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NEWS OF THE COLONY

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

The Fourth Annual Report was presented by the president, Arnold Biland.

The monthly evenings were held as usual. In addition one card evening and one film evening was much enjoyed. Two bring and buy's were held and showed a very generous support of the members. On several occasions we engaged the Dutch orchestra, which proved very popular. Our highlights this year were the 1st of August Celebration and our Christmas Evening with our young folk.

Our membership has increased slightly and our finances are on a satisfactory level. The combined picnic with the Auckland Swiss Club was again held in Mercer and although perhaps not the financial result as last year it is a very worthwhile occasion to meet and make friends again with our Auckland Swiss.

To finalise, the president thanked the members of the committee for their support and their unfailing willingness to help the Club throughout the year and specially the lady members of the committee and the wives of the committee members, who so kindly spend most of their time back in the kitchen looking after our welfare.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President	Arnold Biland
Vice-President	Walter Risi
Secretary	John Villiger
Committee Members	Jakob von Holzen
	Joe Arnet
	Charly Steiner
	Walter Steiner
	Bruno Bolli
	Mrs Charly Steiner
	Mrs Villiger
Delegates to Society	Joe Arnet
	Jacob von Holzen
	Ernst Studer

Obituary

"A WEARY WANDERER AT REST"

Remigi Niederberger, of the Old People's Home, New Plymouth, died on April 30th. Remigi hailed from Dallenwil, Kt. Niedwalden, and came to New Zealand with a number of his countrymen about 48 years ago. He made farm and bushwork his calling in life and was in demand and respected as such. Old Mount Egmont had a special appeal to him, reminding him of his home country, and very seldom, if ever, he went far from it. As a man Remigi had a heart of gold and was always ready to help whenever he could. May he rest in peace.

—W.R.

TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

The Taranaki Swiss Social Club was in a sound financial position with a membership of 350, it was reported at the Club's well attended annual meeting in the Kapuni Hall.

Officers elected were: President Mr J. Steiner; vice-president Mr M. Steiner; secretary Mr B. Frank; committee Messrs L. Chamberlain, J. Fohn, J. Dettling, P. Hermann, A. Kalin, L. Kuriger, T. Napryin, W. Waldvogel, Mesdames C. Schuler, M. Steiner, E. Meier.

SOCIAL EVENING

The Swiss Social Club conducted the first social evening of the year at St. Paul's Hall, Normanby, recently. Prize-winners were: Miss M. Buhler 1, Mrs J. Kaiser 2; competition, Mr J. Sidler.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

The Annual General Meeting of the W.S.C. was held at the Brooklyn Hall on April 30th, 1960. The president was delighted to welcome our Consul-General, Dr O. Rossetti, Mrs Rossetti, Mr W. Sollberger (Vice-Consul), Mrs Sollberger and the greater part of our members.

A special word of welcome to introduce Dr Rossetti was followed by a talk by Dr Rossetti. Our Consul-General expressed he and his wife's thanks for the invitation. He then outlined the responsibility each of the club members has, as they are all in a way ambassadors for our home-country. Dr Rossetti also pointed out the difficulties the Swiss abroad encounter and assured us that our Magistrates in Switzerland do their best to help the fifth Swiss. To illustrate this trend of help and understanding, Dr Rossetti gave a few examples and mentioned thus the Solidarity Fund, the introduction and facility with the A.H.V. as well as the new regulation regarding Swiss Army Tax. Dr Rossetti stated that Switzerland looks with pride on its countrymen abroad and he, Dr Rossetti, his wife and his staff will do all in their power to help us Swiss as much as they can. A sombre point in his talk was indeed the mentioning of the death of four of our country's great people, especially General Guisan, who passed away at the age of 86. There is no doubt about the debt we all owe to General Guisan, since he, by his leadership and courage, saved our homeland during the last war. To honour this great man Dr Rossetti asked all to stand for a minute's silence.

In conclusion, Dr Rossetti assured the Club of his help and understanding and expressed the wish that the good relationship that existed between this Club and the Consulate may remain also in the future.

The president thanked Dr Rossetti for his very interesting and kind talk. In his summary about the Club's expiring year, the president pointed out that the committee held not less than 14 meetings, while the Club itself had six indoor meetings, three picnics and some Jass-evenings as well as one music evening. He urged members to take a greater part in the activities of the Club and not to act so much just as receivers. The president also made it clear that the committee did an excellent job, for which he expressed his heartiest thanks, but he stressed that the committee alone should not be expected to do the work. The present membership number totals 78, slightly above last year's 72.

The treasurer was able to surprise most members by announcing that the Club's assets were £90/11/9½ in cash and roughly £15 in crockery, etc. There was no doubt of this after the treasurer's well-informed balance sheet, which was audited by Mr Sollberger very carefully, had been read.

The result of the election of office-bearers, a proceeding which did not take up much time, is as follows:

K. E. Bischof	President
F. Fluehler	Vice-President
Mrs R. Messmer	Secretary
Mr H. Suter	Treasurer
Mrs L. Sutherland	Beisitzer
Mr B. Fluehler	Beisitzer
Mr E. Matt	Beisitzer (new committee member)

The president then outlined the activities of the coming Club year. By far the greatest—and the most heated—argument arose when the president struck the theme, "Helvetia." Should the Club augment the Club fee and make the "Helvetia" compulsory, as discussed at the annual general meeting of the Swiss Society, or not? There is no doubt, it was a Swiss General Meeting, as Swiss as it could be—with all its pros and cons. The final result was that the Club fee of 8/- per year be raised to £1. The Club will ensure that each member receives the "Helvetia," or, in case of a family, one "Helvetia" for each household.

Supper time arrived all too soon and this gave members an opportunity to meet our new Consul-General. Films which were later screened helped to make this evening not only a memorable, but also an enjoyable one. —K.E.B.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SWISS SOCIETY

will be held on the
4th JUNE, 1960
4th JUNE, 1960

in the
PROFESSIONAL CLUB HALL
12 Kitchener Street
Auckland City

Agenda: *President's Report.*

Presentation of the Balance Sheet.
Request from the Auckland Club re
lending of part of the Society's
funds for an Auckland Club
building.

Election of Officers.
Confirmation of the various Clubs'
representatives on the Central Com
mittee.

Election of the Press Committee.
General.

Anyone requiring billeting for this occasion please contact F. Kaegi, 23 Grange Road, Mt. Eden, before June 1st.

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

WE WELCOME you all, dear friends of the Swiss Society of New Zealand at the next General Meeting, for which we are favoured to be your hosts. We will do our best to frame the meeting with some good Swiss entertainment and dance.

We wish to call especially on the Swiss members of the Club and the Society in and around Auckland to the unique opportunity of meeting some of their compatriots from Wellington, Taranaki and Waikato Provinces. Special supper.

There will be no other meeting in June.

A SKIING WEEKEND is to be organised by our Club. The Christiania Lodge on Mount Ruapehu is at our disposal for June 11th weekend.

LEADER: Mr Hans Fitzi.

CHARGE: £1/10/- for full board at the Lodge.

SKIING EQUIPMENT: May be hired at the Lodge.

APPLICATIONS: To be sent to Mr H. Fitzi, 1 Greenfield Road, Epsom, who will give you further details and organise transport.

We wish to point out that this opportunity to ski under the leadership of an expert is unique. A second organised meeting is definitely not possible this season.

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

As decided at the Annual Meeting, our Evenings will be held from now on every FIRST SUNDAY in the month.

Our next evening, therefore, will be on June 5th in the Riverlea. Dutch orchestra, Schubling, etc.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

PRODUCTION OF CIGARETTES

In 1959, the production of cigarettes in Switzerland attained the figure of nine thousand eight hundred millions of cigarettes, as against nine thousand five hundred millions in 1958.

NEEDED ONLY TO BE THOUGHT OF

A Swiss manufacturer who specialises in garden umbrellas, has just produced a novelty which will be welcome by all those people who love to enjoy the fresh air in the garden, without being roasted by the sun. The invention in question is a large umbrella, which can be turned in all directions, gives complete protection, but does not possess the major inconvenience of having a pole which obstructs one's movements and is always getting in one's way. The "Pendalex," as it is called, is suspended from a bracket which can be moved and regulated, as desired. This new parasol, which is very easily managed, can thus provide shade for an ordinary table set for a meal.