

News of the colony

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Meanwhile the impending supply deficit must be filled, since the rise in Swiss power demands averaged 5.8% over the last few years, which is equivalent to a doubling of consumption in twelve years or so. The best solution seems to lie in the harnessing of the remaining water resources, supplemented by the construction of a few thermal stations of conventional type. The Centrale Thermique de Vouvry S.A. (CTV) of Lausanne is already building a thermal power station in the region where the River Rhone flows into the Lake of Geneva. Participating in this concern are the Energie de l'Quest-Suisse S.A., Raffinerie du Rhone S.A., the Swiss Federal Railways, Schweizerische Aluminium AG (Alusuisse), Lonza AG and the Societe Romande d'Electricite.

This concern recently placed an order with Sulzer Brothers for a Monotube Steam Generator, which will have a maximum steam output of 460 tonnes/h, a service pressure of 190 atm.g. and a temperature of 540 degrees C. The fuel oil will be supplied by the neighbouring Raffinerie du Rhone S.A. at Collombey. The turbo-set will have an installed capacity of 150 MW, and it will generate some 400 GWh during about 3000 hours of service annually. The price per kilowatt-hour will be around 4 to 4.5 Swiss centimes. In the not-too-distant future a second block of similar capacity will be installed.

The problem of air pollution from the boiler exhaust gases was examined very thoroughly. Because it was imperative that any such pollution be avoided in the Rhone plain, which lies at an altitude of some 1250ft above sea level, an underground chimney in the form of a tunnel 4750 ft. long was considered first, leading the flue gases out to the surface through the mountain-side. In the end, however, it proved more practical to site the whole station at an altitude of 2700 ft. above sea level.

(By courtesy of Sulzer Technical Review)

NEWS OF THE COLONY ● ● ● ●

Auckland Swiss Club

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Mr and Mrs Erich Flueck, to their little baby daughter Brigitta, born on 30th December, 1964, a wee sister to Cederick. With our best wishes for their future.

—The Committee.

Hamilton Swiss Club

A happy crowd gathered on Sunday, 13th December, 1964, at the Pine Lodge, to celebrate our traditional Christmas evening. The old Christmas story was brought to our memories by a delightful "Krippenspiel," produced by our youngsters, and accepted with great pleasure and applause.

Some carols sung by our choir formed the suitable background music of this little play. Main item, of course, was the enormous Christmas tree, shining in real candle-light and the appearance of Father Christmas who presented all our children with a small gift.

A good supper, as usual, supplemented by home-made cookies was very appreciated. Many thanks to all who helped.
—H.O.

Wellington Swiss Club

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Judging by the generosity of Father Christmas at today's Christmas party of the Wellington Swiss Club, all children must have been on their best behaviour throughout the year. He did not seem aged either, although it is a whole year since we saw him last. I overheard him say many a kind and encouraging word to a number of boys and girls. Small, as well as the not-so-small really enjoyed themselves immensely and despite the rather high temperature of the day with occasional rain, that Christmas feeling was in the air.

Real "Samichlaus-Lebkuchen," softdrinks and last but not least, the delicious "Zopfenbrot" added to that Christmas party spirit.

I am sure Father Christmas must have been very pleased at the wonderful assistance given him by members of the committee (there seem to be more children every year). The variety of the gifts were to be marvelled at. Thank you for giving so much individual thought to the presents. It is to be hoped, however, that the young "Spacemen" will find their way back from Mars without too much difficulty — at least by next Christmas!

What heartwarming moments for every parent to see each child meet St Nicholas — hesitant, wondering, shy, curious, or even tearfully. Let's hope your camera managed to capture some of these moments!

Unfortunately the writer was unable to be present at the evening gathering for adults but I have been informed that it was a very enjoyable one. Perhaps it was the heavy rain that kept many away.

The Christmas season is with us and this is the time when we should all spare a thought for the not so fortunate—let us not forget, not all is well in this world—may 1965 bring peace and contentment to all mankind. Happy New Year!
—Kiki

Christchurch Swiss Club

On the 12th December, 1964, the Christchurch Swiss Club held its annual Christmas picnic at Woodend Beach near Christchurch. It was a beautiful day with temperatures in the 70's. Before lunch most of us scrambled into our bathing costumes and made

tracks for the surf. The children played in the water at the edge with coloured balls and waterwings.

After a most enjoyable swim we headed back for lunch. Mrs O. Muller took round a tin of caramel squares for everyone to sample. Yum, delicious!

Santa Claus appeared in the form of Mr Ospelt and presented the children with lovely gifts.

When all the lunch dishes had been washed and packed up, everyone gathered under the pine trees to play Kegelbahn. This game was won by a New Zealander, Mr Slack.

While the game was in motion some of the ladies joined together and sang some Swiss folk songs. Their voices rang across the picnic ground much to the pleasure of many other picnickers in the vicinity, who lay back in the sun and imagined they were in Switzerland.

From 3.30 onwards people began to drift off home. The picnic had come to an end, but by the look of delight on the children's faces they had really enjoyed themselves.

To end the year, Mr and Mrs Kurt Feldmann held a party at their flat on December 23rd, for the members of the Club.

To all the Swiss in New Zealand, the Christchurch Swiss Club sends good wishes for the New Year. —Mrs J.F.

NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY

The Embassy has received a letter from the "Schweizerischen Bundesfeier-Komitee" expressing its thanks to our Colony in New Zealand for the very satisfactory result of the sale of the 1st of August, 1964 badges, the proceeds of which go to the aid of the Swiss Mountain Communities and the development of their economy.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Auckland Swiss Club

"HANGI" IN POLYNESIAN FASHION

On 13th February, 1965, a huge "Hangi," prepared by expert Tahitians, will be held at Redwood Park, Henderson, starting at lunch-time and ready to eat at approximately 5 p.m.

Families are invited to spend the afternoon with their children in this beautiful Park, with all the amenities, such as a swimming pool, see-saws, and swings, etc, until the "Hangi" is served. The Park grounds are free to all guests attending the "Hangi" and except for some specific lots allocated to Picnic Socials for that day until 4.30 p.m., the guests are free to enjoy themselves in the Park. The Hall for this function is available from 4.30 p.m., but if the weather permits the "Hangi" will be served outside on the grounds.