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NEWS OF THE COLONY

Hamilton Swiss Club

ANNUAL PICNIC

What a glorious day it was on the first Sunday in February when we were holding once again our Annual Picnic at the well-known Risi farm. I don't think so many people ever turned up to enjoy real Swiss atmosphere: Schwingen, Jodeln, Kegeln and famous Swiss foods.

Of course our countrymen from America added immensely to the colourful day. They talked in surprisingly good "Schwyzerdütsch" about their adopted country and various ways of living. Our friends from Auckland delighted everybody with some lovely Jodeling. Heiry Oettli and Herman Odermatt added to the Swiss atmosphere with their music. Many thanks to you all and also to the most welcome Taranaki visitors who travelled such a long way to join us.

Of course our children had a great day too, "Sackgumpe", lolly scrambles and lots of other fun kept them busy all day.

Very popular indeed was the "Schwingen" under the expert refereeing of Mr E. Rust. A big attraction to this competition was the brand new "Wanderbecher", so generously donated by Mr W. Risi. Thirteen strong young men fought for it and "im Schlussgang" were last year's winner, Sepp Bösch, and Reto Jakli from Auckland. The fight finished in a draw, but on overall points Sepp emerged as the happy winner and holder of the cup! He was congratulated with a big kiss from the "Ehrendame". Third rank went to Mr Vitus Ackermann and fourth to Mr Hans Meier of Tauranga.

In the not less popular Kegel competition the "Wanderbecher" goes to Mr T. Kappeli of Auckland with 25 points. Mr K. Waldvogel was second and Mr Gemperli was third.

I am sure everybody who was at the Picnic joins with me in a big 'Thank You' to the Risi family and all our Committee members for working so hard. Without their never-ending help we wouldn't be able to hold such "fröhliche Wiesenfeste" each year.

—R.E.W.

Wellington Swiss Club

CAMPING WEEKEND AT RIVERSDALE

Three tents were set up and one caravan was there at the traditional camping place of our Club on Saturday, 5th February. It was a friends' gathering rather than a Club affair, and we asked

ourselves what the reason could be that so few members had taken the trouble to come out here. I must admit that after having travelled for three weeks in the South Island, camping half of the time, I had to give myself a little push. But I felt fully rewarded — having left behind the gusty and rainy town of Lower Hutt, I enjoyed very much the peaceful site under the trees and the company of others. We had to wait until Sunday for really good weather and sunshine, but then we undertook a long walk along the beach, while some of the children were busy fishing in the river.

Back in the camp we met two more families who had come out for the day. Wouldn't it be wonderful if our Club had its own piece of land out here and a hut with banks, so that everybody could come along?
—M.K.

Christchurch Swiss Club

“JOLLY SWISS” VISIT

A letter bearing news of an arriving tourist party sent brains in a flurry as to ways of entertaining them. As it turned out, they needed no entertaining at all.

The “Jolly Swiss Tour” were everything their name implied. A few members of the Christchurch Swiss Club met them in the

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TURANGI TOWN CENTRE

Regal Lounge of the Claredon Hotel on 22nd January and they were made to feel at home immediately. Some of us found friends of people who we had attended school with; one lived next door to a relation of one of our Committee members! Laughter was the order of the evening, not to mention the singing!

The party left us after a few days to travel north and I hope they had the same effect on the clubs there. It truly was an evening to remember.

MARRIAGE

The congratulations of the Club go to Otto Bolt and his new bride, Gabriel, who were married on February 12th. —J.F.

SOCIETY SHOOTING COMPETITION

Dear Compatriot,

Two years ago, at the General Meeting in Hamilton, we discussed a new competition which would include three other events: ninepin bowling, 'jasse' and shotput. With the old competition finished we will start the new competition with the 'Kantons Wappen' Medals. The format of the four events would be as follows.—

Shooting. The number of shots will be increased to eight, on two target sheets, that is four shots on each sheet. There will be no trial shots as before, but competitors can shoot their guns in on their own target sheets before the competition begins. All eight shots will be counted.

The Shooting Competition of the Swiss Society will take place during the period **26th February to 26th March 1972** inclusive. It is up to you to decide on which weekend in between these dates you wish to hold your competition. Please let me know at least ten days beforehand the composition of your groups for the Group Trophy which will still be held: family and christian names, age and full address of each competitor. Report forms and targets will be supplied by the Society, but exercise targets not.

The remainder of the following events can take place at a later date if so desired, at a picnic, club meeting, etc., but in any event I must have ten days notice before any competition.

Ninepin Bowling. This also incorporates eight throws. A 'Kranz' is ten points, a 'Babeli' nine points, eight pins fallen — eight points, and so on. Once again all throws are counted.

Jassen. This is to be played in groups of four competitors, with eight rounds. So that the same players do not have the same partners, some sort of lot should be drawn after each round. After each round the person with the highest score receives ten points,