

Manaia Swiss ball

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MANAIA SWISS BALL : The Swiss ball at Manaia, including as it did the presentation of 18 Swiss debutantes, made history at Manaia, for it was the first occasion on which debutantes have been presented. Dr. Schmidt, the Swiss Consul for New Zealand, and Mrs. Schmidt, who were the guests of the evening, received the debutantes, young Swiss women from many parts of Taranaki. There was one of the largest crowds ever gathered in the Manaia hall, the attendance being between 900 and 1000 persons.

Prior to the presentation of the debutantes, the Rev. Father P. Breen, parish priest, Manaia, welcomed Dr. and Mrs. Schmidt on behalf of the Swiss community and Manaia residents. The debutantes, he said, were representative of the young Swiss girls of Taranaki and he wished to congratulate them on their honour of being selected for presentation. Through the graciousness of Dr. Schmidt the presentation ball was made possible.

"Time passes fast for it is a year since I last visited Manaia," said Dr. Schmidt. "This year is a special occasion when a large number of Swiss girls are to be presented and I have had bestowed on me the privilege and honour to receive and meet them." He added that he had chosen as a souvenir to be presented to each debutante a silver brooch. The brooch, one of the many Swiss home-made industries, revealed skill and art. It was a modest souvenir which symbolised Swiss character and piety.

Boquets were presented to Mrs. Schmidt by Miss Mathis and Miss Toka, attired in Swiss and Maori costumes.

The debutantes were:- Misses Josephine Burkhart, Lena Nolly, Molly Sattler, Inez Gopperth, Mina Schumacher, Rose Schumacher, Zita Schumacher, Collette Schumacher, Mary Hermann, Betty Sattler, Olga Mouli, Marie Butler, Elvie Butler, Josephine Werder, Pauline Kalin, Freda Engelberger, Ottilia Engelberger and Doreen Engelberger.

Yodelling items were presented by Mr. Paul Zimmerman, a recent immigrant from Switzerland, and Messrs Adolf. Walter and Werner Fluhler.

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SWISS IMMIGRANTS WELCOMED :

A very large muster of Swiss filled the Hall at Kapuni to capacity a few days ago, welcoming 19 new arrivals from our Homeland to the New Zealand shores, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Ehrler and Mrs. J. Kaiser.

Thirteen months ago, Mr. Frank Ehrler and family, old residents of Taranaki, left New Zealand on a visit to Switzerland, where he found many young Swiss very eager to emigrate. He returned in company of eighteen young men who will have no trouble whatever to find positions. Three of them are accompanied by their wives. There is also a young girl with them.

It is a very kind thought of the Swiss residents of Kapuni and surrounding districts to make these newcomers at home upon their arrival, and to impress upon them that, although in a strange land, they will never lack friends who will help and guide them to the best of their ability. The old residents of Taranaki have not yet forgotten their experiences of hardship when they (especially the old Swiss pioneers) landed on New Zealand shores, without the knowledge of the English tongue.

The Swiss Benevolent Society takes this opportunity of wishing these Swiss arrivals the best of luck, good health and every success, and express the hope to welcome them into our fold after they have settled down. To the 6 compatriots who arrived in Auckland, we also extend similar sentiments.

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NOTICES: Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Mr. Ernest Goetz, please notify the Secretary or the Swiss Consulate, P.O. Box 386, Wellington.

The address of Jost Ribary is also urgently required by the Consulate.

NEW MEMBERS: Again it is our pleasant duty to announce and welcome the following new members :-

Mr. John Meier, Ngaere; Mr. Kaspar Hermann, Manaia;
Mr. Emil Sattler, Morrinsville; Mr. R. Buchmann, C/o. McGee, 45 Howe St.,
Auckland.

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