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foundly different, and the French, who tend to make fun of the Swiss accent should rather admire the diversity in the vernacular of such a small territory and perhaps realise that the blather of the Marseilles bistrot-keeper sounds phonetically uglier than the worse twang of a winegrower from Vaud!

The German-Swiss have a language of their own and this helps to confirm their identity with respect to Germany. The French-Swiss use the language of their great neighbour but this has not prevented them from retaining a staunch cultural identity of their own. This shows that language is not the strongest bond, and that a particular differing political heritage has as much influence in shaping the minds of people with an intellectual life stemming from the same root.

(P.M.B. — "The Swiss Observer")

## News of the Colony

### Hamilton Swiss Club

Our Christmas evening on 13th December was enjoyed by a large crowd of parents and children. The Club's choir opened the evening with the lovely song "Leise Rieselt der Schnee", followed by three more Christmas songs. In between we were thrilled to hear Christmas poems in real "Schwyzerdütsch" by the children M. Rust, N. Rust, O. Waldvogel, H. Rust and B. Schäfer. We can be proud that some of our Swiss-Kiwi children still speak fluently "Schwyzerdütsch".

The boys' and girls' hearts must have beaten faster when Father Christmas appeared at the door. After he had given stern and friendly advice here and there, each child collected a gift and a Fanta. Following an excellent supper everyone left with their happy but tired children. —R.E.W.

### Wellington Swiss Club

#### TWO ACES

The "Evening Post, Wellington (10/12/70) reports: "Two holes in one were scored at the New Judgeford Golf Club. M. Styles aced the 195yd par-3 16th with a 2-wood, and, only six days later, **last Saturday, H. Ittensohn hit an unerring pitching wedge at the 89yd 13th. It was the first ace for both**".

A very nice achievement in golfing by Mr Heinz Ittensohn, a past President of the Wellington Swiss Club. —P.E.