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Hamilton Swiss Club: Mr Hans Meister, 31 Donny Ave, Hamilton, Ph. 57-993

Taranaki Swiss Club: Mr R. Dudli, R.D. 29, Kaponga, Ph. Auroa 624

Wellington Swiss Club: Mr H. Scherrer, Whitemans Valley Rd, Upper Hutt, R.D., Ph. 286-984.

Club News

Hamilton Swiss Club:

This year we celebrated the Swiss National Day with great enthusiasm. The venue was the Eureka Hall which was packed to the fullest, which goes to say that our members still enjoy the country atmosphere in preference to a more formal function in town.

The hall was beautifully decorated with traditional swiss decorations and the band got into full swing at 8 p.m. Throughout the evening we had various items, beginning with some Laendlermusik played by the Rufer girls on the Accordion, which also brought several people on to the dance floor and enjoyed by all.

Later in the evening our very own President did some 'Fahnenschwingen' and was accompanied by Werner Stucki on the Accordion. A real swiss sing-song

followed on from this, which everyone joined, even all the kiwis. A real Swiss Z'nacht was served later in the evening thanks to the efforts of Josie and Bert Fluhler who prepared the delicious 'Sauerkraut.' The various extras such as the cheese board, french bread, hot ham and schublig were appreciated by all, not forgetting the selection of home-baked cakes and coffee (with Schnapps of course).

All in all we had a very enjoyable August 1 Feier which lasted till early morning, thanks to Werner and his team of musicians who entertained everybody after the band finished at 1 a.m. It was also very encouraging to see all the lovely Swiss Costumes on many of our members which always gives the evening a typical homely atmosphere. Again many thanks to the committee and all the helpers who spent some of their time in the kitchen throughout the evening. Hope to see you all again on September 24 for our Fondue Evening and another great night.

A.Z.

Coming Events:

SEPTEMBER 24 - FONDUE EVENING: At Eureka Hall. Time - 7.30 p.m. During this evening we will be presenting the medals to all the lucky participants of our Sports Competitions. As usual we will be serving our very popular Cheese Fondue as well as other Swiss Specialties. We also hope that Werner Stucki will be here again to give us a few items on his Accordion and possibly some items on the piano, so it should be another enjoyable evening. We hope to see the great numbers we had at our August 1 celebration, so tell your friends about it.

Please remember to bring your own Fondue Set with forks, clearly labelled.

Please make a note of our forthcoming events on your calendar:

October 29 - Bierfest at Eureka Hall, 7.30 p.m. (more details in the next issue.)

December 11 - Samichlaustag and Children's Christmas Party at Eureka Hall - daytime function.

February 26, 1984 - Picnic.

Our 'G'muetliche Obig' on Saturday, August 27 was reasonably well attended and it was very encouraging to see so many faces from further afield. Most of the evening was spent on the Kegel Alley, with a few members opting for a friendly game of cards. It wasn't long and it was time for supper and soon everyone sampled some grilled Fleischkaese and French Bread.

We had plenty for seconds and soon everyone was full, rather a pity because we had such a great selection of cake to follow. Thanks to all the ladies for bringing such tempting cakes. All in all it was an enjoyable evening and we hope that more of our members will attend any future Kegel Evenings.

A.Z.

Taranaki Swiss Club:

NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS 1983: The National Day was celebrated at the Kaponga Town Hall on Saturday, July 30, in a gaily decorated hall, the brightly burning candles decorated with red and white flowers and greenery gave a festive atmosphere and the array of flags strung across the dance floor all added to the happy occasion.

A social hour was enjoyed from 6.30 p.m. onwards followed by a Buffet meal at 8 p.m.

The President, Mr Len Chamberlain, welcomed all the guests after which a tape was played bringing greetings from Switzerland.

Our Patroness, Miss Ida Bernold, also gave a short greeting and then presented some cups won during the year. The winner of the Zurcher Cup for Swiss Cards was Mr E. Fuglistaller and the Romer Cup for Euchre players was won by Mrs Irene Cruikshank.

The Swiss Society Cup for Steisstossen was won by Mr D. Cruikshank. Medals with the New Plymouth Coat of Arms were presented to 25 competitors, won during the year. Our popular Swiss Dancing Group performed several traditional dances in their colourful costumes.

Music for dancing was supplied by Mr Z. Hospenthal and the Tipler family.

Raffle winners: Mrs B. Keegan 1, Mrs R. Monti 2. Monte Carlo: Mr & Mrs R. Zimmerman.

During the winter months a series of six card evenings was held at the Clubhouse and the following are the winners:

First night Euchre: Mrs B. Zimmerman 1, Mrs I. Cruikshank 2, Mr P. Gilbanks 3. Jass: Mr E. Fuglistaller 1, R. Haag 2, P. Zimmerman 3. Raffle Winner: Mr A. Briscoe. Second night Euchre: Mr A. Briscoe 1, Mrs D. Schuler 2, Mrs M. Arbuckle 3. Jass: Mr R. Dudli 1, Mr J. Riebli 2, Mr R. Buhler 3. Raffle Winner: Mr L. Kuriger.

Third night Euchre: Mr F. Arnold 1, Mr C. Collins 2, Mr B. Malone 3. Jass: Mrs M. Suter 1, Mr F. Gwerder 2, Mr W. Seifert 3. Consolation prizes: Mr Z. Hospenthal, Mr N. Watts. Raffle prize: Mr W. Seifert. Fourth night Euchre: Mr L. Chamberlain 1, Mr N. Watts 2, Mr J. Kuriger 3. Jass: Mrs C. Gwerder 1, Mr A. Meier 2, Mr F. Gwerder 3. Consolation Prize: Mr V. Evans, Mr P. Zimmerman. Raffle Winner: Mr W. Seifert.

Fifth night Euchre: Mrs M. Arbuckle 1, Mrs I. Cruikshank 2, Mr N. Watts 3. Jass: Mr E. Fuglistaller 1, Mr F. Gwerder 2, Mr P. Suter 3. Consolation prize: Mrs M. Suter, Mrs E. Murray. Raffle winner: Mrs K. Naplin. Sixth night Euchre: Mrs J. Gilbanks 1, Mr F. Arnold 2, Mr F. Meier 3. Jass: Mr E. Fuglistaller 1, Mr C. Schuler 2, Mr F. Meier 3. Consolation prize: Mr M. Buhler, Mr J. Bishop. Raffle winner: Miss Ida Bernold. Points prize Euchre: Mrs I. Cruikshank. Jass: Mr E. Fuglistaller.

NEW RIFLE RANGE: Good progress is being made in establishing a .22 calibre range in the clubgrounds at Kaponga. The butts and the safety wall along the western boundary have now been completed and work is now going on the new shooting shed. The donations of cement, blocks, shingle and sand and also rafters for the building have been very gratifying.

An eager team of voluntary workers are anxious to have the job completed in the not too distant future.

We are happy to welcome back to New Zealand, Mrs Margaret Dudli, who has been visiting relatives in her homeland.

D. Schuler.

WEDDING BELLS

Edith Kiser and Arnold Fitzgerald were married on July 23. We wish them a happy future together.

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Details from Swissair Ph 794 664
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Auckland Swiss Club:

One of our readers says . . . Free champagne, that's how it started at 6.30 p.m. and what a start. By 7.15 most of the Swissies were present and the bar was running hot. Marco and his "labourers" were "swimming" all over the place. Around 8 p.m. the crowd of about 270 people helped themselves to a good meal. The band was playing to their best, even though a bit too loud for some.

On the other hand I have to give a medal to the committee of the club for the excellent decoration. Though when the curtain opened for the production of the jodelers the scene on stage was breathtaking. The jodelers had an easy task to be good in front of the chalet painted by Tell and Peter. With jodeling, Alphornblasen, Taler and Fahnenschwingen the jodelers had one of the last main rehearsals before going on a tour to Australia at the end of September. Good luck to them.

The tombola, also organised by the jodelers, had some good prizes and tickets were selling fast. After the short performance of the "Johann and the Baron" it was the band's job to continue till midnight. It seemed to me it wasn't the band who kept the crowd going, they did it themselves. Believe it or not at 3 a.m. a "bandi" of about 40 were still singing while the committee was doing a good job, cleaning up the mess. The hall had to be ready again at 8 a.m. for somebody else., so it was quite a job to get rid of all the "hoecklers." Over all it was a great first of August and I'd like to congratulate the new committee.

Mate.

10% DISCOUNT: Lord Ponsonby's Delicatessen at 267 Ponsonby Rd, Tele 765.260 has just announced that all members of the Auckland Swiss Club are in for a 10% discount in the shop. Just show your membership card and away you go buying lots of goodies for a discount price.

Some Real News: The Jodelgruppe of the Auckland Swiss Community has finally made the big breakthrough in show business. On Friday, September 23, 8 a.m., the team of 18 singers left New Zealand on a Continental Airways plane bound for Sydney. Saturday, September 24 they had their first engagement performing their skills in the Sydney Opera House or similar premises organised by the local Swiss Club over there.

Providing none of them suffered with a severe hangover they continued with their tour on Monday 26 on a bus to Canberra and Adelaide. Unconfirmed information tells us that there are intentions amongst the group to give some free jodel lessons to Aussies, Aborigines on the way to Adelaide as part of a program with a heading "Preserve the Swiss Jodeling."

Apparently there are no more prospective jodelers to be found within the N.Z. Swiss community to ensure the continuance of this old Swiss Custom down here on the bottom side of the world. The peak of their journey was the Grand Concert on October 1, in Adelaide. Tickets to the show were sold out months ago and were then only available on the Alice Springs Black Market.

All of them, give or take one or two, then put their feet back on their homeland on October 3 after an exhausting direct flight from Adelaide. Should you have heard some squeaky noises in the air that day, they were practising getting their voices back. (Reuter).

WANTED - MUSICIANS: Do you play an instrument other than turntable, voltmeter or scalpel? You do! And you play it reasonably well. If possible we would like to complete a list of musicians within the Swiss Community in and around Auckland and organise an evening where you could baffle your mates with your hidden talents. Give us a ring, Claire 482.129, Edi 444.3020, Chris 556.771. Also under the same sort of heading Chris would like to find out who would be interested in forming a folk dancing group.

Dunedin Swiss Group:

The traditional informal gathering of the Dunedin Swiss Group to celebrate our National Day was again very popular, attracting twenty-five Swiss compatriots and friends.

This time the venue was the Dunedin Polytech School of Catering, which featured its traditional "Swiss Evening" on August 4, where the students, under the expert supervision of Swiss chefs, Bruno Schultness and Hans Ellenberger, produced such delicious fare as: Potage Baloise, Fillet of Sole Luzernoise, Escalope de Porc with Plat de Legumes and Zuger Kirsch Torte to finish it all off. Our thanks to the chefs and students for a most enjoyable meal.

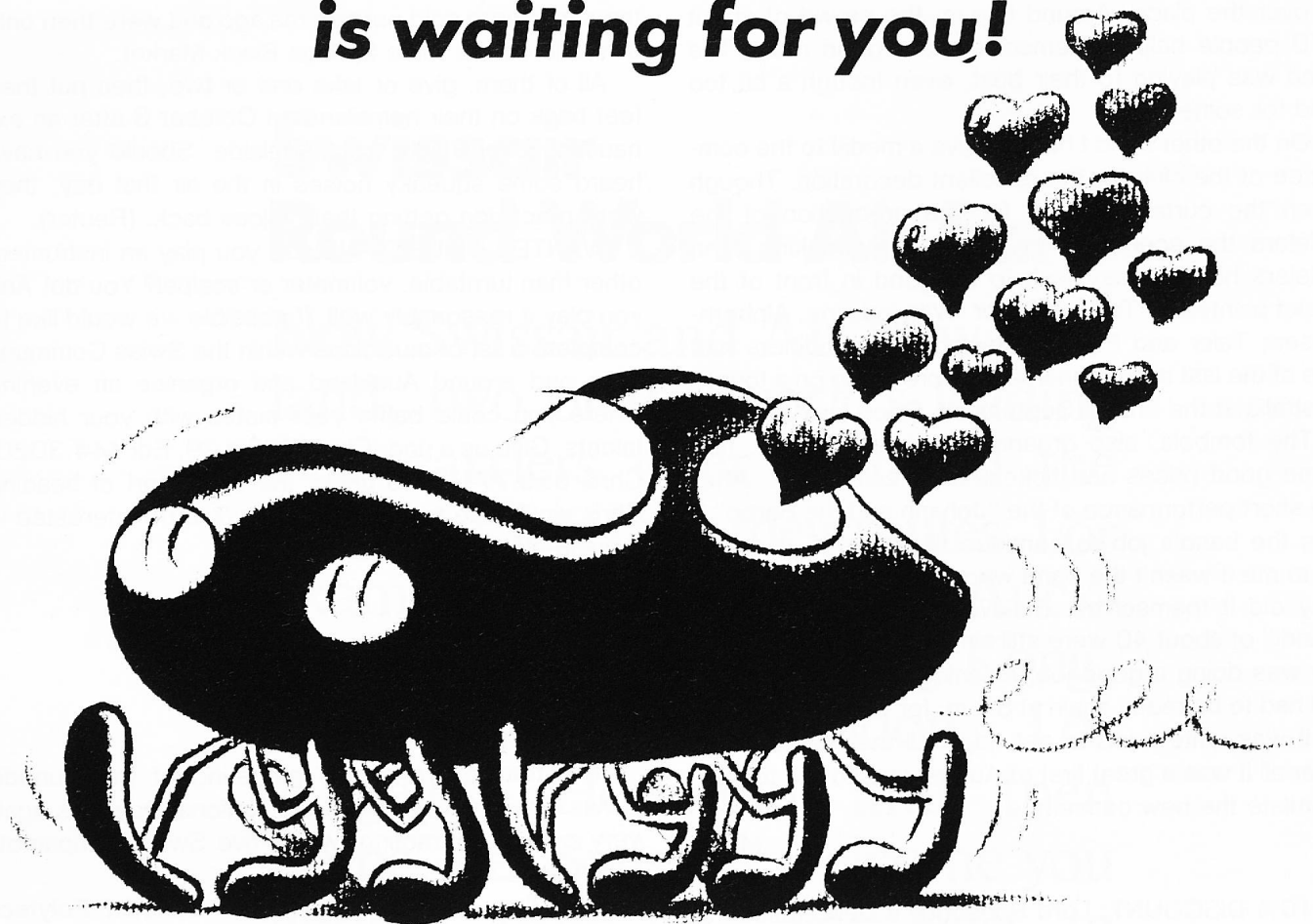
After the meal everyone was ready to relax with a cup of coffee and some traditional swiss baking, listening to the taped national day address by the Bundesprasident followed by our very best rendition of the national anthem.

After a pleasant time spent renewing acquaintances, the evening concluded with Richard Burgess showing two promotional films depicting St Moritz in all seasons followed by excerpts from silent movies starring Harold Lloyd, the likes of which can still raise a good laugh.

Our special thanks to Brigitte Hudson and Esther Burgess for so very efficiently organising this event, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

John Kradozfer.

Grüezi – and welcome back home! Your Avis Crackerjack is waiting for you!



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Wellington Swiss Club:

Our NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION on July 30 was again a great success and with 122 guests we broke all standing records. Our special thanks goes to the committee members and everybody else who helped to make this evening such a success.

On August 20, 40 members and friends gathered for an enjoyable FILM EVENING. Our special thanks go to Mr Bob Stern for his interesting film of the Peruvian Andes. Also many thanks to our president Mr Jurg Stucki, for his films of the trip to Kapiti Island, the shifting of the Shamrock Hotel, the Jubilee Ball and the A.G.M. 1983 in Taranaki.

We had a suggestion from the Ballmers' at present time in Bern, to insert the following advertisement in the next issue of the "Helvetia."

Swiss girl, 20, would like to stay on a farm from mid-January until mid-April, 1984. Willing to work. Please contact Ellen Auer, Bellevuestr 131, 3028 Spiegel, Switzerland.

THIS AND THAT

- One sixth of all school children in Switzerland are 'foreigners.'
- Five scientists from China on a tour to get to know the 'Emmenthal Cheese' didn't believe the holes in the cheese were a sign of quality. They thought it was due to lack of proper handling.
- Swiss mountains are very popular with the tourists and this is resulting in a lot of accidents. Up to 130 mountaineers a day are rushing up the Matterhorn (every season up to 3000), one third of them often very ill equipped.
- The police in Zurich conducted a blitz and every 44th driver was caught, driving with too much alcohol.
- The 61st Conference of the Swiss Abroad was a success. From August 26-28 480 guests gathered in Zurich on the "Muraltengut" for the official opening.

14 WAYS TO KILL A COMMITTEE

1. Stay away from meetings.
2. If you come, find fault and never offer an alternative.
3. Decline office or appointment to a committee.
4. Get sore if you aren't nominated or appointed.
5. After you are named, don't attend board or committee meetings.
6. If you get to one, despite your better judgement, clam up until you get outside.
7. Do not work if you can help it.
8. Oppose all banquets, parties and shindigs as being a waste of the attender's money.

9. If everything is strictly business, complain that the meetings are dull and the officers belong to the old guard.

10. Never accept a place at the head table.

11. If you aren't asked to sit there, threaten to resign because you aren't appreciated.

12. Don't pay your dues.

13. Read mail from headquarters only now and then, and never reply if you can help it.

14. If you change your address, don't tell anybody.

If one follows these suggestions, within a few years there will be no clubs, branches, groups etc in the province. The work load will then be spread among ALL the members instead of just those that pull their weight.

ANGELA'S AND VRENI'S CORNER

Tedes Leben, gezeichnet von Narben und Wunden,
hat seine Last, doch auch seine leuchtenden Stunden.

Maria Nels

THE DONKEY AND THE OWL

(Or how love makes us happy - from Tanosch)

When they came to a river the donkey walked the owl through the water and made sure she didn't get wet. When they couldn't find a hotel he looked for some hay and bedded her soft and cosy and kept her warm with his nose. Down at the sea they lay down in the sand and let the sun warm feathers and hide.

They travelled across the ocean and foreign countries and deserts where the sun shone mercilessly. Sometimes they took a camel ride to lift the heavy load from the donkey's back. They walked a lot of streets and when they arrived back home the old donkey was very tired and he was also very skinny, but he was immensely happy. And that is what matters most, isn't it!

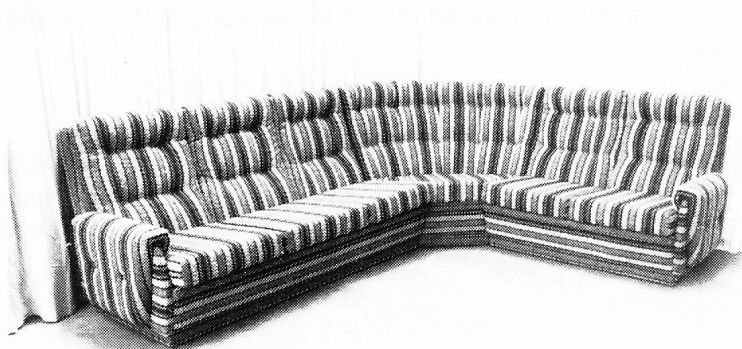
Did you try the "Mehlsuppe?" It would go nicely with the Schaffhauser Bolle dunne.

Base: 300g breadpastry or make one your self from 200g flour; 80g butter; ½ dl water and a pinch of salt.

Filling: 2 tablespoons butter; 600g onions; 2 eggs; 2 dl cream (slightly sour); 50g bacon pieces; ½ teaspoon salt; ½ teaspoon caraway seeds.

Slice onions finely and fry together with bacon pieces in butter (not too brown). Cool it, line tray with pastry, spread onions evenly. Beat eggs, cream and seasonings together and pour over onions. Bake at 190°C for ¾ of an hour. Serve very hot.

En Guete.



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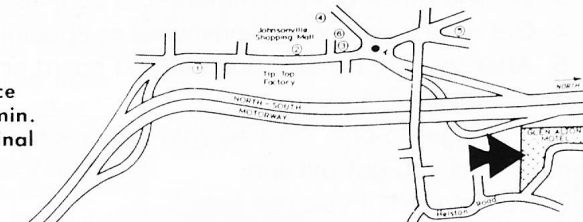
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The Swiss Economy In 1982-83

According to an OECD survey on Switzerland, the present weakness of its economy reflects first of all a sharp drop in foreign demand but also, to a certain extent, the effects of the tightening of monetary policy on home demand.

The drop of 1.3% in the national product in 1982 led to a marked reduction in employment as well as an appreciable increase in the number of fully and partially unemployed. The unemployed rate was 0.9% at the beginning of the year (whereas in the fourth quarter of 1981, it was only 0.2%). The apparent productivity of labour fell by 1% in 1982 compared with the previous year. These figures however, remain extremely low in comparison with those of other countries.

The appreciable slowing up in the rate of inflation which has been expected for 1982 did not occur till very late in the year, brought on in particular by the increase in oil prices together with the evolution in exchange rates. It was only when the dollar began to weaken in the second half of 1982 and at the beginning of 1983 that the rate of increase slowed up.

The surplus in the current balance increased in 1982 - in spite of an unchanged balance of invisible transactions (services and revenue from capital) - thanks to a marked improvement in the terms of trade to amount to 3.3% of the gross national product. In 1981, the favourable balance was 2.7% of the GNP.

In spite of an increase in the value of the Swiss franc, the volume of exports had grown by 6.5% in the second half of 1981, compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. A temporary recovery in international demand had largely contributed to this favourable development. The drop in foreign demand began to make itself felt in the first half of 1982 and led in the second half of the year to a drop of 8.6% in the volume of exports. This drop continued at the beginning of 1983.

Swiss imports have undergone considerable fluctuations in the course of these last two years. These movements reflect the rapid changes in forecasts with regard to the evolution of real demand, the rise in the value of the Swiss franc and in the prices of raw materials. Quite apart from these fluctuations, there is a tendency for the volume of imports to drop about 2% annually. The considerable improvement in the terms of trade also helped to reduce the deficit in the balance of trade.

The favourable balance of services changed but slightly in 1982. Admittedly the net revenue from capital increased as a result of the high interest rates, but the net proceeds from tourism - which had risen strongly again in 1981 - fell slightly, in particular owing to the increase in the expenditure of Swiss tourists abroad. (SODT).

The Swiss Merchant Fleet

The uninformed may joke about the Swiss navy, but in actual fact this land-locked country has a sizeable merchant fleet consisting of 31 ships with a total tonnage of about 457,564. They are mainly cargo vessels (23), but also tankers (5) and refrigerator ships (3). Of the 23 cargo ships, three are used for coastal navigation along the shores of the Mediterranean and the North Sea, 20 are ocean-going vessels plying regular lines or acting as tramp steamers (transport of cargoes that vary according to seasons, harvests or fluctuations on the freight market).

(SODT).

Scientific Discovery In The Field Of Industrial UV Absorbers

With the introduction of Givisorb UV-2, a Swiss group, whose headquarters are located near Geneva, makes an important breakthrough in the protection against the harmful effects of UV rays. The Givisorb UV-2 has a high thermal stability combined with a comparatively low melting point. A nonbenzophenone, nonbenzotriazole and a non-metallic product, it belongs to a new chemical generation of UV absorbers, possessing outstanding photostability and affording excellent protection against the damaging effects of UV-A and UV-B rays.

This new absorber can be used in a wide range of products such as for example, polycarbonates, polystyrene, polyethylene, thermoplastic polyurethanes, silicone resins, paints, textiles, wood clear finishes, outdoor furniture, floor coverings, etc.

(SODT)

(Givaudan SA, CH-1214 Vernier, telex 22 102 giv ch)

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(Rocster Fitting SA, CH-6883 Novazzano, telex 842 175 rofi ch)

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