

Obituary : Alois Nolly

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Obituary

ALOIS NOLLY

Alois Nolly, Sole Road, Ngaere, died on January 2nd in his 71st year. Old Lui, as the people affectionately called him, was a man who shunned the limelight and preferred to work in the background in an unspectacular but nevertheless efficient way. He found pleasure in looking at a nice herd of cows and a well-kept farm and all he desired out of the ordinary was an occasional game of Swiss cards. Therefore he seldom missed a Swiss turnout and was invariably found among the ones sitting round the jass-table.

Lui, as one of six brothers, left Switzerland in October, 1910, with the intention to make farming his way of life in a country which offered better opportunities than the old home-country. Four of the six brothers settled eventually in this fair New Zealand and all of them on farms. One of the brothers, Emil, died in the big 'flu epidemic of 1918 and Lui then took his farm over and resided there until his death. In 1919 he was married in Stratford to Sophey Elsener, who presented him with three sons and a daughter. They are Lui (Ngaere), Lena (Mrs F. Steiner, Galatea), Walter (New Plymouth) and Edward (Te Awamutu). There are 18 grandchildren. Mrs Nolly died in 1938.

In 1950, after being out here 40 years, Lui went home to the beloved Schwyz to have a look at the old homestead of his forefathers and to see his two brothers, who stayed at home. If ever one enjoyed his trip it was Lui. Nevertheless, he was pleased to come back to his family and the home of his adoption. May he rest in peace after a life well lived.

To his family we express our deepest sympathy. —W.R.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

WELLINGTON SWISS CLUB

On February 14th the weather did not look too bright in the early-morning hours and it was not surprising when at 10 a.m. only a few faithful compatriots were gathered at the Cenotaph. By waiting a few minutes we got, nevertheless, 35 members. The route was explained to each driver and off we went on the Hutt Road. It was not exactly a race, but it would be hard to say whether the 50 mile limit was kept. Still, it was nice to see friends pass by or to pass them in turn and to know that these cars would end up at the picnic spot. Some of them almost missed the ideal spot as they drove on to a wrong road, only to realise it and turn back. This must have made them cautious for on top of the hill most cars waited for "Berner," who had had to stop on the way for an ice cream—just to make him arrive even later!

It was a rather longer journey to the picnic spot than most thought, but it was well worthwhile—a clean stream, some willows and a good playing ground all well off the road on private property. Before long the children were either wet or dirty, some of them both, but the parents did not have to worry too much for there was no danger to the children.

Yes, we had many young compatriots amongst us and in a few years to come they will most probably be the driving force behind the Club. At least at the moment they all seem to have lots of willpower! The sun was hot and the shade welcome for the "older generation," but for the youngsters the water was their only wish and, therefore, the adults, too, got well soaked but did not mind.

The real strong men, and for that matter, the stronger ladies too, picked up that square Swiss stone and all managed to throw it at least further than the big toe. It would not have been a Swiss gathering without "Jasskarten," the national game is too famous to be left at home. None of the players lost his trousers but we noticed some smaller compatriots without pants! There were no organised games or entertainments but the day passed so quickly and we were all very sorry indeed to leave the site behind at 6 p.m. A lovely day and good fun was the reward for those who dared to come to this picnic and it was good to be amongst them.

—K.E.B.

TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

The picnic was held at Te Ngutu Park in excellent weather before a large attendance. We also had with us Mr W. Risi, president of the N.Z. Swiss Society, and Mrs Risi, and also members of the Hamilton Club and visitors from Napier.

Winners of the Steinstossen for the Cup were as follow: A. Muller 1, B. Muller 2, M. Muller 3. Keglebahn: L. Schuler, P. Weiss, Maurice Steiner, Mrs E. Meier. Nail driving: E. Wiederick 1, A. Herman 2. Raffles: C. Hall and H. Machler. The Swiss orchestra (R. Buhler, J. Fohn, A. Engleberger, accordions; F. Imhof, clarinet, and L. Kuriger, bass) kept the dance floor very busy. The picnic ended in the late hours of the evening.

THE Swiss Society wishes to extend a cordial welcome to the new Consul-General, Dr. Oskar Rosetti, who recently arrived in this fair country. May his term of office and relations with his compatriots be a most happy episode in his career.

—W.R.

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