

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 21 (1958)
Heft: [5]

Rubrik: News of the colony

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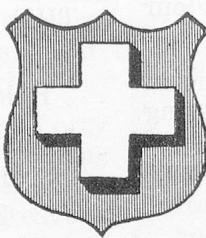
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HELVETIA

MONTHLY
PUBLICATION
OF THE



SWISS SOCIETY
OF
NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

GROUP NEW ZEALAND OF THE NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

21st Year

MAY, 1958

Hamilton

Annual General Meeting in Taranaki

THE decision of the Committee to hold the Annual General Meeting in a different district every year will be quite an important step to bring about the unity of our compatriots and must lead to better social relationship.

Accordingly, every district or branch is taking part in the governorship of the Society and by giving every Branch complete freedom to handle their own affairs we are closely following the system of the Swiss Commune and Cantonal governments, a system which stood the test of time for over 650 years.

I would like to invite all you Taranaki Swiss people to come to this your "Landsgemeinde" and let us know your ideas. Also your compatriots from Wellington, send along as many as you can to this important event, it will be your turn next year.

—WALTER RISI

Competition Prize £5

The Committee has decided to give our Monthly Paper the *Helvetia* a "new look." We appeal to all Members to send in suitable suggestions and designs. A prize of £5 will be given for the design we elect to use.

Closing date 1st July, 1958.

Please send contribution to the Secretary, the Press Committee of the *Helvetia*.

News of the Colony

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

THE Auckland Swiss Club held its Annual Meeting and Social in the Epiphany Hall,

Newton, on Tuesday, 1st April. The retiring President, Mr. M. Bachmann, in presenting a report to a good representation of the Club members, referred to the successful social functions held by the Club throughout the past year.

Mr. Bachmann said that the Picnic held on the banks of the Waikato River earlier this year was the best ever held, and the 25 x 30 portable dance floor, used for the first time in New Zealand, was a wonderful attraction.

He attributed the success of the Picnic to the combined organising efforts of the Waikato and Auckland Club members. Stone pushing contests, wrestling Swiss style and yodelling helped to make up the entertainment programme.

A barbecue held at Blockhouse Bay was a novelty also appreciated by the many members who attended.

The Election of Officers resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. C. H. Ding.

Vice-President: Mr. P. Lussy.

Cashier-Treasurer: Mrs. H. Bryner.

Secretary: Mrs. L. Schaufelberger.

Committee: Mr. C. Von-Rickenbach, Mr. J. Glauser and Mr. E. Schaufelberger.

The Past President, Mr. M. Bachmann, was elected the first Honorary Member of the Club. The guest of the evening was Dr. Leon Bosshard, Delegate of the International Red Cross Committee in Geneva.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

President's Report, 1957-58

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting the second annual report of the Hamilton Swiss Club.

Once again we can look back on a successful year, with an increasing membership, a sound financial position and a good attendance at our monthly social evenings.

Early in the year we could not use our usual meeting place anymore. However, after having to change from one hall to another, we managed to hire the Riverlea again, which seems to suit most of our members.

During the year we considered the purchase of our own clubhouse and made considerable efforts to that end. Although we had practically the necessary finance promised from our members, we had to drop it, as we felt that such a big undertaking required a 100% support to carry it out. Once again I would like to thank all members who so generously helped with the scheme.

We had a very successful first of August celebration, which was also attended by members of the Auckland and Taranaki Swiss Clubs—we joined the Auckland Club in a combined picnic at Mercer, which we hope to repeat in the coming year. I feel that the personal contact between the individual Clubs is very valuable and should be fostered as much as possible.

A Bring and Buy to help our funds along was so well supported that we decided to repeat this every 4 months.

Your Committee had an unusually busy year, due to the temporary changed location of our evenings and the varied discussions and meetings regarding the clubhouse. Unfortunately we lost nearly half of our Committee members during the year and the expected "less" work became "more" instead. If the smooth running of the Club is to be continued we must have a big enough and efficient Committee. You cannot expect half a dozen members to carry the burden all the time.

All the more reason to thank my Committee, who, in spite of everything, brought the second year of our Club to a successful end.

Last, but by no means least, I would like to thank all our musicians, actors and singers who again, throughout the year, brought so much enjoyment to our evenings.

—ARNOLD BILAND, President

Election of Officers for coming year:

President: Arnold Biland.

Vice-President: Walter Risi.

Secretary: Rinaldo Rust.

Treasurer: Hans Meister.

Committee: Joe Arnet, Walter Steiner, Charles Steiner, Joe Beeler, Hans Heinzer, Mrs. Charles Steiner and Mrs. John Villiger.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SWISS SOCIETY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TARANAKI SWISS SOCIAL CLUB

Held in Kaponga on 24th May, 1958, at 8 p.m.

Agenda:

1. President's Report.
2. Presentation of Balance Sheet.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Alteration of the following Rules:
That the wording of paragraph 2 F., "the parent body would assist branches with not less than one shilling subsidy per member" be deleted and replaced with "the parent body can assist branches with an annual subsidy on the basis of their membership, not exceeding the amount of the surplus income in that particular year.

New addition to Rules Paragraph 2 F:

In case of liquidation or a full years non activity of any branch Club, the Swiss Society as the parent body shall have the authority to take over all liabilities or funds of such Clubs concerned and hold such funds in trust until such time as a similar Club is founded again in that particular district. If no similar Club is founded within a period of twenty (20) years, such funds shall become the property of the Society. All affiliated Clubs are required to alter any present contradictory rules to that accordingly. Each affiliated Club shall be represented with at least one delegate in the General Committee of the Swiss Society.

5. Recommendation from the Committee: A: to set the annual universal subscription at 2/6 per member. B: to charge 10/- yearly for the Helvetia to members of affiliated Clubs. C: To charge 15/- yearly for the Helvetia to members not belonging to an affiliated Club.
6. Recommendation from the Auckland Branch to make a Donation of £50 to the Saint Joseph Old People's Home, Auckland, in recognition for their past help to old Swiss citizens.
7. General.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

ON the 19th April the Wellington Swiss Club held a Social Evening at the Community Hall, Brookland.

We had the great pleasure of seeing a very interesting selection of colour slides from Korea, which our Konsul General, Mr. Aubaret, showed

to us. This was a most entertaining (Trip) through a country unknown to all of us and everybody was delighted with colour and scenery. We wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Aubaret again for his generosity.

In the second half of the programme Miss Lotty Hess entertained with a Quiz session. Various subjects, like Swiss Geography, Swiss History, etc., could be chosen. Many members were very enthusiastic and came forward to be questioned. This people then were presented with prizes.

The evening concluded with a delicious supper which consisted mostly of home-made Swiss specialities. This gathering was a real success as all members of the consulate as well as 90% of the Club members were present.

—R.M.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Hamilton Swiss Club:

The Hamilton Swiss Club is holding the regular monthly evening every third Sunday in the Riverlea Cabaret, Hamilton. Next evening: 18th May. All welcome. Fuer Unterhaltung wird gesorgt.

Wellington Swiss Club:

We kindly ask you to reserve the evening of Saturday the 21st of June for our Club, as we will have our first General Meeting on this day. Would members then please put before us their wishes regarding Committee members and activities of the Club?

Preparations for a Ski-Weekend-Trip to Mt. Ruapehu in July are fast going ahead. Accommodation and transport is arranged. But we still need a few more to fill the truck with members only! So please put in your notification NOW to Mr. Bischof, 'phone 42-949, and you will certainly not regret it!

Obituary

MRS. ANNA MARIA DUSS died in her 91st year at Napier on 27th March, 1958. Mrs. Duss arrived with her husband, the late Leo Duss, in Taranaki in 1909. Mr. Duss however was so homesick that he took ill and died only a year later, leaving her a widow. After the death of her husband Mrs. Duss took up the occupation of a housekeeper and as such was very capable and universally well liked. She possessed a natural humour and was never short of a quick answer. On Swiss and Church functions she was always a willing helper and organiser. The last years of her life she lived under the care of the Saint Joseph Old Peoples' Home in Napier. Her last wish was that she be buried in the grave of her husband in Manaia.

QUESTION AND ANSWER COLUMN

Question:

I am told that if I marry a New Zealander, or any other man of a different nationality, I can still keep my Swiss Citizenship. Is this correct?

Answer:

YES—if BEFORE your marriage you make a formal declaration stating your wish to retain your Swiss Nationality (Schweizerbuergerrecht).

—A.B.

SWISS RECIPES

Zwiebelwaehe:

Take 2 lbs. onions, chop finely and fry in fat until golden brown. Let cool somewhat and then mix with three eggs, $\frac{1}{4}$ pint cream and salt to taste. Pour this mixture onto a shallow tray, which has been lined with puff pastry. Mixture should not be higher than 1 cm. Cover it all with thin slices of lean bacon and bake. Eat hot. Quantity is enough for 4-6 persons.

Tea punch for the coming cold evenings:

1 pint strong tea, three small bottles of red table wine, 12ozs. sugar, one lemon, into which several whole cloves have been pushed. Bring everything to the boil, remove from fire and mix in $\frac{1}{4}$ pint rum. Serve hot.

—Mrs. H.B.

NEW MEMBERSHIP LIST

IN our March issue you received a new Membership List. If your address is not in order or if you are not included, although you should be—or vice versa—please inform the Secretary.

News from Switzerland

OVERPRODUCTION OF BUTTER AND CHEESE IN SWITZERLAND

OUT of Max Nef's "Lookround from Switzerland," dated 3rd April 1958, we can see that not only here in New Zealand but in most other dairying countries in the world is the production of butter and cheese presenting the governments concerned with serious problems, but also in Switzerland the authorities are suffering from the same sort of headache.

Switzerland's cattle population at present is about equal to pre-war, but fewer hands are producing more food through scientific breeding, selection, general improved health of the stock and mechanisation to a very high degree. However, this greatly increased output in turn is facing a marked change, brought about by changed habits in diet, not only of the town—but in particular the land population is enjoying a more diversified table.