

News of the colony

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Finally, it might be interesting to note that there is now a "House of Sport" in Berne and that Switzerland had eight Presidents of international sports associations at the beginning of this year, more than any other country in the world. The sports concerned are motoring, ice skating, handball, skittles, rowing, shooting, skiing, and gymnastics. The three largest world organisations (football, athletics and table tennis) are presided over by Englishmen.

(Mainly based on reports received by courtesy of the "Basler Nachrichten.")

NEWS OF THE COLONY ★ ★ ★ ★

Auckland Swiss Club

The "Mardi-Gras" held on Saturday night, September 28th, was really terrific! In fact, it was the greatest success we have had so far with a "Maskenball." Not only was the Hall as usual gaily decorated with lanterns, masks, balloons and streamers, but a life-size "Boeg"—with huge hanging ears (listening to all the crazy talk of the town) and a big, big nose!—greeted you on the stage with a funny grimace painted all over his face! Mr & Mrs E. Flueck certainly made a marvellous job of it—it gave the Hall the right atmosphere!

A record attendance filled the Hall to capacity and when the Band started to play the enchanting melodies of the South Seas on their guitars and drums it was the beginning of an almost non-stop dance for the whole night! The contact between the music and the guests was so happy that they just kept on playing, playing all the time!

A spectacular sight was all the costumes and it was great fun watching all the dressed-up follies acting their part. It was rather difficult to remember all of them, they were so colourful and an extremely hard task awaited the Jury to decide the prizes. However, they solved the problem quite successfully and among the prize-winners were two Kiwi-girls dressed up as the cutest "Buremeitschi von Daheime," two bouncing Rabbits, a Creoline Beauty from the West Indies, Merry Widow, Buccaneer and quite a few more.

Shortly before midnight an excellent supper was served and not long afterwards, with replenished strength, dancing started again—almost uninterrupted until early in the morning! In fact, it was a Fastnacht like at home with all the intrigues, fun and laughter and becoming more popular each year, especially among our N.Z. friends.

—H.B.M.

Wellington Swiss Club

A farewell party was arranged for the departure of Dr Rossetti and Family at the Northland Plunket Building Society Hall on Saturday, September 7th.

The evening was a mixture of sadness at the thought of losing Dr Rossetti, Mrs Rossetti and son Peter, whom we all respected and loved for his at all times unwavering support in our efforts. Likewise we had to provide material for gaiety and humour. The attendance of members and friends was excellent.

The occasion started off with our accordion players, Mr H. Ittensohn and Mr N. Matt, who played for us favourite tunes from our Homeland. Next, a Fashion Show conducted by Mrs Gander was really popular with the ladies, but we also had a feeling that our men enjoyed it even better! And we must not forget the pleasant surprise that was in store for us when we discovered that our Dr Rossetti had thought of another very important item for us Swiss people—Chianti Wine! Of course a little sip of this from time to time really started things off on the right foot!

The next item on the list was a small stage play entitled "The Bedroom." To make a long story short: the young wife of this young man had a bad habit by sleep walking during the night, and she made matters very awkward for her husband's best friend, who was a guest for the night. We shall let your imagination dwell on this subject . . . the outcome could have been very serious, but as in most plays there is either a happy ending, or no end at all, as in this case! The players were Mr Wehrle our President, Mr Segesimann and a young lady. Well, it provided for all of us a good laugh.

By this time we were all getting hungry, so a lovely plate with Schubligh and potato salad was most welcome (along with another sip of wine) and to top this off a good cup of coffee and cake. Always on hand were our Merrymakers with their accordions. With this and other music we were likewise given the opportunity to shake a leg—from the twist to the old timers.

All in all we had a marvellous time and sincerely hope our guests of honour, Mr & Mrs Rossetti, take with them on their long journey pleasant memories and all of our best wishes for a good future.

Yesterday, Tuesday, October 1st, we gathered at the Glasgow Docks to await and welcome the arrival of our new Charge 'dAffairs for Switzerland, Mr J. P. Weber, and Mrs Weber, to wish them a very happy term of office in our adopted and lovely country—New Zealand.

—Mrs E.S.