

Obituary : Frank Ehrler

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WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

The Wellington Swiss Club held their first picnic this year on February 15th, near Kaitoke. The weather was unfortunately—as it is usual for our outdoor events—far from good. Nevertheless, at 1 p.m. about 50 people were sitting on the border of a lovely green meadow seeking shelter under the trees from the rain and digging into their delicious lunches. The many small children present gave the whole outing a cosy atmosphere.

The afternoon brought forward a slight brightening up of the skies and all the fit members of our Club played the age-old and still very popular "Volkerball." A few half-hearted attempts were made at "Steinstossen" and a party went for a long walk into the bush. By about 5 o'clock the place was deserted again and we were on our way back to the city. —L.H.

MR K. E. BISCHOF MARRIES MISS E. TOROCSIK

The wedding took place at St. Mary of the Angels Church, Wellington, on February 7th, of Miss Elisabeth Torocsik, daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Torocsik, of Kecskemet, Hungary, and Mr Karl Bischof, son of Mr and Mrs Franz Bischof, of Berne, Switzerland. The Rev. Father Dr Antal Olah-Toth officiated and celebrated Nuptial Mass.

The bride, who was escorted by Dr Fred Sipos, wore a full length frock which featured a lace bodice, V-neckline, long pointed sleeves. The skirt was in layers of tulle overlaid with lace. Her headdress was a circlet of guipure lace embroidered with pearls. She was attended by Miss Anneke Van der Velde, as chief bridesmaid, and Miss Brooke Sipos, as junior bridesmaid, who wore long dresses of lagune blue embroidered organza over satin, cut in princess line. The pageboy, who was proceeding the bride into church carrying the rings, was Master Lance Sipos. Best man was Mr Fred Fluhler. During the signing of the register Mrs Thelma Grabmeier sang "Ave Maria." Cubs and Scouts of the St. Anne's Scout Group formed an arch outside the church.

The reception was held in the garden of the residence of Dr and Mrs Sipos, in Stokes Valley. Mr Norman Fisher acted as toastmaster and the different hoasts were proposed by Mr Norman Allen (to the parents), Dr Fred Sipos (to the bride), Mr Ken Sleight (to absent friends). The bridegroom suitably replied.

The weather was perfect and the 65 guests present enjoyed themselves very much indeed. The breakfast was simply wonderful and very plentiful and so was the punch.

For travelling the bride chose an off-white suit cut on classical lines, with white accessories.

The bridegroom's father had been very ill in Switzerland at the time of the wedding and on their return from their honeymoon the young couple were informed of the death of Mr Franz Bischof, two days after the ceremony. Our most sincere condolences to Mr and Mrs Karl Bischof.

TARANAKI SWISS SOCIAL CLUB PICNIC

The picnic was held on Sunday, 15th February, in nice weather before a large attendance of people. We had with us our guest of honour, the Swiss Consul-General, Mr P. Aubaret, and Mrs Aubaret and son and also visitors from the Hamilton Club which we were very pleased to see.

The chief sport of the day was the "Steinstossen," which

was won again by last year's champion, John Kuriger. Fridolin Gwerder was second and B. Muller third. So John Kuriger wins the cup again. I must congratulate him on his win. He hopes to meet the Hamilton champion one of these days. Another sport that was well patronised was the "Kegelbahn," the winners being as follows: Men, K. Kempf 1st, K. Speck 2nd; ladies, Mrs F. Gwerder 1st, Mrs F. Muller 2nd. The nail driving resulted: A. Herman 1st, A. Schuler 2nd. The dance floor was in action again and music was ably supplied by Mr Joe Fohn and Mr A. Buhler. —J.St.

Obituary

FRANK EHRLER

A month has passed since the unexpected passing away of our dear compatriot Mr Frank Ehrler, Manaia, Taranaki. Franz Ehrler, born in the year 1902, hailed from Moutathal, and lived his early life in Schwyz and Seewen, Switzerland. After primary school and three years college education, young Frank was to become a mechanic and served a three-year apprenticeship with the world-renowned electro-motor and lift factory Schindler & Co. Ltd., Luzern. Although he achieved his diploma with high honours, the urge to see the wide world got the better of him and he decided to emigrate to New Zealand, where he arrived in 1922 just 20 years old. He soon learned that in this country there were better and more opportunities in the field of farming than engineering and so decided to have a go at this under the employment of a successful farmer, Mr Kaspar Hermann. Coming from farming stock he took to the work like a duck to water, possessing the iron will to succeed. The people soon took notice of this conscientious young man and he was offered to manage a 300-acre mixed farm on a share basis. Although a tremendous task for a young single man, he possessed the ability to get on well with his work-mates and subsequently faithfully served his employers for over a quarter of a century to the satisfaction of all concerned. During this time Frank got himself married to a lady he sweetly called Ruby, who in return presented him in due course with three daughters and a son. After years of combined hard work and diligent saving the decision was made to go for a well-deserved holiday in Switzerland. So Frank, Ruby and Jean, a very young daughter, then enjoyed life in Switzerland for 12 months to the full. Mrs Ehrler enjoyed the scenery of Switzerland and also the finery of the art of Swiss cooking, an art Mrs Ehrler has not forgotten to this day. Frank of course appreciated the quality and finesse of Swiss wine and spirits, but with all due respects, he did not forget to sing the praises of his adopted country—beautiful New Zealand—the opportunity it held for any young man or woman and young married couples with children, provided they had a will to work and go ahead. Mr Ehrler's words did not fall on deaf and unbelieving ears. When Frank returned from Switzerland, after a tremendous farewell, he was followed by a throng of 20 happy young men and women, who trusted him fully. He was their guide and leader and all arrived safely in the "Maloya" at Wellington in June, 1939. In later years friends and families arrived in New Zealand from Switzerland due to his activities and it must have been a fountain of joy and satisfaction to Mr and Mrs Ehrler to see all of them progressing well through sheer hard work and good administration. I am sure that everyone who had the

good fortune to meet Mr Ehrler at home, and because of it came to New Zealand in due course, will forever hold Frank in great esteem and loveable memory. Not only his countrymen were the friends of Frank, the Pakeha and Maori had the opportunity to have a taste of the milk of human kindness that flowed from his generous heart. From north and south his friends came to pay homage on his last journey. The natives cast off their footwear so as not to disturb the peace in reverence of the body of their friend, as it was in the home, before being taken to the church in the evening. On the day of the burial after Requiem Mass there was an attendance of at least 400 people who paid their respect to Frank. The floral tributes also were a sure sign of his being liked and respected. There were a great number of cards and telegrams, all of them a tribute to Frank and a consolation to the bereaved.

The following is a list of those who came to New Zealand due to Frank Ehrler: Joe Niederoest, Karl Von Richenbach, Zeno Hospenthal, Fridolin Gwerder, Dominik Hiestand, Paul Zimmermann, Walter Fluhler, Adolph Fluhler, Werner Fluhler, Bertha Fluhler (later to become Mrs Paul Zimmermann), Joe L. Dettling, Joseph Dettling, Franz Suter, Joe Fohn, Charles Camenzind, Loui Muller, Frank Imhof, George Amstalden and family, Alois Fischlin and family, Albert Schuler and family, Walter Risi and family. —L.Z.

MR SOLOMON ZINSLI 103 YEARS YOUNG

The oldest Swiss resident in New Zealand, Mr Solomon Zinsli celebrated his 103rd birthday at his son's residence in Hawera on February 21st last. Mr Zinsli is, for his age, still in remarkably good health physically and mentally. He still goes unaided to the local hotel for his daily glass of beer and displays an active interest in world and local affairs. It is no trouble for him to switch from one language to the other, as the conversation may go, when talking with a Swiss compatriot. The Swiss people are very proud of "Old Ted," as they affectionately call him, and wish him many more happy returns. —J.St.

★ ★ ★ QUINCE CREAM

Peel and core some quinces (peel and cores make the best jelly). Cut quinces into small pieces, stew until soft in just enough water to cover the fruit. Press through a sieve, add sugar to taste and a little lemon peel. Prepare separately a vanilla custard. When fruit and custard are cold, mix the two and, if possible, add a small cup of cream. Put into a glass dish and garnish with some lady fingers (Loeffelbiskuit).

—From "Nelly Kalender"

TASTY SAUSAGE CASSEROLE

Have ready some peeled and thinly-sliced cervelat sausage (these are obtainable from shops which sell Meltzer's sausages). Also peel and slice some hardboiled eggs and some boiled, cold potatoes. Grease a casserole, put layers of potatoes, cervelat and eggs into it and between each layer pour some sour cream. At the top put a layer of potatoes. These get a sprinkling of grated cheese, some dots of butter and some breadcrumbs. Bake in medium oven on a low shelf for 30-40 minutes. Excellent served with a green salad. Before serving sprinkle casserole with some finely-minced herbs.

—From "Nelly Kalender"

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on the 26th of April in the Riverlea at the commencement of our Social Evening. Please be early. Membership badges must be worn for this occasion. If you do not possess one apply to the secretary, R. Rust.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held in the Brooklyn Hall, Wellington, on the 9th of May, 1959, at 8 p.m. Please keep this date free.

A. Biland, Secretary.

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Epiphany Hall on the 7th of April, 1959. Please do not miss this date.



NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

WORLD BANK RAISES NEW LOAN IN SWITZERLAND

At the beginning of the year, a Swiss consortium of Banks offered for public subscription at the price of 100% net a new 4% loan of 100 million Swiss francs (U.S.A. \$23.3 million), put on the market by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

The loan is to be re-imbursed in 1974; the World Bank, however, reserves to itself the right to proceed with an earlier amortisation, either total or partial, as from 1969. The Federal stamp duty on the bonds as well as the tax on the coupons will be paid by the debtor; moreover, the bonds are not subject to the tax on interest, so that the yield from them will be 4% net. This loan will be quoted on the Exchanges at Basle, Zurich, Geneva, Berne and Lausanne.

A FOREIGN LOAN IN SWITZERLAND

The "Electricity Supply Commission," of Johannesburg, has issued a 50 million Swiss francs loan (U.S.A. \$11.65 million) in Switzerland, redeemable in 15 years' time, which has been entirely subscribed. These funds are intended for the development of the production of electricity in South Africa. The firm in question is a highly-esteemed client of Swiss industry, to which it has already given orders amounting to 60% of the sum total of the loan.

REFINERY FOR MINERAL OILS IN SWITZERLAND

A plan is now being studied for the setting up of a refinery for mineral oils at Aigle, a small Swiss town in the Valley of the Rhone, on the Simplon line. The raw petroleum will be brought from Genua by means of a pipe-line, via the Grand Saint Bernard road tunnel, on which construction work has now started. Later on, the pipeline will be prolonged as far as Germany.