

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 33 (1970)  
**Heft:** [6]  
  
**Rubrik:** Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc. : President's report 1970

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## News of the Colony

### SWISS SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This meeting took place over the Queen's Birthday Weekend in Hamilton in the Swiss Chalet. It was very pleasing to see so many members from the various Clubs attending and rather disheartening to see the host Club represented by only a few. In this way the Hamilton Club members were far outnumbered by the other Club members. The meeting was honoured also by the presence of our Ambassador, Mr Corti.

As expected the various items on the agenda produced a lively discussion and even some fireworks. It may be disputed whether these discussions were always helpful and for the benefit of the Society. It would appear that the report of the President contains points upon which it would be well to dwell a bit!

The highlight of the meeting was, without any doubt, the presentation to our former Riflemaster of the well-deserved Medal from the Swiss Rifle Association and the bestowing upon him of the Society's honorary life membership which he also deserved in full measure.

At the elections all Executive members were re-elected and Mr P. Erb, our Vice-Consul, accepted the Auditorship for the coming year.

After having thanked our Ambassador and the members present for their interest shown, the host Club for the organisation of the meeting, and Mr and Mrs Fluehler for their kindness to put the Swiss Chalet at the disposal of the organisers for the meeting, the President closed the meeting rather late at 5 p.m., after which most members sat down to a very good meal. —K.B.

#### SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1970

The Society's year just ended has as its main characteristic, contrary to the world around us, an uneventful upwards trend. We have neither a big high nor do we have a deep low on our records. Possibly the greatest disappointment was the lack of interest in our Group Travels. However, the splendid results of our Hamilton shooters in the Radio Weltschutzenfest 1969 certainly made all of us proud.

In accordance with the decisions taken at the last A.G.M. it was anticipated that the Society should today be financially in

### INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1970

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1970

I have today examined the accounts of the Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc. In my opinion the above statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet are correctly setting out the Society's position and I recommend acceptance by the A.G.M. May I be permitted to add my appreciation for the accuracy and great care taken by the Secretary-Treasurer.—P. ERB, Auditor.

Wellington, 2nd May, 1970



a better position. This, I am glad to say, will be confirmed by our Treasurer's report.

Whilst we are better off in some ways we still have not succeeded in becoming a united Society to the extent my Committee was hoping for. Most of us seem to be quite satisfied with the fact that we are members of the Society. Yet this should in reality only be the beginning. We all have to do our share of work if our Society is to grow inwardly strong. Within our ranks we seem to have far too many fractions and frictions. This is due to the fact that we as individuals pretend to have the right to disregard the viewpoint of others in favour of our own pet idea. It is therefore pleasing to know that our Christchurch Club has seen fit to join our Society and thus — we hope — has shown others what can be done with good will.

May I be permitted to express my gratitude to all Committee members who by their devoted work have assisted their Clubs and thus the Society. A word of thanks must also go to the Editors and specially to our Treasurer for their success in the financial field.

The devotion these stalwarts of our Society have shown should inspire each one of us to do just that much more for our compatriots and Clubs in the coming year. We should not wait for the big moment of action to show up. Out of a small deed will grow a strong Society. Only when each one of us grasps the seemingly insignificant opportunity to do his share shall we be more united than ever before. Maybe we can reach in the coming year the point when we criticise less and accomplish more. I am quite hopeful that the goodwill of our members will bear fruit.

K. BISCHOF.

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## Obituary —

### Michael Puller

Michael Puller, 26 years of age, who died on May 20th, was married for four years to Mariann Oettli, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry Oettli, Rukuhia. The couple were farming at Horsham Downs and the marriage was blessed with a lovely daughter, Anita, now two years old.

For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer — these are the well-known marriage vows and no one knows which or what mixture of these one is going to receive, and the hour of parting.

In a well-known proverb one of the fathers says, "There is but this difference between the death of old men and young: that old men go to death, and death comes to the young" . . . "He whom the Gods love, dies young".

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the bereaved families.

The Editing Committee.