

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 23 (1960)  
**Heft:** [1]  
  
**Nachruf:** Obituary  
**Autor:** W.R.

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 18.08.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## Obituary

### TARANAKI'S OLDEST RESIDENT DIES

Taranaki's oldest resident, Mr Solomon (Ted) Zinsli, died in Hawera on December 30th in his 104th year. He was a veteran of the 1870-71 Franco-Prussian War.

Born in Switzerland on February 28, 1856, Mr Zinsli came to New Zealand in 1878. Before then he had spent two years in Germany as a cobbler, and had been in England, Austria, Italy and Sicily.

He served in the Boer War with the New Zealand contingent. He came to Taranaki in 1887, moving to Waitara in 1921 after living at Waverley, Moumahaki and Eltham.

In the Franco-Prussian War, Mr Zinsli served as a young private in the Prussian 47th Infantry Division. He is survived by five sons, Harry (Napier), Jim (Hawera), George (Eltham), Charlie (Whakatane), Bernie (Wellington), and a daughter, Mrs May Anderson (Pahiatua).

"Ted," as the Swiss people very affectionately called him, was a Swiss with all his heart. Only two years ago, when I saw him at the Swiss Social Club 1st August Celebration in Kaponga, he looked fitter than many a man half his age. After his reply to a toast to his health, he sang the Swiss song "Ich bin ein Schweizerknabe und habe die Heimat lieb" (I am a Swiss Boy and I love my Fatherland). Well, dear Ted, the love is mutual, the old Fatherland loves sons like you, too.

To his relatives we extend our sincerest sympathy.  
—W.R.

### MRS J. C. SCHUMACHER

SPRINGDALE

Wilhelmina Katrina Uttinger came to New Zealand in February, 1913, with the intention of marrying her boyfriend, Joseph Carl Schumacher, who preceded her to this country by some two years. The couple married on April 14th, 1913, in Kaponga. They started farming on their own account and eventually became the proud owners of a farm on Cheal Road, Ngaere. The happy marriage was blessed with one son and two daughters—Mina, now Mrs Joe Arnett, Springdale, and Rosa, Mrs Charles Steiner, also of Springdale. Their son died in 1947 and Mr Schumacher in 1951. Mrs Schumacher decided to live in Springdale on her son-in-law's residence where she kept her own cottage. She loved it there very much amongst her growing number of grandchildren, but all the time she could not forget Taranaki with its unique Mount Egmont which reminded her constantly of Switzerland, and from time to time took occasional trips to see her relatives and friends there. Mrs Schumacher was a very keen supporter of the Hamilton Swiss Club and not many of its functions passed without her presence. We will miss her very much.  
—W.R.

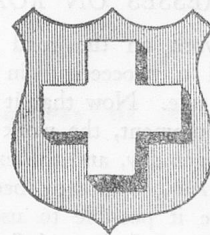
From Taranaki comes the sad news of the passing of two members of long standing of this Society: Mr Emil Schicker, 42 Vogel Street, Hawera; and Alois Nolly, Sole Road, Ngaere. Obituaries in next month's "Helvetia."

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### MERCER PICNIC PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, the  
31st January, 1960  
10 a.m.

WAIKATO  
RIVER BANKS  
MERCER



SONNTAG, den  
31. Januar 1960  
10 Uhr

WAIKATO  
STROM - UFER  
MERCER

Orchestra: A. Meier and  
C. Rikkenbach.

Shooting: E. Studer.

Nine-pins: J. Villiger.

Putting the Stone: W. Risi  
and Charly Ding.

Children's Games: J. Steiner

Swiss Wrestling: W. Risi  
and Charly Ding.

"Fishing": A. Binder.

SEVERAL NICE  
PRIZES

Orchester: A. Meier and  
C. Rikkenbach.

Schiessen: E. Studer.

Kege'bahn: J. Villiger

Steinstossen: W. Risi and  
Charly Ding

Kinderspiele: J. Steiner.

Schwingen: W. Risi and  
Charly Ding.

"Fischen": A. Binder.

EINIGE SCHÖNE  
PREISE

and the lady with the best genuine "Tracht" will  
also win a prize

### REFRESHMENTS

by the well-known Mercer Picnic service (Mrs Risi, Mrs Hirzel, J. Arnet, and others probably. Swiss specialties.

— Hot Water —

Attention:

- 1 It's a Picnic for any Swiss or friends of Swiss. Please inform and invite any person who might show interest.
- 2 Protective lotions against sand flies could be useful.
- 3 In case of bad weather the Picnic will not be cancelled. We have the Mercer Hall at our disposal.

Come and have a happy informal day with us all  
of the

AUCKLAND & WAIKATO SWISS CLUBS

### AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

Owing to the Picnic in Mercer on the last Sunday in January, there will be no club evening in February. The next meeting will be held on the first Tuesday in March and we will have some big surprises for you. There is also to be a farewell party for the retiring President, who is leaving for Switzerland and the Olympic Games—isn't he lucky?

### TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

The Taranaki Swiss Social Club Picnic will be held in Te Ngutu Park on Sunday, February 14th, 1960. Be sure not to miss the unique annual event.

Outside Taranaki visitors most welcome.