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Wellington Swiss Club

Swiss residents from the Wellington and Hutt area were entertained by the Charge d'Affaires of Switzerland and Mme. Jean-Pierre Weber at a reception held on the lawns and garden of their residence in Lower Hutt, on Saturday, December 7th last.

The gathering was quickly enhanced in a happy atmosphere, inspired by the host and his charming lady. For the "old timers" it was a pleasant reunion and an opportunity to meet old friends again and there seemed to be a good many new and younger faces to strengthen the number of compatriots in the district.

Members of the Embassy Staff did much to contribute to the success of the reception, looking after the visitors' children and making sure everyone was enjoying a full choice of their favourite eats and drinks. To make the occasion perfect, the weather - god made his contribution with a beautiful and warm day. May this be a sign to a happy and successful stay in New Zealand for our Swiss Representative and Mrs Weber.

CHRISTMAS MEETING

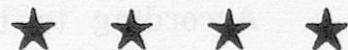
Once again the Wellington Swiss Club Christmas Party was held on Saturday, 14th December in the Brooklyn Community Hall. The function got on its way with a good attendance of children as well as parents. Everybody joined in with hearty singing of our loved Christmas carol "Silent Night."

The children were eager at that stage to meet Father Christmas who really very ably coped with all ages. Once again all children received lovely presents—something to gladden every heart. Looking around one could see that even parents were enjoying this interlude between Father Christmas and the children.

The second part was for the grown-ups to enjoy. With good music to swing one's leg to, and refreshments throughout the evening to keep one's ever-hungry constitution quiet, we danced to the last strains of music and took leave of our friends once more for this year.

We thank all those who so willingly gave their help in making sure of a wonderful success to be enjoyed by all, especially the ones who had all the work in selecting each child's special gift. —I.F.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Auckland Swiss Club

"SCHUETZENFEST"

Further to our notice re "Schuetzenfest" on the 22nd February 1964 at the Edendale School Hall, Sandringham Rd., Sandringham,

when the prizes will be distributed from the competitions on the 15th and 16th February, held on Frank Reichmuth's property, we will also be able to distribute the "Ehrenmeldungen und Medallions" vom "Radio-Weltschuetzenfest."

An excellent supper will be served with just a little bit of luck, as members will go hunting and the prospects are that we will have deer and wild pork for supper. Swiss music will add to the entertainment so be sure to come.

Should anyone not be able to come for the competitions on the 15th-16th February, please contact our chairman Mr Hans Enzler, Tel. 559-183, and he will try to make some special arrangements.

—H.B.M.

Hamilton Swiss Club

Our annual picnic will take place on the 16th of February, at the residence of Mr and Mrs Risi in Ngaruawahia. Start 11 a.m.

Shooting competition, Kegelen, Barbecue, games for children, Swiss music and dance floor.

Taranaki Swiss Social Club

The Taranaki Swiss Social Club annual picnic will be held on Sunday, 9th February, at the Te Ngutu Domain, Okaiawa.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND ★ ★ ★

OVER A MILLION MOTOR VEHICLES

Between October 1st, 1961 and September 30th, 1962, the number of motor vehicles licensed in Switzerland exceeded the million mark. This number includes 747,300 private cars, utility vans and trucks and 380,400 two-wheeled motorised vehicles.

On September 30th, 1962, there were 677,400 private cars in Switzerland, representing an increase of 15 per cent during the period under examination (OSEC).

MOTORISATION OF AGRICULTURE

According to the Swiss Association of Tractor Owners, there are over 60,000 tractors in Switzerland at the present moment, the number of these machines having risen from 49,000 in 1960 to 58,000 in 1962. Over 60 per cent of these tractors are of Swiss make, 11 per cent come from the United States of America, while Germany and Great Britain have supplied slightly less. In 1963, the Swiss Association of tractor owners numbered over 33,000 members. (OSEC)