

Hedy's corner

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decorated hall, which emitted a true Christmas atmosphere.

A cocktail hour which began at 7.30 p.m. was followed by a delicious tea, and it wasn't very long before the inviting tempo of the five-piece band, plus vocalist, had many of us up on the floor.

The hours to 1.30 a.m. slipped away very quickly in dancing and talking and all too soon time put an end to what was a most enjoyable and memorable evening. —J.W.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday, 8th December, the Wellington Swiss Club held its annual Christmas Party for all the children at the Brooklyn Hall at 6 p.m. To start off the evening some of the children gave items, then when Father Christmas entered the Hall some of the children began to scream with joy.

During the receiving of presents from Father Christmas there was a rather noisy atmosphere and several times Father Christmas had to ask the children to be quiet. Then, before he left all the children gathered around him and sang carols. When he had left, drinks and biscuits were served until 8 o'clock. Everybody enjoyed themselves, especially the children who were very pleased with the presents they had received.

On behalf of all the young Swiss children present, I would like to thank the Committee, sponsors and helpers for the pleasant evening. —H.P.

Hedy's Corner

Harking back to when I was a new New Zealand - Swiss, information about churches in New Zealand lacked the local preciseness. You too may find it so. I requested the following notes on the main churches here, given to me by an authoritative source.—

Roman Catholic Church: Like the Church in Holland, the Roman Catholic Church in Switzerland is slightly more 'progressive' than its counterpart in N.Z. Nevertheless, the results of Vatican II are making themselves felt throughout the Church here.

Anglican Church: This Church in N.Z. stems from the Church of England and has a very large following. This Church came into being through separation from the Papacy during the reign of Henry VIII. Broadly speaking, for your guidance, it could be termed the Catholic Church without a Pope, and it is almost identical with the Old Catholics in Germany and Holland.

Presbyterian Church: This Church was brought to N.Z. by the early Scottish immigrants. It is Calvinist in Theology. (As the Swiss Zwingli Evangelic-Reformed Church is not represented here, Swiss of this denomination will find the Presbyterian Church

the most similar.) Along with the Roman Catholic and Anglican Church, the Presbyterian is one of the largest denominations. Unlike the first two churches mentioned who have a vigorous sacramental life, communion in the latter is celebrated quarterly.

State Church-tax is unknown in New Zealand. In recent years the above churches have introduced a 'pledging system', whereby church members can agree on an annual levy, renewable every three years and paid weekly in envelopes provided. On the other hand many still prefer to give what they can each Sunday.

Of the remaining denominations the Methodists are the largest. Although an offshoot of the Anglican Church in practice, they are perhaps closer to the Presbyterian. The Salvation Army is as vigorous as at Home, and so are the Baptists. (The numerous other denominations are not discussed here as they have not the large numbers of followers.)

In New Zealand the various denominations live very peaceably together. Pulpits are exchanged regularly and it has become a practice of late for Anglican and Roman Catholics to be represented at each other's ordination services.

How to find these churches in the phone book: The Roman Catholic Church is usually listed as 'Catholic Presbytery'. Anglican Church is found under 'Anglican' or 'Vicarage'. Presbyterian Church is listed as such and the minister's residence is called 'Manse'. Baptist, Methodist and Salvation Army are listed under their names.

Presbyterian and Anglican Churches: Being unknown in Switzerland, it is helpful to know how to address their clergy. In the former you call the ministers, whatever rank, plain Mr (family name). In the latter, starting from the top, 'Archbishop', 'Bishop', 'Mr Dean', 'Archdeacon', 'Canon', 'Mr Vicar' or just 'Vicar'.

Laugh a little . . .

Black calls out in his sleep: "Marion, Marion!" His wife wakes him up and asks severely: "Who is Marion?" Black stutters: "Marion? Oh, that is a horse and I want to place a bet on it at the races".

A few days later the man is on a business trip. Upon returning home, his wife says to him: "Your horse tried to get you on the phone".

* * * *

A young lieutenant walked along a narrow street in Berne and an elderly Landsturmsoldat passed him without saluting. The lieutenant stopped the man, pointed at the little star on his collar and asked: "Haven't you seen this, my good man?"

"Well, well, what do you know, your Mammi will be pleased when she sees it!" Thus he spoke and walked on. —Nebelspalter