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1ST AUGUST CELEBRATION IN WELLINGTON.

We are pleased to be able to report that a most successful evening was held in Wellington again this year to celebrate our National Day.

The now already familiar rooms in the Evening Post building were gaily decorated with the usual flags, lanterns, coats of arms, posters, etc., which created a festive and friendly atmosphere.

About 40 members and friends turned up and Mr. E. Dickenmann opened the evening by welcoming the guests, wishing them an evening which he hoped they would remember as one on which they had had a good time amongst the small Swiss community in Wellington. In a short address he expressed his confidence that our Government and people at home, who had had to fight hard for their existence during the last five years, would fight even harder to gain the place in the postwar world which we consider our rightful place amongst the nations. Through the courtesy of Mr. S. Porter, who put his time and projector at our disposal, we were able to see three Swiss industrial films on the watch industry, the textile industry and on the generating and use of electric power in Switzerland. These three films were very much welcomed and we hope to obtain some scenic films by next year. Mrs. Beck and Miss Browning, who were also our guests last year, entertained us again with their perfect piano and violin playing, which everyone enjoyed very much and we hope they may be with us again next year. Dr. Walter Schmid, the Swiss Consul, and Mrs. Schmid were also present and in his address, before giving us the toast "Switzerland", Dr. Schmid pointed out the difficult economic position which had arisen at home through all the difficulties of transport, blockade and counterblockade, and that the military operations of the belligerents are working up to a climax which we should do well to watch. But he also emphasized that the situation did not look so serious now as it had appeared a year ago, when we celebrated the foundation of our Confederation in the same rooms, because at least the end of the war in Europe was in sight. He also paid tribute to the late Emil Cattin, whose loss only a few weeks ago was deeply felt amongst our small community in Wellington and his presence was certainly missed by everybody on this occasion.

Afterwards, our ladies got busy with the supper, which with the help of Mr. Komminoth, turned out to be the usual "non plus ultra" in this field and soon everybody was busy enjoying all the good things including a glass of beer and the much advertised "Applewine".

Reinforced with this supper, for which our ladies and Mr. Komminoth earned our heartiest thanks, we got busy with dancing and singing to the tune of Ted Steffen's accordion, accompanied by Mr. Muller and Mr. Schlatter on the piano. Even if we had a few somewhat quiet spells during the evening, (nobody can keep going flat-out from 8 p.m. till 4 a.m.!), we certainly made up for it in the early hours of the morning, and the few bachelors who were left to do the cleaning-up did this with a flourish and without feeling a bit tired - and we are told that they made a good job of it.

Finally, we wish here to thank all those who helped to make this celebration of the 653rd Anniversary of Switzerland such a success.

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MESSAGES OF CONGRATULATION RECEIVED AND SENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE 653RD ANNIVERSARY OF SWITZERLAND.

Cable sent to the President of the Swiss Confederation, Dr. Walter Stampfli:

"ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATIONAL DAY THE SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY HAS REQUESTED ME TO CONVEY TO YOU IN THE NAME OF ALL FELLOW COUNTRYMEN IN NEW ZEALAND PATRIOTIC GREETINGS

SCHMID SWISS CONSUL

(English translation).

Cable received from the Swiss Foreign Office in Berne:

"PLEASE CONVEY TO THE SWISS COMMUNITY IN NEW ZEALAND OUR THANKS FOR THEIR PATRIOTIC MESSAGE AND OUR BEST WISHES IN THESE DIFFICULT DAYS".

(English translation).

Telegram received by the Swiss Consul at Wellington, from His Worship the Mayor of Auckland, Mr. J.A.C. Allum:

"FELICITATIONS ON SIXHUNDRED AND FIFTY THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF YOUR CONFEDERATION".

A letter of thanks has been addressed to the Mayor of Auckland for his kind wishes.

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A letter of congratulation was also received from Captain Paul E. Schweizer, U.S. Navy, who was stationed in Auckland for some time, and a letter of thanks has also been sent to him.

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SWISS BROADCASTS (Change of Time): The Swiss Consulate in Wellington has just received the following cable from the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation:

"BEGINNING TUESDAY AUGUST 22 AUSTRALIAN PROGRAMS THREE HOURS EARLIER WAVES 25.08 and 23.14 PLEASE ADVISE COLONIES AND CABLE RESULTS."

From this our compatriots will learn, that the regular weekly broadcasts will be heard as from the 22nd of August on:

Wave length: 23.14 and 25.08 m.
Time: 5-6.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

We take this opportunity to remind members, that we have asked them repeatedly through this paper to let us have reports on the reception of these broadcasts, so that we may be in a position to inform the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation accordingly and we should be very pleased indeed if members would be good enough to drop a line from time to time to the Secretary or to the Swiss Consulate in Wellington in this respect.

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One of the regular listeners informs us, that she listens to a daily broadcast from Switzerland on the 45 m band at 6.30 a.m. and at 5.45 p.m. when news is given, and these broadcasts are received quite well.

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1ST AUGUST BADGES: Auckland district members have the opportunity of purchasing the now attractive badge just received from Switzerland. Against remittance of 2/6 a badge will be posted promptly. Please forward to Mr. A. Peyer, 48 Moa Road, Pt. Chevalier, Auckland, or to the Secretary.

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PROCEEDS OF SALE OF 1ST AUGUST BADGES 1943. We herewith wish to inform members, that we have received the following letter from the "Schweizerische Bundesfeier Komitee" at Zurich regarding the above:

"We have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of s.frs.259.95 (NZ£18.16.9) through the intermediary of the Swiss Foreign Office being the contribution of the Swiss Community in New Zealand towards our 1st of August collection 1943 and we shall thank you to express to all the donors on our behalf our heartiest thanks."

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

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| MR. JOHN BUTLER, Butcher, Tariki: | Varieties of Swiss Sausages. |
| MR. TONY KOMMINOTH, Wellington: | Visit his new "Lido" Tea Rooms, 118 Courtenay Place, Wellington. |
| MR. F. GRAEDEL, Orini R.D., Taupiri: | Manufacturing Mountain Chalet Cream Cheese-4d per cake-plus postage. Orders promptly dealt with. |
| MR. L. LEUTHARD, New Plymouth: | Visit his "Hygienic Dining Rooms". |
| MR. L. ZURCHER, 212 Pattison Rd., Hastings: | 1944 Apple Cider, 5/- per gallon in two gallon lots, plus freight; samples free of charge; in ordering state dry or sweet. Jars to lend. "Moscht muonds aim ghä." |
- CORRESPONDENCE: Please address to the Secretary - Mr. E. Merz,
P.O. Box 85, AUCKLAND.C.1.