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NEWS OF THE COLONY

Auckland Swiss Club

BARBECUE: After being obliged to postpone the Barbecue for the following weekend, we were lucky this time, it was a lovely day and a beautiful night, perfect to the occasion. A pity the guests arrived a bit late, because the park is beautiful to walk around and there is plenty of playground for the children in particular. For the organisers however, it started in the morning, properly forked ti-tree wood had to be collected, corrugated iron sheets for the fireplace prepared and then, of course, the meat and barbecue sauce.

To mount the pig and the sheep onto a frame—as simple as it looks—it is quite an art as we soon found out. Time was another factor, as tender as that pig appeared to be it still takes hours and hours over a coal fire and by 5.00 p.m. people started to stand around the sizzling meat, working up a real good appetite with that tantalisingly good smell of grilled meat in the air. We could wait no longer and started to cut the portions for the guests, and except for a few pieces most of it tasted excellent—all in all a first-class feast. Sausages and Bratwuerst followed.

Singing started around a big fire and later Nat Mara played guitar. Around midnight the last guests left, helping the committee to clear the park and also with the transport.

Special thanks to our Vice-President, Peter Bucheler for supplying the large quantities of staniol containers, the best answer to serve the barbecue. —The Committee—H.B.M.

Hamilton Swiss Club

The Hamilton Swiss Club is fortunate to be able to use a place like Mr and Mrs Risi's well laid out lawn and garden for their annual picnic. Because of bad weather forecast for February 21st, it had to be postponed to February 28th. In beautiful sunshine the picnic was very well patronised by people from all over the North Island.

The "Kegelbahn" was the big attraction and very much in demand all day. The bowling cup was won by Arthur Muller of Auckland with 21 points after a hard battle with Walter Unternahrer from Hamilton.

The president, Mr A. Biland, welcomed everybody, especially Vice-Consul Schaerer from the Swiss Embassy in Wellington and all the visitors from other Swiss Clubs. He said goodbye to Mr and Mrs E. Baumann and their two daughters, who, after living in New Zealand for 10 years will go back to Switzerland to settle there. Harry Schuler and a daughter, Henry Oettli and Frank Imhof gave us many "luepfigi" tunes on the accordion and clarinet. It was a pity that there was no stage to dance on. Joe Arnold

entertained us with jodelling. The children were well entertained with races and lolly scrambles.

The "Bratwuerste" and cakes, especially made for the event, were very much appreciated. About 200 grown-ups and well over 100 children attended the picnic.

Many thanks to everybody who helped to make it a success.

—E.S.

Taranaki Swiss Social Club

The annual picnic was held at the Te Nutu Domain on Sunday, February 14th. Although the weather did not look too bright early in the morning, a good crowd turned up. Apart from a short shower at midday the day remained fine.

Competition winners were.—Chain stepping: Ladies, Mrs P. Meyer 1st; Miss D. Muller and A. Gwerder 2nd equal. Men, A. Gwerder 1st; B. Steiner 2nd. Steinstossen: B. Muller 1st; D. Reichlin 2; Juniors under 18, W. Schuler 1st; Leo Meyer 2nd: Skittles: Men, David Gwerder 1st; J. Schmidt 2nd. Ladies: Mrs P. Meyer 1st; Mrs J. Dettling 2nd. Competition: Barney Bolgar 1st; J. Schmidt 2nd. Children's races were held for all ages. —M.J.S.

SWISS WEDDING FOR VALERIE

Pretty young Valerie Evans, of Hawera, will next month make a 10,000-mile trip to marry the man she loves.

The popular 19-year-old Hawera hairdresser will make a three-day flight to Zurich, Switzerland, to marry Mr Jurg Halter.

For Valerie the trip and a white wedding in a beautiful Swiss church will climax a three-year romance spread across most of the world.

Paris Honeymoon

This will be followed by a dream honeymoon in Paris and other European glamour spots before the couple return to Taranaki in a year's time.

Valerie is counting the days before her jet leaves Wellington on March 2 for the eight-stop flight to Switzerland. This time she won't be sending airmail letters to her fiance—she, personally will be the cargo.

Since Mr Halter left New Zealand in July 1963, after five year's farming, the couple have written dozens of letters. And after the first dozen or so came the letter Valerie was waiting for — the proposal!

Radiant

A radiant Valerie explained today: "Jurg was very homesick when he returned to see his family in 1963. I will be able to meet his parents and family before we are married. We plan to travel around Europe for our honeymoon. Friends have invited us to Paris, and Jurg knows Austria well as he does a lot of hunting there. He's also an ice hockey player, so I will have to learn to

skate. Jurg works in a veterinary clinic. I hope to get some hair-dressing experience over there before we return. Naturally my parents are a little disappointed as they would have liked us to be married here. But they can see it's a wonderful trip.

And how long to go?

"Twenty-six days."

From a February issue of the Hawera Star.

Four frogs were sitting peaceably on a log when it became caught by a current and carried into a swiftly flowing river. One frog credited the log with having life; the second said that the river, walking to the sea, carried the log on its back; the third frog said that neither the log nor the river was moving, but the moving was in the frogs' thinking, for without thought nothing moves. The fourth frog said "Each of you is right and none of you is wrong. The moving is in the log and the water and our thinking also." None of the first three was willing to admit that his was not the whole truth and that the other two were partly right. So they got together and pushed the fourth frog into the river.

Kahlil Gibran, Syrian-American symbolist poet.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Auckland Swiss Club

The annual General Meeting of the Auckland Swiss Club will be held on 3rd April, 1965, at 8 p.m. in the Edendale School Hall, Sandringham Road, Sandringham.

As usual, the activities of the Club during the term will be reviewed, the financial report discussed and a new committee elected, so it is essential and in your own interest to attend the meeting. Coffee and Cakes will be served after the meeting.

—The Committee—H.B.M.

Hamilton Swiss Club

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Pine Lodge on the second Sunday, 11th April, at 8 p.m.

Walter Risi will show slides from the Brisbane Royal Show and Ernest Studer from the Trachtenfest in Switzerland.

Special supper. No admission charge.

Laugh a little . . .

"Jack, you should close your curtains in the sitting room," a friend suggests, "last evening I saw you giving your wife a kiss."

"Ha-ha you are all wrong," Jack answers laughingly. "Last evening I was not even at home!"

—Nebelspalter.