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SWISS SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society, held on the 29th May, 1965, in the Edendale School Hall, Sandringham Road, Auckland.

At 9.20 p.m. the President of the Auckland Swiss Club, Mr Tony Sidler, declared the meeting open and welcomed the Chairman, Mr John Steiner, and the whole Committee from the Swiss Society as well as all members present. He thanked the Charge d'Affaires and his wife, Dr and Mrs J. P. Weber and Vice-Consul Schaerer for coming all the way from Wellington to our Annual Meeting.

The President of the Swiss Society, Mr John Steiner, then continued in greeting the members from Wellington, Hamilton, Taranaki and Auckland, who were assembled in this big, nicely-decorated hall.

Minutes: The Secretary, Mr L. Kuriger, read the Minutes of last year's Annual General Meeting which were confirmed.

Financial: The balance-sheet with the amendment was then read and adopted.

Report: (You will find the details as indicated above).

General: Dr Weber made a short speech.—“Dear Compatriots: I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Committee for their hard work during the whole year, especially to the treasurer who has done a very good job with the little money left in Petty cash. I hope that the coming year will bring more funds, so that we can arrange some interesting meetings and social evenings.”

Helvetia: Lively discussion took place concerning our monthly magazine “Helvetia.” Two motions were made as follows:—

- 1.—Increase the subscription to 15/- for members and £10 from each club
- 2.—Increase the subscription to £1 for members as well as non-members.

The voting resulted that the second motion be accepted. It would not do any good for each individual club to bear the cost of £10, because there is no money left for such an additional expenditure, but if we think how much we spend for drinks, cigarettes and sweets during the whole year, we can surely afford to pay an extra 10 shillings!

Mr Hans Fitz from Auckland asked if it would not be easier to stop printing the “Helvetia” when the costs are too high, and only duplicating it. But a member of the Press Committee, Mr H. Oettli, explained that this would not be possible because the pictures made it interesting. The Consul answered smiling: “I would never have thought that I would speak so much this evening and I don't intend to take a position, but there are a few things I must point out: The Swiss people in Berne are interested in our paper, also the Embassy, and they would wonder if

they didn't get any more issues, and say 'What's going on with our compatriots?' Neither Belgian, Frenchmen, German or Italian have something similar, and so we should be really proud and keep our monthly 'Helvetia'."

Mr Simi Hartmann suggested to take more force and endeavour to get a lot of advertisements of Swiss products in the paper, for example the sewing machines "Bernina" and "Elna," the Swiss watches "Omega," "Longines" and "Roamer" etc, — would be the ones to bring in money! Of course it would be necessary to add four more pages, but it is well worth the effort and the surplus cost.

Taranaki Swiss Club: Dr Jean-Pierre Weber expressed the wish that this club will come to the Swiss Society too. Mr W. Risi explained that he was a foundation member and the first president of the Taranaki Swiss Social Club — now the biggest in New Zealand, approaching 400 members — and that he can well appreciate the feeling of independence among a number of the members, but in an emergency they would help if help was needed. The present move to have a universal subscription for the "Helvetia" would smooth the way for a closer union and will gain members.

Election of Officers: The results of the voting are as follows:—

President: Mr John Steiner, (re-elected); **Vice-President:** Mr H. Schaerer, (re-elected); **Treasurer and Secretary:** Mr Louis Kuriger, (re-elected). **Editing Committee:** Messrs Biland, Oettli, Risi and Studer. Also the Swiss Society's Rifle Master, Mr Hans Oettli, was re-elected.

Final: The Meeting closed at 10 p.m. with a vote of thanks, given by the President of the Auckland Swiss Club. Then a delicious supper was served, consisting of rich garnished "Aufschnittplatten" and "Nussgipfel" and coffee as dessert.

"SECOND PART"

Everybody enjoyed the accordeon and piano music as well as the Jodel. It was also a pleasure to look at Mrs Edith Hess from Auckland, who wore a "Zueri-Tracht" and it gave me the idea of arranging once a "Trachtenfest."

Jass-Competition: During the "Preisjassen" the records played lovely Swiss music, and did not interrupt the competitors concentrating. **Results:**

1st Prize: Mr H. Wolf, 1077 points, big Salami.

2nd Prize: Mr H. Fitzi, 1067 points, garlic sausage.

3rd Prize: Mr Von Holzen, 960 points, red Cyclamen.

4. Prize: Mr T. Kaeppli, 926 points, pot plant.

5th Prize: Mrs F. Utz, 391 points, green salad, consolation prize!

Shooting Competition: The Rifle Master of Auckland, Mr Hans Enzler, welcomed everybody and thanked the active members on the shooting competitions.

Mr Gody Gebert from Taupo received the first prize, called "Wanderpreis" and, of course, a silver medal, and Miss Hedy Calonder from Auckland was lucky to get the challenge trophy for ladies and a beautiful necklace, representing the shooting queen, for her good results. Our congratulations to both!

The distribution of the other prizes followed and it was nearly 2 o'clock when everything was over and the first members decided to go home. Altogether it was a very nice and interesting evening: First the serious part and afterwards the entertainment that everybody enjoyed very much.

—Madeline Maier, Secretary,
Auckland Swiss Club.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

CONGRATULATIONS

The Auckland Swiss Club and the Hamilton Swiss Club wish to congratulate Mr P. H. Oettli and his family for award of the "Alexander Von Humboldt Scholarship." —M.M.

HOSTESSES MAKE FIRST APPEARANCE

Passengers disembarking from ships at the Prince's Wharf passenger terminal often have difficulty finding the friends and relatives who are waiting to meet them.

But now these passengers and the waiting relatives can take their anxious inquiries to an attractive hostess at the information bureau in the terminal.

When the Orsova berthed early yesterday morning, Miss Veronica Bachmann was on duty for the first time, linking people by announcing messages over the intercommunications system and dealing sympathetically with all manner of questions from new arrivals.

For several hours, as passengers streamed off the ship, Miss Bachmann was besieged with questions and no one could have guessed that it was the first time she had handled such duties.

Miss Bachmann, an 18-year-old from Blockhouse Bay, and Miss Robyn Martick, also 18 years old, from Te Atatu, are the first official hostesses appointed by the Auckland Harbour Board. Miss Martick began her work on Sunday, when the Fairsea arrived in Auckland. Both typists for the traffic department of the Harbour Board, Miss Bachmann and Miss Martick are delighted with their new positions. They wear a trim uniform of royal blue wool, a matching cap and a crisp white silk blouse, with crested cufflinks and pin.

Passenger ships often berth very early in the morning, but Miss Bachmann finds that she has no difficulty in getting up in