Obituaries

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against a publicly owned slaughter house. At Zurzach over 300 citizens demanded an extraordinary Assembly. After a 3½-hour debate the secret poll resulted in a new planning scheme which would prevent the erection of a cement factory to which a majority of citizns are opposed.

Sometimes the Commune Assembly cannot function because of the necessary numbers not being present. The Canton of Aargau has a high quorum of 50 per cent and in recent months several Commune Assemblies had to be disbanded; at Wettingen even twice last summer and again twice recently. On one occasion 1930 men had to be sent home as the numbers were 58 short. The Cantonal authorities are concerned about this and are now working out new proposals regarding the quorum. Possibly an "Inhabitants' Council" (Einwohnerrat), a kind of Commune Parliament, may be proposed as in the town of Lucerne. Kriens (Lucerne), which has 16,000 inhabitants, accepted such a Council of 24 in November, and Emmen (Lucerne) decided in January to introduce it (40 members).

In Zug, the last Commune Assembly took place on 21st December. It was introduced in 1874 and now at the beginning of 1963 it is replaced by an "Inhabitants' Council" of 40 members. This does not mean that the rights of the citizen are curtailed—he will always have the power to start an Initiative and to make use of the Referendum to object, in the Commune as well as Canton and the Confederation.　　　　　　　　—THE SWISS OBSERVER

(Based mainly on news received from Agence Telegraphique Suisse.)

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MARIE ANNA ELISABETH HOLDENER

Mrs Marie Anna Elisabeth Holdener died in Hawera Hospital on March 30th, aged 71. She came to New Zealand in 1914 and with her husband Frank, took up farming in Whenuakura and Manaia until they went home to Switzerland again in 1925. However, they could not forget New Zealand and returned in July, 1927, and settled permanently on a farm in Manawapou Rd., until their retirement to live at Princess Street, Hawera, eight years ago.

Mrs Holdener was a perfect mother and wife and was especially very fond of a well-kept flower garden. Her beloved flowers were always a treat to see and could almost whisper a kind word of welcome to visitors and admirers. The large amount of floral tributes on the occasion of her funeral in the Hawera cemetery was a striking testimony to the popularity of the deceased.

To the bereaved husband and daughters Mary (Mrs John Steiner, New Plymouth) and Hilda (Hawera) we extend our deepest sympathy.
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