

News of the colony

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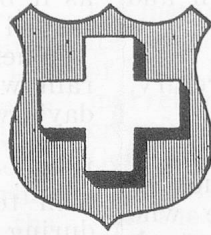
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HELVETIA

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OF THE



SWISS SOCIETY
IN
NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

GROUP NEW ZEALAND OF THE NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

20th YEAR.

APRIL, 1957.

AUCKLAND.

NOTICE

We take pleasure in announcing that the Consul-General of Switzerland, Mr. P-H. Aubaret, who is temporarily absent from New Zealand, has been appointed Head of the Swiss Delegation to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Korea, where he will be stationed for approximately six months.

ENQUIRIES FROM INTENDING MIGRANTS

Farm Work

Married man, son of a farmer, with good knowledge of farming, at present working as a chauffeur, would like to find work and accommodation on a farm. Wife, cook, has a good knowledge of tailoring and specializes in making boys' trousers.

Two daughters, 18 and 19 respectively. One is a sales-girl—waitress and the other is working in a watch shop.

Two sons, one aged 16 years will complete his schooling this spring, and the other 5 years.

Master Mason, with Diploma, for last twenty years in business on own account, would like to buy a farm. Both he and his wife are from farming families. Four children, three sons and one daughter, ranging 9 to 18 years. Fair knowledge of English.

Butcher, 29 years of age, married, no family, specializing in the manufacture of sausages, would like to find a position in butchery.

One of the main requirements in order for a married couple to be granted an Entry Permit, is suitable accommodation, therefore would any compatriots willing or able to assist in the matter of the above enquiries please communicate with the Consulate of Switzerland, G.P.O. Box 386, Wellington.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

Combined Waikato-Auckland Picnic

This year for the first time, a successful picnic embracing both the Waikato and Auckland Social Clubs was held in a perfectly situated spot on the farm of Dr. and Mrs. Kaegi, Bombay Hill and was attended by approximately 200 people. We wish to extend on behalf of both Social Committees our sincere thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Kaegi in allowing us the use of their property for this function.

Set amid native bush and a small flowing river, surroundings were ideal for both old and young alike. One enthusiast even climbed, amid cheers and clapping, a giant native tree upon which, with a loud "juchzer", he hoisted the Swiss Flag.

Bratwurst, a delicacy rarely seen in this country, was served hot straight from a barbecue and proved most popular. We must not forget to mention also buerli, which was a must with the Bratwurst, and to complete as a sweet, Creme Schnitten. One of the main features was the shooting competition, which drew large crowds throughout the day. Mr. H. Fitz, of Hamilton, emerged as the successful winner and was presented with a handsome silver jug. Early afternoon saw the commencement of other events on the programme. There were races for the children, wrestling bouts for those who cared to try their skill and finally followed a few demonstrations given by an old hand at the game on the correct tactics one should use. Very keenly contested was the "Steis-tosse" and as has been shown will have to be included as a major event in future. This was won by Mr. L. Goessi, 19 feet 10 inches, who also received a silver jug as first prize, with Mr. J. Auf Der Maur second, 18 feet 6 inches.

For the average Swiss no day such as this would be complete without at least "e bitseli urchigi Schwitzertanzmusik." This was provided in traditional style complete in Chuttli and Chaeppli by Messrs. Alf Meyer and Charlie Von Rickenbach.

This picnic, we hope, will become an annual event and our heartfelt thanks go to each and everyone who helped to make it a success.

D. PEYER,
Auckland Swiss Social Club. Hon. Secretary,

Picnics held by the Swiss in Wellington

This time the Weather God was very much on the side of the about 70 Swiss people who assembled in brilliant sunshine at the Cenotaph to go for their picnic, a few miles inland from Paekakariki, to which they had looked forward for so long. The place, chosen with great care, was simply ideal for the purpose. The 20 cars could easily be parked and there was still plenty of room left for games, etc.; even a little swimming pool was in the close neighbourhood.

Unfortunately, the Consul-General, Mr. P-H. Aubaret, being abroad, could not attend the party, but Madame Aubaret, with her two sons, and the Vice-Consul, Mr. W. Sollberger, and Mrs. Sollberger were present.

On the picnic ground little groups formed themselves and everybody was chattering happily away, glad to do it for once in their mother tongue. A few ball games were organised and later in the afternoon Mr. Bischof played his accordion and some talented voices sang and yodelled.

The picnic was a real success, due mainly to the splendid organisation of Mr. K. Bischof, whom we should like to thank very much indeed. L.H.

Seeing that our first attempt to bring the Swiss of Wellington together was such a success, another picnic was held on March 10th. The 40 people who met at Maoribank, Upper Hutt, were very much surprised to see so many faces turning up. Everybody was convinced of being the only one to come, because the weather was very poor. It rained and the clouded sky did not bear any promise to clear up. However, by the time we reached our destination, a lovely spot in the Akatarawa Valley, the weather was improving. A cup of coffee offered by Mrs. Sollberger was most enthusiastically welcomed. Mr. Bischof, thinking of everything, brought a big canvas which he fastened on four trees to afford protection against the rain. Although a nice and gloriously cool-looking river hugged our meadow, nobody was bold enough to risk a swim. Boys, big and small, tried to hit a piece of paper with a stone on the opposite bank of the river, but with next to no success. In dry moments, Mr. Bischof played his accordion and then everybody settled down for lunch. By one o'clock the sky was practically blue and we played several games of "Volkerball" and then football solidly for three hours. Short showers in between sunshine were quite well received; they freshened up the hot and tired players.

Unfortunately, the day ended not as happily as it began for Mr. Sollberger; playing football, he fell and broke his ankle.

When at 5.30 p.m. the last party left the field, rain was settling in again. Satisfied with our day's work, we drove back to Wellington.

This season coming to an end soon, there will be no more picnics until next summer, but we plan to have a Social Evening now and then during winter-time. L.H.

Thanks to the initiative and co-operative spirit of a few local Swiss an effort has been made after a period of about eight years to re-establish a Swiss Social Club in Auckland.

So far we have had three successful socials, these being held the first Tuesday of each month at the Church Hall of the Epiphany, Newton. Entertainment has consisted of jazz, films and Swiss dance music, and we welcome all compatriots from other centres when in Auckland to come and join us on these social evenings.

Our aim for the future is to eventually establish our own Swiss Club House in Auckland.

D.P.

Notices

Our Secretary, Mr. Ernest Gilgen, is leaving at the end of March to take up a position in the South Island, and has therefore resigned. Pending new arrangements to be made at the next General Meeting all correspondence should be addressed to our treasurer, Miss Doris Peyer, 48 Moa Road, Pt. Chevalier, Auckland, who will in the meantime also act as Secretary. Letters concerning general policy of the Society should be addressed to the President, Dr. L. Bossard, 24 Edmund Street, St. Heliers, Auckland.

Appeal by the President

In my last Annual Report I urged all members to help to make the Swiss Society a truly representative one. I therefore invited all members to enrol as many new members as possible. I believe that in this respect very much can be done still. I would like to remind those members whose subscriptions are still outstanding to send same to our treasurer, Miss Doris Peyer, 48 Moa Road, Pt. Chevalier, Auckland, as the financial year has ended on the 31st of March, 1957.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Labour Market

As is nearly always the case, at this time of the year, the evolution of the Labour Market has been marked by a recrudescence of winter unemployment. The cold and the snow have caused a partial stoppage of work in the building trade. At the end of January there were some 9,000 unemployed, in the whole of Switzerland, whilst the number of jobs offered amounted to nearly 6,000.