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News of the Colony

Auckland Swiss Club

SHOOTING SECTION

The "Fernschiessen" (Coat of Arms of Rotterdam) and the "Eidgenoessische Wettschiessen" went off to a good start on Saturday, 18th July, at the Swiss Farm. A very good attendance kept the organisers busy all day.

After a good meal prepared by Hedy, we settled down for a relaxed evening at the hut. Sunday morning arrived all too soon and after a hearty breakfast the shooting commenced again in brilliant sunshine.

Shooters arrived from as far afield as Whangarei, Tokoroa and Hamilton, and it proved to be another success — judging by the large numbers attending. Scoring was generally good and best scores were shot by S. Hartman and H. Enzler. The hard-working organisers and helpers must gain very much satisfaction to see so many participants and I am sure this sort of interest must increase the bonds already established between our clubs even more.

Many thanks for a pleasant weekend and we are looking forward to meeting you all again for another competition in Henderson.

—H.M. (Hamilton)

Taranaki Swiss Social Club

TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY SHOOT 1970

It was on July 12th when all the Taranaki Swiss shooters gathered for their annual anniversary shoot. The weather was not very pleasant, but still they turned up in great numbers to shoot for a special prize.

The shooting range was bursting at its seams, but nevertheless by 4 p.m. the participants were, with their families, all safely at the Riverlea Hall which was already arranged for a delicious, appetising afternoon tea provided by Mrs K. Napflin and Mrs R. Mathis.

The social afternoon was a great success with beautiful Swiss music coming from Mr A. Kuriger's tape-recorder. Some members played cards while others talked and enjoyed the refreshments. The moment then arrived for the shooters to receive their

special prizes, which consisted of Schüblig and saveloys presented by our riflemaster Mr T. Napflin. After this it was time for a little dancing with music supplied by Mr F. Imhof (clarinet), Mr Z. Hospenthal (piano accordion), Miss M. Hospenthal and Mrs M. Chamberlain (piano). Finally supper was served, after which everybody slowly departed for home after having a very enjoyable day long to be remembered — and all looking forward to next year's event.

—R.W.

AUGUST 1ST CELEBRATIONS

The Swiss Social and Dance held in the Kapuni Memorial Hall was a great success, being attended by about 300 people including visitors from Napier and Hamilton.

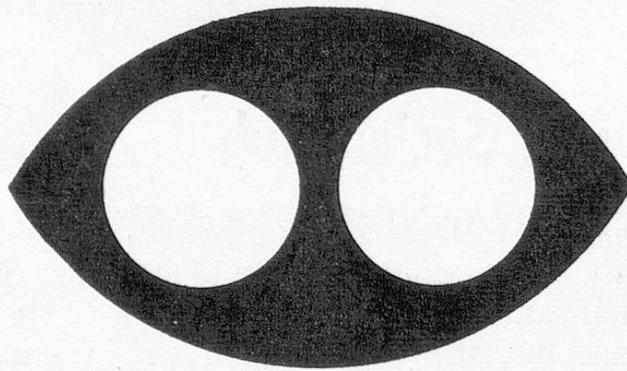
The evening began with a social hour at 6.30 p.m., followed by a buffet tea at 7.30 which was very much enjoyed by all.

During the evening prizes were distributed for Shooting Cards and Steinstossen. Trophies were presented to the following.—

Steinstossen: Mr B. Muller; Junior, Mr V. Gwerder. Cup for Cards: Mr F. Gwerder; runner-up, Mr A. Gwerder. Trophies for Shooting: Miss G. Meyer (also for Taranaki's best Lady Shooter). Cup for Junior: 1st, Mr P. Napflin; 2nd, Mr P. Dudli. Self Handicap: Mr E. Fuglistaller.

Songs were sung by Mrs Schaeerer and were much appreciated by the large crowd.

—L.K.



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Wellington Swiss Club

NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

The wind blew into our hair as we stepped out of the car, but inside the Winter Show Building the atmosphere was festive and we joined the big crowd of Swiss and their friends in the Cocktail Party offered by our Ambassador and Mrs Corti. Flags adorned the Marshall Lounge and the homemade appetisers tasted excellent. Our president Mr König welcomed the guests and was followed by Mr Corti, who successfully drew the attention towards Switzerland with a brief sketch of its situation today. The message of the President of Switzerland, Mr Tschudi, and the national anthem concluded the meaningful part.

A walk around the corner brought us to the dining- and ball-room and our place at the various tables. There was plenty of space for the 120 people to enjoy themselves with the inviting rhythm of the brilliant band. Food was excellent too. So, when everybody joined in the last dance it was high time, and thanks to the committee's effort, a fascinating evening had drawn to its end.

—M.K.

Christchurch Swiss Club

CHEESE & WINE EVENING WITH FILMS

Right up to the actual evening, the Committee felt a bit uneasy about this social event, as ticket sales were very bad, but all our newly-grown grey hairs were in vain because the evening was a great success.

About thirty people gathered in the Hard of Hearing Hall and our guests included some Austrians who are just starting a club of their own here. The evening started with two films, the first one not worth mentioning as it was as old as the hills — and kept breaking — but the last one was about winter sports in S. Moritz and kept everyone interested.

The chairs were put to one side and two big tables were brought into the middle of the hall; these were beautifully decorated and well laden with various cheeses and wines. We all had a rather full look and that well-glazed look in the eyes after a time!

Our thanks go to Mr and Mrs Moser, Miss Moser and Mrs Miles for setting everything in motion that night and also to the Austrian friends who came and made the evening so enjoyable.

1ST AUGUST SOCIAL AND DANCE

Again many of us had a dose of nervous tension during the weeks up to the 1st August as ticket sales were shocking among the Club members and we had to sell tickets "outside" when it was made obvious that many members weren't interested.

At last the day arrived. My visit to the Hall in the afternoon showed that the President and his wife had been very busy putting

up decorations. The hall itself is beautiful with varnished timber panels and exposed beams; spacious and with every amenity.

The hall was nearly full when I arrived. I wouldn't like to guess how many people were there, but they were of all nationalities. The dancing began: quick step, gypsy tap, foxtrot and the latest craze with the young — whatever it is called; it is very easy to do, just stand and shake! It was great to see young and not-so-young joining in **all** the dancing together. This was what everyone said would never happen!

Again Mr and Mrs Roth made the supper which was just delicious. We all know what Mr Roth's food is like and we waited on the edges of our chairs for the supper call. Mrs Moser had been cooking chickens most of the day for the supper, so it was only natural that she should turn pale green when offered a plate of chicken pieces.

After supper came the ballroom dance. The men had to blow up the balloons and tie them to their ankles. The object was to see how many balloons you could break by fair means or foul. The antics were really funny and would have made any dancing teacher shudder. The dance was won by Kurt Hildenbrand and partner. His dancing was a bit unusual but no one seemed to mind!

The speech from the President of Switzerland was listened to by the few Swiss attending in a room adjacent to the Hall. His point about bringing young and old together is something we have been trying to do in the Christchurch Club with very little success from some quarters.

From reports received from around Christchurch, it seems that the dance was a complete success. The band left about 1.30 a.m. and after cleaning up the Hall, we left at 2.45 a.m.

Sincere thanks are extended to Mr and Mrs Moser, Mr and Mrs Roth and to those who stayed and helped clean up. —J.F.

HEDY'S CORNER:

A few years ago a small Swiss orchestra toured New Zealand; they were the "Camerata Bern" and this eminent group earned very high praise from the critics. Shortly, another chamber music group from Switzerland will be giving concerts in many centres throughout New Zealand. The three string players are: violin, Harry Goldenberg; viola, Hermann Friedrich; cello, Jean Paul Gueneux. For this tour the pianist Werner Giger is associated with the string players. The group was formed in 1965 and bears the name of "Stradivarius" Trio.

Precious instruments by the matchless 17th century violin builder are being used by this group. A wealthy industrialist who owns a large collection of such valuable instruments has loaned some of the Stradivarius' to these musicians, hence they called their group after this famous Craftsman.