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News of the Colony

★ HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

CLUB'S ANNUAL PICNIC COMBINED WITH SHOOTING COMPETITION

On Sunday, 23rd February, the Club held its annual Picnic on the lawns of Mr & Mrs Risi's residence in Ngaruawahia. The Club is very fortunate to have such a well-suited place available and we are very grateful to the Risi family for their generosity.

The weather was perfect and by midday a large gathering enjoyed themselves under the lovely trees and on the spacious grounds. The Club's president, J. Villiger, welcomed everybody, especially the many guests from the different clubs, and visitors from as far afield as Switzerland. Everything was very well organised, and to all the helpers 'many thanks'. The different tables with the cakes, drinks and "Bratwuerst" were very well patronised.

The "Kegelbahn" was kept busy all day, the competitors bowling either for the cup, or the big sausages. A novelty sport was the sheaf tossing: a bag of hay had to be tossed with a pitchfork as far as possible. It looked very easy until you had a go at it. The bag landed in any direction, except the one it was supposed to!

Items presented by the "Jodelchorli" and Volkstanzgruppe were very much applauded, so were the "lupfige Laendlermusik" played by Henry Oettli (accordion) and Hermann Odermatt (clarinet) and this gave the day a true Swiss atmosphere. The children's highlight was the lollyscramble and the races organised by W. Steiner.

Evening came all too quickly and soon it was time to go home. We hope to see everybody again next year.

Competitions resulted.—

Steinstossen (3 shots): E. Wuertich 59.2, O. Risi 54.1, M. Pratt 53.8, L. Dettling 53.8, J. Risi 52.5.

Sheaf tossing (3 shots): E. Wuertich 149.5, O. Risi 122.3, M. Pratt 122.3, J. Risi 112.6.

Kegeln resulted in a deadheat between Rudi Stucki, Peter Weiss and Mervin Pratt, all 21 points.

☆ TARANAKI SWISS SOCIAL CLUB

The Swiss Summer Social, held in the Kapuni Hall on February 20th, was attended by a slightly smaller crowd than usual, but was enjoyed by those present. Music for dancing was supplied by Messrs E. Wright, L. Kuriger and the Tipler Trio. A novelty dance was won by Miss G. Meier and Mr J. Riebli Jnr. —L.K.

WEDDING BELLS

A Nuptial Mass celebrated the wedding of Miss Theresa Hiestand and Mr Steven Paki Paki on Saturday, January 25th, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Kaponga. Rev. Father Garty officiated.

The groom is the second son of Mr & Mrs G. Paki Paki, Toko, and the bride is the eldest daughter of Mr & Mrs D. Hiestand, Awatuna.

The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Catherine Hiestand, Miss Catherine Paki Paki, the bridegroom's sister, and thirdly the bride's younger sister, Miss Helena Hiestand.

Mr John Paki Paki, Toko, attended his brother as best man, and Mr Maurice Hiestand, Auckland, and Mr Robert Stockman, Hamilton, were groomsmen.

At the wedding reception, held in the Kaponga Memorial Hall, the toastmaster, Mr P. Hermann, Kaponga, joined guests in wishing the bride congratulations and best wishes on this double celebration, as it was also her 21st birthday.

Items were given during the reception by Mrs R. Boyd, Awatuna, and Mrs Dudli and her two daughters.

An after-wedding dance took place that evening and was made most enjoyable by 'The Kount Five' dance band from Stratford, with Mr John Paki Paki as vocalist.

Mr & Mrs Paki Paki are making their home in Hamilton.

☆ NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY

SWISS TAX AMNESTY 1969

In a popular vote taken on 18th February, 1968, the Swiss people have decided on a general tax amnesty to take place during the year 1969. The object of this amnesty is to open to all those taxpayers who did not completely fulfil their tax obligations, a way to achieve tax honesty without any consequences. This amnesty can, in certain cases, also interest our Swiss compatriots abroad. Anyone wishing to obtain further details should contact the Swiss Embassy, P.O. Box 386, Wellington.