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In short, the network of Switzerland's international relations is one of the most extensive there is and its interchange of ideas with the rest of the world — in spite of, or perhaps because of, its neutrality — is at least as brisk and lively as that of any other country.

—Swiss National Tourist Office.

NEWS OF THE COLONY ★ ★ ★

Auckland Swiss Club

GENERAL MEETING — PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Another year has gone by and with some satisfaction we can look back to a year full of activities and successful entertainment. In the first place I would like to refer to the considerable increase of members; we started last year with 57 members and have now 118, proving that the Club has never enjoyed such a popularity as it does not. This, I believe, is mostly due to the big social nights we had, offering real good entertainment, such as the Fashion-Show, the 1st August Celebration, the Maskenball, which becomes more and more a favourite, and the "Tahitian-Night" was a real hit— more than 200 guests were present and amazingly, though we are only amateurs, it was very efficiently organised. The Christmas Picnic proved also popular, parents and children seemed to enjoy it so much more out in the open.

For the first time we might say, the shooting section, so far rather neglected, has been organised in a proper manner. Mr Hans Enzler, chairman of this section has devoted a lot of time for it and succeeded against all odds to organise a team of volunteers to build a "Schuetzenstand." Naturally, a Schuetzenfest followed, being the last social night we had for this current year.

All these activities involved a lot of work and even more enthusiasm, but it has brought us a very satisfactory reward, for the benefit of the Club of course. Some members might be of the opinion that profit was not really necessary, but where would be the compensation for all the work involved to the very few who give so much of their time? It would be indeed poor encouragement for the next committee to come. Furthermore, we had the advantage to be in a position to entertain overseas visitors, which really is one of the functions the Club is here for. Perhaps, in the far future, we might be able to have our own premises, but whether or not we ever reach this goal, it is important to go rather ahead than to have a loss at the end of the year.

Coming to the conclusion of my report, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all members and guests who supported the Club during the year and an offer to those who opposed an opportunity

to do a better job. Special thanks also to our music, who never failed to be present, to all other members who entertained during the year and to the committee members who assisted me during the year. Thank you!

A. L. MUELLER

COMMITTEE ELECTION FOR THE YEAR 1964/1965

President: Louis Mueller (re-elected). Vice-President: Peter Buecheler (re-elected). Secretary-Treasurer: Hanny B. Mueller (re-elected). Committee Members: Charly Rickenbacher (re-elected); Norm Mueller, Mrs Kaepeli, Miss F. Hirzel.

SHOOTING SECTION.—Chairman: Hans Enzler (re-elected), Vice-Chairman: Arthur Mueller. Secretary-Treasurer: Adolf Binder. Range Commander: Frank Reichmuth. Committee Member: Simi Hartman.

The attendance at the General Meeting was as usual rather poor, considering the 100 per cent increase in members. However, it gave to the few ample opportunity to discuss the various benefits and griefs of the Swiss Club. On this occasion preference was given to the shooting section, which lasted nearly to 10.30 p.m., giving the affairs of the Club itself very little time to settle their points. Beside the election, where the main body of the committee was unanimously re-elected, nothing much could be achieved and the meeting closed at 11.15 p.m. Coffee and cakes were served and the committee wishes to thank all ladies for the cakes and who helped that night.

—H.B.M.

AUCKLAND SWISS SHOOTING AND SPORTING CLUB

A small group of shooting enthusiasts from Auckland, gathered for the Easter Shooting Competition at the rifle range situated on the property of Mr Frank Reichmuth. Also taking place at the same time was the Auckland section of the Swiss Society's team shooting competition, and the details of which appear with the main Swiss Society Shooting List.

Main programme for the day was the events for medallion shooting (Kranzschiessen) for which competition was very keen among the ladies as well as the men. As a result of this aforementioned keenness or perhaps prowess, on the part of our competitors (I don't know which) it is our pleasure to announce the following winners who gained their medals in the various events.

Single Medal: Frank Reichmuth, 58; Arthur Muller, Simi Hartmann, Anton Buender, 56; Hans Enzler, Doris Binder, Gerda Uhlig, Willy Hirzel sen, 55.

Double Medal: Hans Enzler, G. Fluckiger, 59; Fritz Baertschi 58; A. Muller, A. Buender, F. Reichmuth, G. Gebert, 57.

Triple Medal: H. Enzler, A. Muller, 169; F. Baertschi, 168; S. Hartmann, F. Reichmuth, 167; A. Buender, 166; G. Flueckiger, 165.

To the organisers of this happy competition, namely, Mr Hans Enzler and Mr A. Muller, without whose help the competition would not have been possible, to Mr Frank Reichmuth for the use of his property on which the rifle range is permanently situated, and to all the other helpers, we say thank you one and all. We would be pleased, and we know that there are many more people interested in shooting, so come along, don't be frightened, because we will be only too pleased to welcome you among us.

Re shooting: If anyone is interested would they please contact either of the following: Mr Hans Enzler, 3 Boyd Avenue, Royal Oak, Auckland; Mr Adolf Binder, 34 Kinross Street, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland.

—A.K.B.

Hamilton Swiss Club

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Pine Lodge on 5th April last. In the absence of President Arnold Biland, Vice-President W. Risi conducted the meeting and welcomed the very good number of members present.

Before the meeting, Peter Reinhard showed some nice pictures from his travells all over the world, as well as some from his home-town and from other parts of Switzerland, and Swiss farming.

Our celebrated Choir also entertained us with their programme which will be broadcast by 1XH shortly. There is no doubt that love for this art and constant practice have brought out the talent and attained this high standard. Our universal applause was accorded to them and also to Peter for his pictures.

In the President's Report and Financial Statement, which were read and approved, the fact that our membership increased from 138 to 192 and the nett profit for the year was £126/5/2, showed that the Club's finances were in a very healthy position. It was then decided that the amount of £300 be set aside into a Special Building Investment Fund.

Electing the committee for the coming year, no change took place, except for one additional member in the person of Vitus Achermann, as it was felt that the three sub-committees did work very well. The committees are as follows.—

A. Biland, President. W. Risi, Vice-President. John Villiger, Secretary. Jakob Von Holsen, Treasurer. Sub-Committee No. 1: Mrs Biland, Mr and Mrs Willy Muller, Mr and Mrs E. von Moos, John Villiger. Sub-Committee No. 2: Mrs Risi, Mr and Mrs Joe Risi, Mr and Mrs Joe Arnold, Rinaldo Rust. Sub-Committee No. 3: Mr and Mrs Charles Steiner, Mr and Mrs Walter Steiner, Bruno Bolli, Entertainment Committee: Hans Oettli and Ernst Studer. Rifle Master for the Club, Bruno Bolli. Auditor, Hans Oettli.

Wellington Swiss Club

The Annual General Meeting of the Wellington Swiss Club was held on March 21st, 1964, at the Brooklyn Community Hall.

In his report, the retiring president, Mr F. Wehrli, was pleased to state that most of the Club's evenings in the past were well attended and that the membership had risen to an all-time-high of 106. He thanked the Committee members for the work they had done for the Club and proposed to the meeting the election of a double-committee counting 12 heads to relieve the burden of the individual member. Also there would be a healthy spirit of competition between the two halves of the committee which would be all to the good. He then mentioned the difficulties the committee encountered in finding a permanent home for the skittle-alley and appealed to everybody to be on the lookout for suitable premises.

The balance sheet — showing a satisfactory financial position—presented by our very able treasurer, Mr H. Schaefer, and audited by Mr H. Messmer, was duly passed.

Mr Bischof was in the chair for the elections and he managed to infuse sufficient enthusiasm into 10 people to accept nominations. Election results: President: R. Storz. Vice-President: W. Frick. Secretary: Mrs L. Dobos. Treasurer: Mrs R. Messmer. Committee: Messrs J. Hangartner, H. Buess, E. Flepp, E. Zust, W. Kaspar and R. Fiechter.

May the new Committee have a very successful term of office!

—L. NAPP

SHOOTING COMPETITION

“Schuetzenfest” — fever was much in evidence when the shooting competition was held in Raumati.

A good number of competitors and just “picnickers” and several children arrived quite early. It must have been the sun that got us out of bed. St Peter was in a good mood and made arrangements for a really lovely day.

Practising was the order of the day and the targets were hit all right, but just not quite close enough to the centre—was it the wind, the sun or the rifle that was at fault?

Lunch: “Wienerli,” direct from the fire. Beer—direct from the bottle!

On with the shooting, again more practise. Unfortunately for many the practise scores were higher than the scores that mattered. The board of final results was watched with much interest, what a pity nobody qualified for a “Kranzabzeichen.” However, a good day was enjoyed by everybody, and the “bug” is on. We are keen to join the Raumati Rifle Club, they are a nice bunch of fellows and good tutors too! Thank you again for being so helpful. —I.P.H.

Taranaki Swiss Social Club

A successful year, both financially and socially, was reported by the President, Mr M. J. Steiner, at a well attended annual meeting of the Taranaki Swiss Social Club in the Kapuni Hall on April 9th.

Cards, cabarets and the Annual Picnic were held during the year and a visit was received from Mr and Mrs Webber and Mr and Mrs Schaeerer, of the Swiss Embassy. A tribute was paid to the late L. Chamberlain, who was Patron of the Club up to the time of his death.

Officers elected for the new year were.—Patroness, Mrs C. Schuler Senr.; President, M. J. Steinr; Vice-President, Len Chamberlain; Secretary-Treasurer, Paul Hermann. Committee, Mesdames Suter, P. Meier, M. Steiner and Messrs D. Butler, B. Maechler, A. Kalin, J. Hermann, R. Waldvogel, D. Hiestand, A. Kuriger, A. Gwerder.

—M.J.S.

Laugh a little . . .

“What a pity that your wife cannot make use of her chemistry degree.”

“You are wrong my dear chap, only yesterday she managed to transform perfectly a calf’s liver into charcoal.”

* * *

Smith sits at the window and calls to his wife: “There goes the woman with whom Jones is madly in love.”

The yife drops a cup, tips over a lamp and upsets the bowl with the goldfish in it as she races to the window. “Where, where?” she pants.

“Over there, the woman in the tweed coat.”

“You idiot, that’s his wife!”

“Yes of course,” the husband replies mildly.

* * *

The wife says to her husband: “Imagine, one half of the world does not know how the other half lives.”

“Don’t be upset,” replies her husband, “It is not your fault.”

* * *

Badly limping a man comes to the surgery, sits down sighing and shows the doctor his shin-bone. By jove, says the doctor, you certainly have some beautiful bruises on that leg. I suppose that comes from playing soccer?

No, from “Jasse,” says the patient.

—From Nebelspalter.