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HELVETIA

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OF THE



SWISS BENEVOLENT
SOCIETY IN
NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

GROUP NEW ZEALAND OF THE NEW HELVETIC SOCIETY

17th YEAR.

APRIL, 1953.

AUCKLAND.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

Taranaki Swiss Social Club Picnic.

The Swiss Social Club's picnic, held at Kaupokonui on February 28th, was a great success. The weather was excellent and adults and children alike enjoyed themselves very much. It was particularly pleasing to notice so many of the younger folk present. Sports for the children, free ice creams, lolly-scrambles and so on proved to be most popular with them. The Swiss musical items contributed very much to the success of the day, especially the alp horn played by our able musicians. Of all the old Swiss sports, the "Steinetossen" seems to be the favourite one.

Winners of the "Steinetossen" were:—

First: Mr. D. Meier, Cheal Rd., Ngaere.

Second: Mr. Fr. Gwerder, Opunake.

Third: Mr. J. Muller, Eltham.

—W.R.

Taranaki Swiss Social Club Receives New Swiss Flag From Switzerland.

While Mrs. Ch. Schuler, Palmer Road, Kaponga, was home on a holiday trip to her beloved Bernese Oberland, she must have put in a good word for the newly formed Swiss Social Club in Taranaki. About a month ago a brand-new "Bundesfahne" arrived in Kaponga, a present from Mr. Albert Jung, Interlaken, to his far-away compatriots in New Zealand.

—W.R.

Taranaki Swiss Social Club.

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Mangatoki Hall on March 28th, 1953.

The balance sheet presented by the Secretary, L. Nolly, showed the Club's financial position in a very satisfactory state and the membership at 123 members.

Miss Ida Bernold, Messrs. F. Gwerder, P. Zimmermann, and Herm. Schicker retired from the Executive Committee. New members elected to the Executive are Mrs. J. Schupfer, Mrs. W. Risi, Mrs. Fr. Imhof and Mr. Ch. Wyss.

A resolution to hold this year's 1st August celebration for Club members only was carried unanimously. The fortnightly card evenings which proved very popular last winter will be held again this year, commencing in April.

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

New Type of Bus.

At the current International Automobile Show in Geneva, the Saurer Co. in Arbon is exhibiting a new type of bus equipped with a rear motor and specially designed as a replacement of a narrow gauge railway traffic. The bus is constructed like a railway carriage with smoking and non-smoking compartments, a luggage compartment, electropneumatic doors, ventilation, and other modern equipment. These vehicles could replace railway passenger and freight cars. The bus has a capacity of 80 passengers with luggage. It measures 80 feet in length with its trailer. The fact that the 200 h.p. motor is placed in the rear gives it an excellent weight distribution, something which is especially important in winter time.

International Recognition for Geneva's Chemical Industry.

Dr. Mas Stoll, research director of the Firmenich Chemical Company in Geneva, has been awarded the Fritzsche Prize for 1953 by the American Chemical Society. The award is in honour of Dr. Stoll's outstanding work in the field of synthetic perfumes. This is the second time that the prize has been awarded to a chemist connected with the Geneva perfume industry. In 1952, the prize went to Dr. Naves of the L. Givaudan Co. in Geneva.

Swiss Everest Expedition.

A few weeks ago, word finally reached Zurich that the Swiss Everest Expedition, led by Dr. Chevalley, had had to abandon its attempt on the world's highest mountain, when only 197 ft. from the summit.