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S W I S S D A N C E

Manaia Event Success

SICK AND WOUNDED FUND.

Recognised as one of the most popular events of the social season at Manaia, the annual Swiss plain and masquerade dance in the town hall again proved an outstanding success. Demonstrating their sympathy in the conflict for the preservation of civilisation, the Swiss community has offered the proceeds of the dance to the Red Cross and St. John appeal. Again the hall was filled to capacity with a gay throng of dancers from many parts of the province, and the gallery and stage were filled with onlookers. The masquerade contest drew many competitors and prizes were awarded the best costumes.

The walls of the hall were adorned with masses of greenery and ponga fronds surrounded each Swiss emblem of a white cross on a red background. Flags of 22 cantons were also used in the hall decorations. The canton flags were grouped to represent the origin of many Swiss settlers of the district, and above them was draped the New Zealand Ensign.

The supper tables were arranged in tall and short vases of gaily coloured flowers and fern.

Two dance bands played alternately. One was an orchestra of Swiss accordions played by Miss D. Engelberger and Messrs. A. Engelberger and P. Zimmerman.

National Swiss dances were enjoyed by the gathering.

Messrs. R. Bishop and P. Herman were masters of ceremonies. The organisation of the dance was a tribute to Mrs. A. Engelberger, on whom most of the work fell. Supper was served by a committee consisting of Mr. and Mrs. F. Sattler, Mr. and Mrs. J. Burns, Mesdames F. Zimmerman, C. Grenville, F. Crosby, Messrs. C. Schicker, E. Gopperth and E. W. Scott and many members of the Manaia Red Cross branch.

Mr. J. A. G. Cosgrove, chairman of the Manaia Town Board, who thanked the Swiss community for its assistance in giving the proceeds of the dance to the Manaia and district's appeal, read a message from the Swiss Consul for New Zealand, Dr. Schmidt, and Mrs. Schmidt who, owing to unavoidable circumstances, were unable to be present. Dr. Schmidt extended best wishes for the success of the dance in aid of a worthy cause.

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