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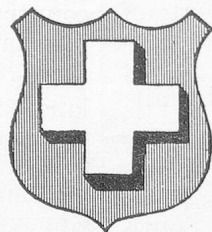
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HELVETIA

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SWISS BENEVOLENT
SOCIETY IN
NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

GROUP NEW ZEALAND OF THE NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

19th YEAR.

APRIL, 1956

AUCKLAND.

SWISS SOCIAL CLUB, TARANAKI (Inc.)

President's Report for the Year Ended, March 31st., 1956

The year just ended again reflects the strong social spirit prevailing amongst our community.

Financially your Club is in a strong position, the total funds on hand being very close to the total number of members, 281. This means that the large number of functions arranged for your enjoyment have all near enough paid their way or at the very least, shown a small surplus. Our main sources of income have been the major raffle, and subscriptions from this year's 57 new members. With these monies we have been able to meet all overhead expenses, purchase a complete sets of Swiss National Flags, purchase a bulk supply of Badges and still show a surplus of £27/6/11 over the amount carried forward from the previous year.

The year has been one of activity for your Committee. A series of six Card Evenings proved to be very popular and were well attended. To help this series, each member of your Committee put in 10/- to enable a £1 raffle to be drawn at each game.

The Major raffle was well supported and helped to swell our funds.

An open dance was held on June 21st which was well attended and considered a great success.

The First of August celebrations were again the highlight of the year. When it is realised that up to £214 was spent on this function, it will be appreciated that a great deal of work is entailed in organising and preparation. Your Committee is grateful to all those who directly or indirectly contributed to the success of this function.

Our final gathering for the year, the Annual Picnic, was well attended and enjoyed by all. Several members appeared in National costume, and this, together with our ever-willing musicians, gave the day a real Swiss atmosphere. It was an excellent opportunity for us to greet new

Swiss arrivals in our district, and also to welcome visiting Swiss.

We were pleased to have with us, on this day, Mr. Walter Risi, Founder and Patron of your Club.

Deceased Swiss Club Members were suitably remembered on your behalf by the presence of Committee members and wreaths at their funerals.

In conclusion may I express my thanks to my Secretary, whose energy and enthusiasm has been outstanding, to my Committee whose help has lessened the burden of the many duties which fall to my lot, and to all of you who have contributed by your support to make the year's activities so worthwhile and enjoyable.

JOHN STEINER,

3rd April, 1956.

There was a large attendance of members at the Annual Meeting of the Club. The President gave a summary of the year's work, especially the large increase in membership.

The following members were elected to the Executive:—

President, Mr. J. Steiner; Vice-President, Mr. J. Kaiser; Secretary, Mr. B. Frank.

Committee: Mesdames Steiner, J. Fohn, E. Schuler, Messrs. J. Fohn, A. Kalin, F. Luond, M. Steiner, J. Settling, W. Fluhler, L. Chamberlain, G. Wyss.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND SWITZERLAND—THE CROSSROADS OF THE AIR

(By John Elliott, Press Officer—SWISSAIR.)

For many years now the great international express trains have stopped in Switzerland, setting down and taking aboard tourists and business men bound for every country in Europe. Twenty or thirty years ago their most distant starting points were London or Stockholm, Istan-