

Swiss Society of N.Z. (Inc.) A.G.M.

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SWISS SOCIETY OF N.Z. (Inc.) A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting was held in Auckland on Sunday, 4th June 1972. Mr H. Fitzgi, President of the host club Auckland, welcomed the 27 members attending and in particular Ambassador Mr M. Corti.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our President, Mr K. Bischof, reporting on Society affairs, said that although the financial position is satisfactory there remains much to be done to improve relationship within the Swiss Community in New Zealand. The text of his report is as follows:

In today's world we get used to sophisticated technical advances and repeated trips to the moon. These repetitions soon tend to become monotonous. We take little notice any longer of such events and overlook just as much the fact that there is much suffering, starvation and upheaval in the world. Unless it really hits us in the face, unless we personally are affected by the event we ignore it. Thus we get bored if nothing big happens and vent our energy in a number of rather disturbing ways that seem to hit the headlines of today's newspapers.

No great event has rocked the boat of the Society in the past year. This smooth running of our Society may well have fooled and bored some of our members. We should be grateful that as a benevolent Society we were not called upon to assist any compatriot in difficulty. We were able to strengthen our financial position, so that it can be of assistance if financial support is requested in the future. The limitation of the powers of the President in distributing financial assistance in an emergency would appear to be a disadvantage. This, I suggest, should be looked into.

The Swiss people have created a unity that is well capable under the unifying Swiss flag to withstand any pressure from the outside. Our forebearers have proved that on more than one occasion. We Swiss in New Zealand, I feel, have the same inheritance and are of the same mould. This past year has clearly shown that some arguments and differences still exist amongst us. It is my sincere hope that all of us will in the future do our part to make the Society a Unity that is not just a word, but a reality in the true Swiss tradition. Just because there is no hardship amongst our Compatriots, just because we do not have to fight for our lives, just because we are fortunate enough to live in one of the most peaceful countries of the world, we ought not to shelve our Swiss heritage. As a Society we get stronger only by the measure of involvement of each of our members "One for all and all for one" has still its meaning today and is not outmoded. Although our financial position at present is satisfactory, may I suggest that our Unity as a Society leaves still much room for improvement.

Karl Emil Bischof, President.

SWISS SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1972

| INCOME | | EXPENDITURE | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Subscriptions: | | Printing "Helvetia" | 901.03 |
| Wellington Swiss Club | 112.00 | Postage | 105.07 |
| Hamilton Swiss Club | 141.00 | Office Expenses | 152.16 |
| Auckland Swiss Club | 126.00 | General Expenses | 39.11 |
| Christchurch Swiss Club | 46.00 | Income Tax | 15.92 |
| Single Members | 336.48 | Payment Group Travel | 2150.00 |
| | 761.48 | Swiss Ties | 414.87 |
| Interest | 77.34 | "Link" | 1.07 |
| Advertising | 596.00 | Riflemaster | 82.50 |
| Donations | 15.00 | | |
| Group Travel: Advance Payments | 600.00 | | |
| Ties | 538.50 | | |
| Bidg. Militardepartement | 82.50 | | |
| | 2670.82 | | |
| Excess of Expenditure over Income | 1190.91 | | |
| | \$3861.73 | | \$3861.73 |

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1972

| LIABILITIES | | ASSETS | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Accumulated Funds | 2703.77 | Cash on Hand | 1.65 |
| | \$2703.77 | Investment | 800.00 |
| | | Addressograph | 2.00 |
| | | Ties | 122.45 |
| | | Debitors: | |
| Accumulated Funds at 31/3/71 | 2518.55 | Hamilton Swiss Club | 22.00 |
| Accumulated Funds at 31/3/72 | 2703.77 | Auckland Swiss Club | 106.00 |
| | | Advance Payment Biland | 150.00 |
| | | ANZ Bank | 1499.67 |
| Excess of Income over Expenditure | \$185.22 | | \$2703.77 |

The abovementioned accounts of the Swiss Society of New Zealand (Inc.) have been examined today by the undersigned. Both, Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet, are showing the Society's position for the past financial year. All figures are identified by a neatly-kept chronological documentation. Once more, the Society's funds have been administrated with the greatest care. I therefore recommend the AGM to approve the said accounts and to express sincere appreciation to the retiring Secretary/Treasurer for her excellent work.

Wellington, 23rd May, 1972.

B. RITTER, Auditor.

Helvetia Report: The possibility of including news of a more general interest was discussed and as a result plans are afoot to include items of current sporting or similar events from our Homeland.

Group Travel: Because of the new fare rates being offered by the international airlines it was decided that our association with the "Link" be discontinued. Economy fares now need not be organised on a group basis. The wish was expressed, however, that wherever possible the Travel Agencies and Airways which support "Helvetia" by way of advertising be supported by Society members.

Shooting Report: Riflemaster Mr A. Muller reported that he has made arrangements to import suitable medallions to be

awarded to successful competitors for shooting, jassen, kegeln and steinstossen, which should add further incentive to the participants of these activities.

Election of Officers 1972/73: Those elected were.—

President: Mr A. K. Binder.

Vice-President: Mr J. F. Gämperle.

Secretary/Treasurer: Miss M. T. Schöpfer.

Auditor: Mr J. Wildhaber.

Riflemaster: Mr A. Muller.

Editing Committee: Messrs A. Biland, H. Oettli, W. Risi, E. Studer.

Delegate to the Auslandschweizerkommission in Bern:
Mr A. Biland.

Following the election of new Officers, Mr K. Bischof, the retiring President, and Mrs R. Messmer, retiring Secretary/Treasurer, were elected Life members of the Society. An expression of appreciation for the unceasing efforts of the retiring Officers of our Society was carried by popular vote.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Majority Presentation: It was decided that the National tradition of presenting a book to persons when attaining majority be extended to our own Community in New Zealand.

Emergency Fund: The President's discretion to give financial aid in deserving cases was extended from \$50.00 to \$100.00.

Voting Rights — Swiss Abroad: The meeting decided that Mr A. Biland, our delegate to Auslandschweizerkommission in Bern, be advised that it is the wish of the Society members that Swiss people living abroad be given the right to vote on any matters at Federation level.

Affiliation — Society Members in Taranaki: Concern was expressed that financial members of the Society in the Taranaki area cannot be represented at National level as an affiliated group. However, it was decided that reference to the Taranaki Swiss Social Club in the register of the Clubs be changed to "The members of the Swiss Society in the Taranaki area".

Venue 1973 A.G.M.: The Wellington Club extended an open invitation for the next Annual General Meeting to be held over Queen's Birthday Weekend 1973. —M.T.S.

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