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GROUP NEW ZEALAND OF THE NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

24th Year

JUNE 1961

Hamilton

SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

THE year just past was a year of mixed feelings and blessings for our Society. On the good side of the ledger, the most outstanding event is the creation of a new Swiss Club in Christchurch. To all those who helped to bring this event about, I extend my wholehearted congratulations and thanks. Another important event is the enthusiasm and wide support for the newly-inaugurated shooting competition. The indications are that the interest in this good old Swiss sport must continue to increase. In view of this your committee has decided to procure suitable trophies direct from Switzerland. The rules for the Steinstossen need a little overhauling, but I hope that this sport also will be in swing again this coming year.

Our new Consul-General, Dr Rossetti, and his family, have found their way into the hearts of the Swiss people in a special friendly way. No doubt their term in high office will be a memorable one for them as well as for us.

A very pleasing aspect also is the increasing flow of Swiss immigrants to this fair country and I wish them all a full measure of success, which they will achieve if they live up to Swiss integrity and industriousness.

On the bad side of the ledger, however, is the loss of a number of loyal members through bereavements, especially the tragic death of our universally respected Vice-President, Dr F. Kaegi. To all relatives I extend my deepest sympathies. We also suffered with our Treasurer, H. Oettli, who lost his home by fire, the loss of our complete accounting records. Consequently we have to rely on the goodwill of our members to assist us in this respect, and those who paid us their arrears I wish to thank very sincerely. However, the deficit in our annual balance sheet indicates that there must be some more who should have paid. At this stage

I wish to appeal to all who are in arrears to assist us and pay their dues.

May I now, in conclusion, thank the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Press Committee and all Club presidents and Committee members for their loyal support in the good work I believe we are doing for the common good of our Society.

Your President,

WALTER RISI.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society was held in the Riverlea, Hamilton, on Sunday, 11th June.

The Hamilton Swiss Club was host to the 80 odd visitors and members. As the delegates we welcomed Mr Schaerer, from the Consulate, and Mr Wehrli, from Wellington; Martin Steiner, Joe Dettling and Louis Kuriger, from Taranaki; and Mr Binder, Doris Peyer and Joe Wildhaber, from Auckland.

The alterations of the Rules as proposed were adopted. In spite of the deficit shown in the balance sheet, due to the non-payment of subscriptions (£70), the meeting decided to keep the subscription of the "Helvetia" the same as last year.

The Steinstossen Trophy was won again by Taranaki and received by their leader, E. Wuetrich.

Election of officers resulted as follows: President, Walter Risi; vice-president, John Steiner; secretary, Arnold Biland; treasurer, Hans Oettli. Each Club is entitled to three delegates. Press committee, Walter Risi, Arnold Biland, Hans Oettli and Ernst Studer; auditor, Mr Cooper, Huntly.

Our thanks go to the Hamilton Swiss Club for the arrangement of a very pleasant evening.