

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 32 (1969)  
**Heft:** [5]

**Vorwort:** Thoughts for the Annual General Meeting  
**Autor:** [s.n.]

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. [See Legal notice.](#)

**Download PDF:** 02.04.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## Thoughts for the Annual General Meeting



With the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society to be held shortly it is most appropriate and timely to reflect upon the cherished right of our people — Swiss people especially — to exercise their right to vote . . . as we claim to possess the most perfect version of democracy in the world.

“The love of democracy is that of equality” quotes Montesquieu, and Franklin D. Roosevelt once said in a celebrated speech “Democracy, the practice of self-government, is a covenant among free men to respect the rights and liberties of their fellows”.

At the forthcoming Annual General Meeting we are going to be faced with a test on whether our thinking is in accordance with these thoughts: whether we do respect the rights of our members who will not have the opportunity or the means to attend the Meeting on account of the widespread nature of the country, and who would wish to exercise the right to vote.

Therefore, we should realise that a great many of our members do not have the opportunity to be a member of an affiliated club and would naturally be deprived of this most cherished right of every Swiss.

The Swiss Society movement in New Zealand — an offshoot of the Swiss Benevolent Society — has a proud history and is, according to a recent visitor to this country, Mr Channey (editor of the “Zurcher Tages Anzeiger” and executive member of the Neue Helvetischen Gesellschaft), second to none other Swiss movement in the world.

Let's think and do not make it poorer by depriving a minority the right to vote — a minority who number only a dozen or so: 210 members of affiliated clubs against 196 single members . . .

— Editing Committee.