which simplifies the work and reduces costs; other advantages: as the "Nesag" unit requires relatively low air pressures, it is no longer necessary to have a big air compressor and this reduces the amount of noise; the consumption of electricity is very low, whilst, on the other hand, this process offers a considerable saving of time and is so simple that a non-skilled operator can use it.