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NEWS OF THE COLONY

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

The 1961 Christmas Social for the Auckland Swiss Club was held on 10th December at the Professional Club, and was attended by a good muster of compatriots from the Auckland district. Entertainment for the celebrations included several cartoon films for the children which the adults enjoyed very much too. Sometime later when all the children were seated, and the lights dimmed, Santa Claus made his entrance, carrying a large sack in which he had all the usual goodies distributed at Christmas time; however, the children were the happiest when Santa invited them to participate in a lollie scramble.

At last when the general hub bub had died down, dancing occupied a good deal of the people's time, followed not long after by a hearty Christmas meal for everyone, and thus ended for the Auckland Swiss Club a very happy year for 1961.

Swiss Society Shooting Competition

Saturday & Sunday, 24th & 25th February, 1962

In regards to the Rules for this year's national Shooting Competition, please note the following changes:

1. A separate target has to be used for the two trailshots (Probeschiisse), which must be shot at the start.
2. It has come to our notice that the short ammunition is not quite as reliable in accuracy as the long. Therefore, we have decided to make the ammunition optional, namely that either short or long ammunition can be used.

Please advise rifle-master Hans Oettli before 9th February, 1962, re composition of groups.

Do your best to bring together as many groups as possible to make our national Shooting Competition a real success.

HANS OETTLI,
c/o P.O.,
Whatawhata, near Hamilton.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

TARANAKI SWISS CLUB

The annual Picnic will be held in the Te Autu Domain, Okaiawa, on Sunday, 11th February, 1962.

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

Our Picnic will be held at the residence of Mr and Mrs Risi, in Ngaruawahia, on Saturday, 24th February, 1962. Keep this date free—full particulars later.

No Social Evening in the Riverlea will be held in February.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

WATERWORKS WITH ELECTRONIC REMOTE CONTROL

At La Chaux-de-Fonds—one of the main centres of Swiss watchmaking production—the first plant in Switzerland to be equipped with an entirely electronic remote control system was recently put into operation, the necessary impulses being transmitted over the existing telephone lines. This plant, situated some 12½ miles outside the town, pumps the water for La Chaux-de-Fonds' main water supply and at the same time produces electricity with the surplus water. All the electrical and hydraulic machines can be started and stopped and their working supervised from the Public Utilities Office in town. This new plant enables seven mechanics out of ten to be released for other work and ensures greater reliability and speed of control; it is the fruit of close collaboration between the engineers of the La Chaux-de-Fonds public utilities and the firm of Hasler, in Berne, which specialises in telecommunications.

CONTRIBUTION TO MODERN RADIOLOGY

A beta-ray apparatus for the treatment of tumours has just been put into operation at a West Berlin hospital. This new model, known by the name of "Asklepitron," weighs 11 tons and produces an energy of 35 million electronvolts; it is the most powerful and most modern X-ray apparatus in the world and has been designed and built by the Swiss firm of Brown Boveri & Co. at Baden, from the data of a Norwegian scientist. The "Asklepitron" is the younger brother of a Betatron which was installed in a hospital in Berne a short while ago.

FROM GOLF TO THE FACTORY

Watchmakers need to be richly endowed with imagination in addition to a high sense of precision in order to be able to develop their inventive genius to the full and to apply it to all sorts of utilitarian or even frivolous uses. And just as the ordinary mortal carries the right time with him on his wrist, so the golfer is now able to carry a small counter resembling a watch, which records the number of strokes he has played. This new gadget may also be used by a billiard player, or a mechanic checking the output of a machine, as well as a statistician recording the repetition of an event. The "Domatic Score" counter looks like a wristwatch and has a dial provided with small windows in which the figures appear, with crowns for re-setting to zero and a push-button which is pressed whenever a unit is to be counted.

LAST TRAMWAY CAR

The last tramway car, under garlands of flowers recently made its round of honour through the city of Lucerne before being sent to the junk-yard.