

News of the colony

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The Swiss Workers Aid Organisation, which for the past twenty-five years has been engaged in welfare work in Switzerland and abroad has recently entered the field of technical assistance to underdeveloped countries. For example, it financed the establishment of a cheese-making plant in Kozani province, Greece, and made two fairly large contributions to the equipment of two farm depots there. Since in this area the distances from the farms to the market place are enormous, the depots, from which the produce is transported to the market by truck instead of by private carts, constitute a great help to the farmers.

At La Marsa, in Tunis, the organisation has participated in the establishment of a model workshop for Algerian refugee adolescents. In addition to a financial contribution to the construction of the building, it supplied these workshops with tools.

It also supplied a number of measuring instruments to an industrial school at Skoplje, in Yugoslavia, and expects to organise a course there in producing non-alcoholic fruit beverages. This project has been devised in co-operation with the agricultural experimental station at Smederevska Palanka near Belgrade.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

"I could have danced all night, I could have danced all night, and still have begged for more..." —a well known and popular song from "My Fair Lady" but also a very apt phrase to describe the dance and social evening held recently by the Auckland Swiss Club. Attended by Swiss and friends, the Hall was filled to capacity.

Throughout the evening a New Zealand band provided modern music, but after twelve o'clock our Swiss bandsmen, Charley and Alf, came to light with their wonderful rendering of our own Swiss folk music, and it was this more than anything that really started the feet tapping. Between dancing, entertainment of a high standard was also to be seen and everybody thoroughly enjoyed Mr W. Peters' presentation of "Figaro" and, with the help of his friends, "Gymnastics of 100 Years Ago." Our President, with help from Miss D. Peyer, managed to produce from the dim pages of their memories a few old songs and yodels, which they sang with great gusto, if not with anything else!

Near midnight supper and coffee was served and the dancing finished in the early morning when, with lagging steps, most of us departed homewards, with the hope that perhaps in the near future we would all have the opportunity of attending another such happy evening.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

The Wellington Swiss Club held a most successful Housie-Housie Evening on June 24th. This was a completely new venture in entertaining for the Club and, judging upon results, provided most satisfactory financial returns too. Despite the weather being rather poor (very unusual for Wellington!), the members turned up in great strength and by 8.30 p.m. there was not a vacant seat in the hall. A "Swiss" atmosphere was created with gay posters and the Swiss colours predominated—tables being covered with snow white paper and at regular intervals bright red candles gave a warm glow. From the very start the evening went with a "swing" and no sooner had one game finished than another one started. Perhaps the prizes were irresistible!

The members of the Committee are to be warmly congratulated on a thoroughly enjoyable evening, including a delicious supper of hot sausages and coffee.

It is hoped by many of the members that a similar evening will be held again in the not-too-distant future.

—M.B.F.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

The first of August celebration for the Auckland Swiss Club will take place this year at the Ellerton Road Hall, Ellerton Road, Mt. Eden, on Saturday, August 5th, commencing at 7 p.m. Details of entrance fee and programme will be sent to all members and friends.

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

Our August celebration will be held on Tuesday, August 1st, in the Riverlea at 8 p.m.

Special entertainment—Berner Platte—and Swiss music late in the evening. Bring your Swiss friends. Please wear your national costume.

TARANAKI SWISS SOCIAL CLUB

The first of August celebrations will be held in the Kapuni Memorial Hall on Tuesday, August 1st, at 8 p.m. Please wear your Swiss costumes and badges. Dancing and cards and free refreshments supplied. Subscriptions are: Gents 25/-, ladies 15/-.

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

Announcement: The 1st of August celebration in Wellington is to be held on Saturday, August 5th, at 7.30 p.m. at the Brooklyn Hall.

CHRISTCHURCH SWISS CLUB

On July 29th the Christchurch Swiss Club will hold its first National Day celebration in the Trinity Church Hall, Manchester Street. The function will be in the form of a simple meal followed by a Social with special consideration for the children. A maximum attendance is expected to gather to foster fellowship, goodwill and friendliness amongst us.