

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 63 (1997)
Heft: [9]

Vorwort: Editorial
Autor: Rust, Rinaldo

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: 14.03.2025

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

Editorial

A world-wide challenge

Some time ago, and in view of rising unemployment figures; the Swiss Government proposed to lower the unemployment benefit by 3 %.

- A group of unemployed Swiss people then demanded to have the proposal submitted to the voting public by way of a referendum.

- On 28th Sept. the Swiss voters rejected the Swiss Government's proposal, albeit only by a small margin.

For Switzerland it is a relatively new task to come to terms with the problem of unemployment. I remember at the time of our emigration in the 50's, it was thought that the federal unemployment fund would never be in question in the future. During the "booming 80's." some people demanded that the premiums towards

be lowered, as no need for Pay-out was foreseeable for a long time to come. And now, in Switzerland, just as in other countries, there is talk of permanent unemployment. Technology, Computers, globalisation of economies are part of modern living and are destroying workplaces. Lucky are the employees with secure jobs in industries that are able to "cream-off the top"! But how just is this towards the legitimate and perhaps permanently unemployed? - It would appear that one of the most pressing tasks the "political and economic world" is facing today, is to devise a system of sharing the available work more evenly with a more even distribution of salaries and wages. At this very time Italy is planning to reduce a 39 hour working week to a 35 hour working week. It remains to be seen if this will lower the unemployment rate of the country.

- It is thought that failure to find a

solution for this problem could lead to the destruction of family, state, and democracy in many countries. What is your opinion?

President's Message

Spring has now well and truly arrived, with trees blossoming and flowers blooming - a time for new beginnings.....

For me, also, there will soon be a new beginning. By the time this edition of the HELVETIA reaches you, I will have been in hospital for the amputation of my right leg.

So my new beginning will hopefully mean increased mobility, a chance to walk again, and with any luck, less pain. Although there are no guarantees of the outcome, I'm sure it will still be an improvement to my current situation - here's hoping!

In the meantime though, I have to make good use of the limited time I have between hospitalisations (I have already spent over two weeks "inside" for other surgery prior to the upcoming operation), to catch up with my various jobs. One priority is of course the Swiss Society, and I would like to thank all those who recently sent their annual subscriptions in response to the reminder letter.

Only a small number are now still outstanding, and I hope to receive these payments shortly, so that I don't have to delete any names from the mailing list! I would also like to thank all our advertisers for their continued support. Advertising income enables us to keep the costs of the HELVETIA affordable and to a minimum for all members, so I therefore urge you all to support these businesses wherever possible.

Our Delegate for the Swiss Abroad will shortly be returning to New Zealand, after having attended the annual conference which was held in Lugano this year. No doubt, there will be a full report in the December edition.

And now some food for thought - on the front page it is noted that the Society is in its 63rd year, which means that 1999 will be our 65th anniversary. Any ideas would be welcome.....?

My best wishes for a good month, Beatrice.

SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

PATRON: Mr Walter Simmen, Chargé d' Affaires of Switzerland

PRESIDENT/TREASURER: Beatrice Leuenberger, 44 Montgomery Crescent, Hamilton, Ph/Fax (07) 843-7971

VICE PRESIDENT: Bert Flühler, 1 Bettina Rd. Hamilton, Ph. (07) 855-4308

SECRETARY: Ruth Waldvogel, 89 Crosby Rd. Hamilton, Ph. (07) 855-3417

RIFLEMASTER: Peter Rust, Bayley Rd. R.D.3. Te Awamutu, Ph. (07) 872-2636

DELEGATES TO THE SWISS ABROAD CONFERENCE IN SWITZERLAND

DELEGATE: Heinz Leuenberger, 33 Russell Terrace, Putaruru, Ph/Fax (07) 883-8537

DEPUTY DELEGATE: Marie-Therese Melville-Schöpfer, P.O Box 79-294, Royal Heights, Auckland 1230, Ph. (09) 833-4029

EDITOR: Rinaldo Rust, 242 Te Pahu Rd. R.D.5. Hamilton, Ph/Fax (07) 871-9946

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

AUCKLAND

SECRETARY: Albert Ryter, 32 Sunrise Ave. Mairangi Bay, Auckland, Ph. (09) 478-8547

HAMILTON

SECRETARY: Heidi Fransen, 30 Melva St. Hamilton, Ph (07) 847-1353

TARANAKI

SECRETARY: Doreen Schuler, Palmer Rd. P.O. Box 33, Kaponga, Ph. (06) 764-6533

WELLINGTON

SECRETARY: Michelle Köppel-Schneider, c/o. Embassy of Switzerland, Home Ph. (04) 476-7805

EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND: Panama House, 22 Panama St. Wellington, Ph. (04) 472-1593 or (04) 472-1594 Fax (04) 499-6302

HONORARY CONSUL: Peter Deutschle, P.O. Box 90-209, Auckland Mail Centre Ph. (09) 366-0403