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News of the Colony

Welcome to our new Ambassador

It is with great pleasure that we learn of the arrival of our new Ambassador resident, Mr Max Corti. We extend to Mr and Mrs Corti (Mrs Corti will arrive later) our sincere greetings and best wishes for a rewarding and pleasant stay in this country.

—Editing Committee

AN APPEAL

Compatriots of ours, Mr and Mrs Thonig, saved hard to buy a section in Northcross, Auckland, overlooking the sea. There they built their family home on this new subdivision and were proud and happy — until it started to rain and the mishap made itself apparent. The heavy rain caused their section to move and it was realised that to save their house the same would have to be moved off the section. So now the remains of the section are in a gully and the house stored on a street — and the Thonig family are in difficulties.

Although this happened through no fault of their own, they are nevertheless faced with many bills they have to meet. They have to pay a certain amount for a new section, there is the bill for the removal of the house off the old section and on to the new section, solicitor's fees, connection of water, electricity, sewerage, etc. — no end to the bills. We admire the effort put in by the Thonig family to overcome this adversity, and feel that this is a genuine case where our Compatriots in New Zealand could show their compassion.

You know, it could have happened to you! How about helping where help is appreciated and needed? We sincerely hope that you will assist and ask you to forward your contribution to Mrs R. Messmer, 15 Fortification Road, Wellington, earmarked "Thonig Appeal".

I count on your understanding and thank you for your assistance.

K. Bischof,
President, Swiss Society.

● TARANAKI SWISS SOCIAL CLUB

On Sunday, 9th February, the Taranaki Swiss Social Club held its 16th annual Picnic at Te Ngutu Park. After dismal weather the previous day we were fortunate to have a fine day as usual.

We were very pleased to have with us Mr P. Erb, Charge d'Affaires, and Mrs Erb and family, and Mr and Mrs E. Homberger from the Embassy of Switzerland in Wellington; Mr K. Bischof, President of the Swiss Society of N.Z., and family, and Mr and Mrs A. Tresch and family, representing the Wellington Swiss Club. Also present were visitors from America and Switzerland, and from not so far away as Taumarunui, Palmerston North and Feilding, as well as a large number of members and friends from all parts of Taranaki.

Mr Erb and Mr Bischof addressed the gathering, and expressed their pleasure at being present among their Taranaki compatriots. A highlight of the day, particularly for the children, was the dropping of lollies from the air kindly arranged by Mr A. Dunnenberger.

Throughout the day some fine Swiss recordings played through an amplifying system, kindly provided by Mr A. Kuriger, gave a true Swiss atmosphere. Musical items were provided by our accomplished musicians Mr F. Imhof (clarinet), Mr P. Amstalden, Mr A. Engelberger, Mr A. Tipler and Wayne (accordions), and Mrs A. Scherrer (yodelling).

The hours seemed to pass by all too quickly and all too soon it was time to depart, particularly for the farmers and our visitors, and we hope they all took happy memories home with them and will return again next year.

Results of competitions were as follows.—

Steinstossen: Senior men, Mr B. Muller (24ft 4in) 1st, Mr R. Rhyner (21ft 8in) 2nd. Junior men (lighter stone), Mr K. Meyers (26ft 4in) 1st, Mr V. Gwerder (26ft) 2nd.

Skittles: Ladies, Mrs W. Hermann 1st, Mrs C. Gwerder 2nd. Men, Mr P. Zimmerman 1st, Mr H. Mathis 2nd.

Raffle: 1st prize, Mr J. Hermann; 2nd prize, Mr P. Suter.

—R.W.

Swiss Society of New Zealand

“AROUND THE WORLD — SWITZERLAND TOO”

Group travel arrangement are being completed by the end of this month. Would further interested parties please contact me before it is too late.

Arnold Biland, Travel Organiser.