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NEWS OF THE COLONY ★ ★ ★ ★

Hamilton Swiss Club

Having been kindly invited as a guest to the Hamilton Swiss Club's Christmas party on the 16th December, I found a most attractively decorated hall. The big coloured Christmas tree, an artistically arranged flower bouquet and the Swiss posters gave the party a warm and homely atmosphere. While everyone was singing "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht" happy children's faces stared at the glowing light of the candles. How surprised I was by the sound of a real Swiss orchestra consisting of the two violinists, Mrs Biland and Miss Oettli, accompanied by Peter Oettli at the piano. Under the guidance of Miss Oettli some children performed the Christmas play, which everybody enjoyed so much that those people in the back got up from their chairs in order to see all the devout angels and shepherds. Soon after the start of the song "O Tannenbaum," Santa Claus arrived and was welcomed by the shouting with joy of the children—he talked kindly to them and gave each one a little present. Coffee, sandwiches and cakes were served and a happy evening ended after 11 o'clock.

I would like to thank the President, the Committee and the members of the Hamilton Swiss Club for the nice evening and wish you all a happy New Year.

—M.B.

The Committee of the Hamilton Swiss Club wishes to thank the mothers for sparing no effort in providing such lovely costumes for the children of the Christmas play.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr and Mrs Jean Oettli—Steiger, of Whatawhata, have just celebrated their golden wedding.

We extend to them our very best wishes for many more happy years in each other's company surrounded by two sons and their families.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS ★ ★ ★ ★

Auckland Swiss Club

The annual picnic will be held on 17th February, 1963, at Mr M. Bachmann's property, 106 Bolton Street, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland.

Among other entertainments, such as Kegeln, Schiessen, Schwingen etc., there will be a "Ballon Wettbewerb," with prizes to win and also entertainment for the children. Bratwuerst, Nussgipfel and Bier will be available, and for the children icecream and soft drinks.

Special efforts will be made to make this a happy outing, so please turn up in full force. Beginning at 10 a.m. —H.B.M.

Hamilton Swiss Club

There will be no evening during February.

Our Annual Picnic, in combination with the Society's Shooting Competition, will be held on Sunday, the 10th of March, at Mr & Mrs Risi's residence in Ngaruawahia. Shooting, kegeln, dance floor, games for children, Swiss music, bratwuerste, Swiss cakes, ice cream, etc., etc.

Obituaries

MR MEINRAD SCHONBACHLER

Death comes to many of us without warning. Meinrad Schonbachler died suddenly at Okato. He came to New Zealand in 1912 and started working in the Kahui Road cheese factory. After working there for a while he took up farming for 13 years. In 1925 he went home to Switzerland until 1933. He then married Margareth Schuler and together they moved to a farm at Puniho Road until they retired at Puniho. To Mrs Schonbachler we extend our deepest sympathy.

J.S.

MRS CLARA DORFLINGER

Mrs Clara Dorflinger died at Brown's Bay, Auckland, on October 10, 1962, after being in ill-health for some time.

She came from Zurich in 1929 and then married Beda Dorflinger. The couple took up farming at Mahoe the same year until 1938, when they retired to live at Brown's Bay. She leaves a family of two daughters and three sons. We extend to the bereaved husband and family our deepest sympathy.

J.S.

All matters regarding the Swiss Society . . . to—

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