

News of the colony

Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand**

Band (Jahr): **24 (1961)**

Heft [1]

PDF erstellt am: **29.05.2024**

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poor children into his home, and at one time had as many as fifty staying with him. He wrote of the conditions these poor young ones had been forced to live in, and took great pleasure in teaching them. But in 1780, five years after he had started this plan, he was forced by the authorities to send the children back to regular institutions.

Then came a period of literary activity. He wrote "Abendstunde eines Einsiedlers," and "Lienhard und Gertrud," a novel of country folk. During this time, too, he visited the surrounding business houses, and listened much to the talk of farmers, learning always, more of their philosophies, their mode of living.

Somewhat later Pestalozzi came again in contact with the business world. A foreigner named Notz needed a townsman as proprietor of his shop, or at least someone in whose name he could run the business. Pestalozzi, for a small consideration, allowed the man to use his name, and then went to the "Platte" in Zurich, where he started a shelter for the poor of the city. Then, in the middle period of his life, came the French invasion. Poverty increased, and half-starved, homeless children roamed forlorn as lost puppies. At Stans, Pestalozzi became a father and a teacher to these young unfortunates. He did so much in educating and taking care of them that Michelet said, "He wants his school not only to teach and shelter them, but to become a mother of them as well." But the necessity of wartime halted his work when the French turned the home into a military hospital.

Scarcely had Fate turned once more against him when new coloured threads were spun in his life pattern. Swiss authorities gave Pestalozzi an opportunity to continue his work in the rooms of the old castle in Burgdorf. His name was now becoming more and more famous, and educators and students came from all over the country to see him, and to learn the "Pestalozzi method." Later he worked for a time in Munchenbuchsee, where he also founded a school. But in this flat, plain-like country so different from the green hills of Burgdorf, Pestalozzi did not feel at home. He accepted an invitation from the mayor of Yverdon to continue his educational work in this small town, and started to write again on his theories.

These were the happiest years of Pestalozzi's life. He was doing, unhampered, that which he had always wanted to do, and for the first time he was able to work without being troubled by material worries. Once again he revived his old dream of helping the poor by founding a home in Clindly for indigent children, and in the following year, 1819, this was combined with a home in Yverdon. An old man now, his life ambitions were at last being realised. In 1826 he wrote some papers on his work in Burgdorf and Yverdon, and in his eightieth year, return to Neuhaus, where he spent his last days in contentment. He died on 17th February, 1827.

Pestalozzi lives on. Essentially an idealist and a dreamer, he was a dreamer who had turned dreams into realities. Time has erased much of the material evidence of his work, but the personality of this man who had such boundless compassion for humanity cannot die. His name will inspire through the ages.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

A TRAGEDY ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Tragedy has struck the families of two Swiss descendant brothers, sons of Friedrich Schlup, who, in the earlier years of the century, had settled his family on a farm near Waiuku.

The four children of the two brothers' families set out together for a trip to Auckland and, unfortunately, met with a dreadful head-on collision on the Papakura-Waiuku highway. The accident took the lives of all four children. They were:

Andrew Marshall Schlup, 14-year-old son of Mr and Mrs Fred Schlup, farmer, Glenbrook, Waiuku, and their 18-year-old daughter

Beverley May Schlup, a very promising student of science and music.

Colin Leo Schlup, 19-year-old motor mechanic, son of Mr and Mrs Leo Schlup, university lecturer, 25 Rarangi Road, St. Heliers, and their 11-year-old son

Murray Ivan Schlup.

A few members of the Schlup families had joined our Swiss Christmas Party in Auckland, and we shook hands to wish a Happy Christmas in each other's homes. Who would have expected that our wishes would not become true! It is difficult to express in words our deeply felt sympathy for the Schlup families. Human mind is too weak to understand the sudden passing away of the promising youth of two families. God alone can understand. May He help the lonely parents. —F. Kaegi

TWO SWISS ON A TRIP HOME

Mrs M. Kung, 34 Bentley Ave., New Lynn, and Dr. L. Bossard, 24 Edmond Street, St. Heliers, left just after New Year on the M.S. Castel Felice for Switzerland.

Mrs Kung is longing to see again her relatives and friends she has not seen since her immigration with her family about 10 years ago. We wish her the very best in old Switzerland.

Dr. Bossard, our former president of the Society and honorary member, travels his own original way. He has arranged to travel by land over India, Afghanistan, Persia, Turkey, Balkan to Switzerland. No doubt, this is an outstanding effort for a man of his age, and it's a risk as well. We wish him as much success and pleasure as he has courage.

SWISS CHRISTMAS IN AUCKLAND

Many said that it was the finest party of the year when we gathered in Auckland around our Christmas tree. There was no electric light for a long time. No conducting of carols was necessary—they started in one corner and took hold on all . . . just like that! Father Christmas was generous, and our ladies baked a great variety of Swiss Christmas cakes. Mrs G. Fluckiger made a great Zuepfe for each table, and several Schnegge for each child. Swiss songs and tunes by the never failing Alf and Charly (accordionists) brought the evening to a very happy end.

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

This function was held in our usual clubrooms at Riverlea Cabaret. There was a large attendance of adults and children. Before the Christmas party proper, the president handed out the prizes to the lucky winners of Kegeln and Schiessen competitions at the Matamata picnic. Everybody then joined in singing "Oh Tannenbaum." Joe Risi gave a vocal solo, "Ave Maria," accompanied by Hedy Biland, and as usual his singing was much appreciated.

Some children, with burning candles in their hands, sang some of the English well-loved carols. A real novelty was "Stille Nacht," played with a recorder, violin and auto harp. During these items the candles on the Christmas tree, which had been beautifully decorated in real Swiss fashion, were shedding their soft light in the dimmed hall. After everyone had sung "Oh Du Froehliche" there was a commotion at the back of the hall when Santa Claus came, carrying a large, well-filled sack.

About 70 children received a parcel with a gift and lollies, also some necessary admonitions. Santa, as usual, had been again splendidly enacted by Peter Reinhard. The highlight of his appearance was of course the carrying out of the "naughty" boy in his sack.

An excellent supper was served to which all present had contributed a plate. Three handoergelers then gave us dance tunes unstintingly and so, with something for everybody, the Christmas party came to a happy conclusion.
—H.B.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday, December 4th, we held our annual Christmas Party in the Brooklyn Community Hall. There was a record attendance at this function, including a great number of children. When everybody was seated, Mr Bischof opened the evening with a few words of welcome, after which everybody joined in the singing of Christmas carols.

Next on the list was the showing of three films. The first two were for the children—one, for the very young, was about the cheeky antics of three baby bears, the other, for children a little older, was adapted from a Canadian legend and filmed in the "logging country" of Canada. The third film shown was for the "grown-ups." This was filmed in Nigeria and was very interesting.

After the films some of the young girls performed a ballet to the plaintive notes of a recorder which was played by quite a small girl. Then came the big moment every child eagerly awaited—Father Christmas walked in, case in hand and a big bag of presents. He looked in his book and called each child separately to him and gently chastised him or her for any faults they had shown during the past year and made them promise to be better in the future. Each child was then given a small gift. When his bag was empty Father Christmas waved a cheerful "goodbye" to the children.

After a delicious supper of cakes and Christmas cookies had been enjoyed by all the time came to go home.
—J.F.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

COMBINED PICNIC COMBINED PICNIC

HAMILTON-AUCKLAND SWISS CLUBS

Mercer Riverbanks — Mercer Riverbanks

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th, 1961

Usual Competitions
Bratzwerste, etc.
Ice Cream, Soft Drinks available.
Please bring your own beer, etc.

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

The next evening will be held on the first Sunday in March in the Riverlea. The Dutch orchestra will play for you — bring your partners.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

Please keep the following dates free for the summer season: **Picnic**, Sunday, January 29th; **Camping**, Saturday-Sunday, February 18-19th; **Picnic**, Sunday, March 12th. Further details will follow in invitations.

TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

The club's Annual Picnic will be held at the Te Ngutu Domain, Okaiawa, on Sunday, February 12th.

SWISS SOCIETY SHOOTING COMPETITION

18th & 19th March, 1961

RULES

1. The Swiss Society of New Zealand (later on called "Society") organises a shooting competition to be held uniformly on Saturday and Sunday, 18th and 19th March, 1961, with the intention to convey the contest to an annual event of the Swiss community of New Zealand.
2. **Competitors** may be any Swiss, or descendants of Swiss, and any member of a Swiss Club, and who are domiciliated in New Zealand, provided they have attained the age of 15 years.
3. There will be **Individual and Group Competition**, based on the following conditions:
 - (a) **Rifle:** British .22 (easy to manage by ladies), without optical aids.
 - (b) **Ammunition:** I.C.I. .22 short length, solid bullet.
 - (c) **Distance:** Twenty-five yards from muzzle to target.
 - (d) **Position:** Lying, support of rifle by free and unbraced arms only.
 - (e) **Target:** 10 points. Diameter of outer circle 3 15/16 inches; diameter of bulls eye (3 inner circles) 2 3/16 inches; diameter of innermost circle 7/16 inches. For the competition the targets and their respective report forms carry a common number, allowing therefore only one predecided serial of shots to be accepted as competitive serial by the same competitor. A touched circle counts as hitting the circle.
 - (f) **Shots:** In not more than 45 minutes, and without interruption each marksman shoots: (1) a try serial of two shots, (2) a main serial of six shots.
 - (g) **Order of Precedence:** Individual competitors qualify according to the total score of the 6 shots of their main serial. Equal scores of the main serial require to include the try serial for decision of rank. When both serials amount to an equal