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tracks for the surf. The children played in the water at the edge with coloured balls and waterwings.

After a most enjoyable swim we headed back for lunch. Mrs O. Muller took round a tin of caramel squares for everyone to sample. Yum, delicious!

Santa Claus appeared in the form of Mr Ospelt and presented the children with lovely gifts.

When all the lunch dishes had been washed and packed up, everyone gathered under the pine trees to play Kegelbahn. This game was won by a New Zealander, Mr Slack.

While the game was in motion some of the ladies joined together and sang some Swiss folk songs. Their voices rang across the picnic ground much to the pleasure of many other picnickers in the vicinity, who lay back in the sun and imagined they were in Switzerland.

From 3.30 onwards people began to drift off home. The picnic had come to an end, but by the look of delight on the children's faces they had really enjoyed themselves.

To end the year, Mr and Mrs Kurt Feldmann held a party at their flat on December 23rd, for the members of the Club.

To all the Swiss in New Zealand, the Christchurch Swiss Club sends good wishes for the New Year. —Mrs J.F.

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## NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY

The Embassy has received a letter from the "Schweizerischen Bundesfeier-Komitee" expressing its thanks to our Colony in New Zealand for the very satisfactory result of the sale of the 1st of August, 1964 badges, the proceeds of which go to the aid of the Swiss Mountain Communities and the development of their economy.

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Auckland Swiss Club

#### "HANGI" IN POLYNESIAN FASHION

On 13th February, 1965, a huge "Hangi," prepared by expert Tahitians, will be held at Redwood Park, Henderson, starting at lunch-time and ready to eat at approximately 5 p.m.

Families are invited to spend the afternoon with their children in this beautiful Park, with all the amenities, such as a swimming pool, see-saws, and swings, etc, until the "Hangi" is served. The Park grounds are free to all guests attending the "Hangi" and except for some specific lots allocated to Picnic Socials for that day until 4.30 p.m., the guests are free to enjoy themselves in the Park. The Hall for this function is available from 4.30 p.m., but if the weather permits the "Hangi" will be served outside on the grounds.

As the usual entry fee to the Park is 1/- each, per person, child and car, **it is essential to book for this occasion**, whereupon a ticket and a badge from the Swiss Club will be issued for the "Hangi," warranting free admission into the Park.

Entertainment will be partly provided for by the guests with guitars, accordions, so bring your own instrument and join in!

—The Committee—H.B.M.

### **Taranaki Swiss Social Club**

The annual picnic will be held at Te Nutu Park, Okaiawa, on Sunday, February 14, 1965.

### **Hamilton Swiss Club**

Our annual picnic will be held at the residence of Mr and Mrs Risi, in Ngaruawahia, on February 21. Everybody cordially invited. Come to our big day and bring your friends, young and old.

### **Wellington Swiss Club**

The Wellington Swiss Club will hold it's annual picnic on January 31st, at Waikanae.

The Camping Weekend will be held at Wainui-o-mata on February 20-21st, combined with swimming and shooting. There will also be a Car Rally on March 14th. Invitations will be sent to Club members at a later date. Please reserve these days!

—Mrs M.D.

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## **Obituary**

### **ALOIS BEELER**

On Sunday, January 3, Mr Alois Beeler, aged 72, of Hawera, passed away.

Mr Beeler arrived in New Zealand with his parents and sister in 1913. He was born at Iback Schwyz, his father at Steinen and his mother at Ingenbohl.

The family started farming at Manaia, then took on a lease for 12 years, sold out and then came to Hawera in 1931, to retire. The father and son went to Switzerland for a trip, being away for seven months. After they came back they bought a farm of 120 acres at Hawera.

The family made a great success of farming. The father passing away in 1941 and the mother in 1956.

Alois always took a big interest in the affairs of the old country. He had subscribed regularly to the Swiss paper Bote.

Not only was Alois Beeler a good Swiss, but also an excellent New Zealander.

We extend to his sister Rosa, our deepest sympathy in her sad loss.

—J.S.